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Tiffany Brown on Necessary Change Reduce Tax Liability with Research James Garrett Jr. on Anti-Racist Action A Design School Enrollment Crisis

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Seven innovations that improve th built environment—and its impact



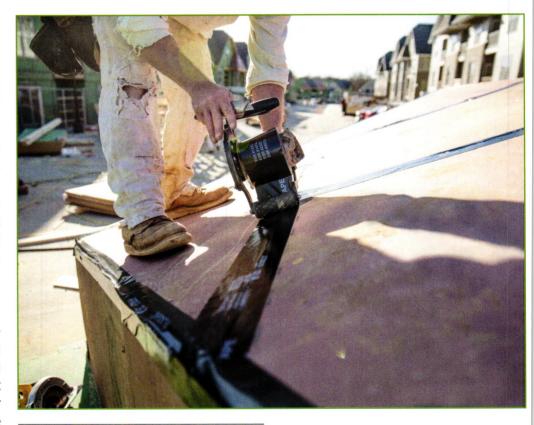
NEW OPTIONS FOR INSULATING AND VENTILATING WOOD-FRAMED SLOPED ROOFS

A continuing education preview sponsored by ZIP System® building enclosures

A successful roof system has the ability to create an unbroken line of defense in all four control layers: water, air, moisture and thermal controls. Additionally, it should have a backup means to prevent damage in the event water or moisture does breach the barriers. Unanticipated water may cause wood to rot, decrease some insulation efficacy and drain into the building causing additional damage. Beyond simply providing structure and covering, wood-framed roof design has evolved into a complete, coordinated assembly through four standard design and construction options.

VENTED ATTIC

Currently the most common type of woodframed roof assembly, vented attics rely on engineered trusses or rafters with ceiling joists to form an open unconditioned attic space. In this type of assembly, the water barrier is located on the roof surface above the attic, while the air barrier is along the ceiling surface below with the insulation that serves as a vapor retarder and thermal barrier. When properly designed and constructed with the needed levels of insulation, as well as the integrity and continuity of all barriers and ventilation, you can expect this roofing system to perform very well over time in almost all climate zones.



WOOD-FRAMED SLOPED
ROOFS NEED TO PROVIDE
ALL THE SAME FUNCTIONS
AS EXTERIOR WALLS,
IF NOT MORE SO.

CAVITY-VENTED

INSULATED PITCHED ROOF

For circumstances where a horizontal ceiling and attic space above do not meet the design needs of a building, the assembly may be more compact, creating a pitched roof and sloped ceiling all in one. The same barrier and ventilation needs must still be addressed.





Unvented roofs with conditioned attic spaces place the air, vapor and thermal control layers near the roof sheathing.

Vented, unconditioned attics are among the most common roofing systems. Reducing uncontrolled airflow is key to maintaining insulation effectiveness in this assembly.

The common approach is to use roof framing members that are deep enough to carry the structural loads, fit the needed level of insulation in between and still provide space for ventilation. In some climate zones, this requires a deeper flat truss or other engineered member. Regardless, the water barrier will still remain on the exterior surface of the assembly, while the air barrier and vapor retarder are along the inner face. Insulation is installed between the framing members to the level needed.

TOP-VENTED

NSULATED PITCHED ROOF

f providing enough ventilation and nsulation all in one framing member depth is not possible, the alternative is to construct an additional ventilation ayer on top of the framing layer. In this case, the framing cavity is filled with insulation or rigid insulation is applied over a timber frame and ceiling system.

A minimum 2-inch air space is provided is an "over-roof" to carry away any noisture that escapes up through joints

in the insulation. The ventilation space also helps keep the underside of the over-roof surface cold, thus avoiding snow melting and forming ice dams. While this over-roof approach is effective for ventilation, it can be more costly to construct since it involves the creation of the ventilation channel that needs to support the sheathing and roofing water barrier.

UNVENTED

INSULATED PITCHED ROOF

This assembly uses a sloped roof/ceiling assembly with insulation filling the entire depth between ceiling and roof sheathing. It can be constructed of rigid insulation that serves as an air barrier between the inner and outer surface, such as closed-cell polyurethane or polyisocyanurate with water-, vaporand air-barrier capabilities inherent to the insulation. In this case, the roof system relies on the multiple properties of the insulation and other materials to form fully continuous air, thermal and moisture barriers. Therefore, no ventilation is necessary.

Wood-framed sloped roofs need to provide all the same functions as exterior walls, if not more so. The result will be a successful roofing system that offers thermal resistance and protects against unwanted air, water and vapor. Learn more at TrustZIPRoof.com.

Learn more about maintaining control barrier continuity in roof assemblies from this online CEU course sponsored by ZIP System™ Roof Assembly: "New Options for Insulating and Ventilating Wood-Framed Sloped Roofs."



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On the cover: R+D Winner Zippered Wood, by University of British Columbia, HiLo Lab; University of Colorado, Denver, LoDo Lab; and HouMinn Practice; photo by Alex Preiss and Derek Mavis/HiLo Lab. Below: R+D Winner Walking Assembly, by Matter Design and CEMEX.

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Successful Washroom Design in the Age of COVID-19

Bolster your reputation for thoughtful design that supports workforce health & safety.

Arguably one of the most difficult design challenges today may be one often taken for granted: the washroom.

With few exceptions, the washroom has emerged as a make-or-break test for business, medical, educational, and manufacturing leaders anxious to put their organization back to work with confidence and safety. If owners, architects, and facility managers get the washroom wrong, workforce distrust and doubt about returning will spread across the enterprise like the virus itself.

Dr. Greg Poland, professor of medicine and infectious diseases at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., doesn't mince words when describing the challenges ahead. Consider washroom water faucet and door handles, for example. "We swabbed them and put petri dishes in the incubator. The handles [were] grossly infected with bacteria and viruses."

Today's best practices to prevent the spread of infection may be the improvised and ad hoc design solutions developed in hospitals, emergency rooms, and other essential frontline washrooms over the last few months. What's the best way to inform your design with this hard-won understanding? It's a question Avi Bar and Paul Kechejian have given a lot of thought.

Both professionals live and work in the New York City area. Their proximity to a notspot and service to medical centers throughout the ordeal may offer highly-nformed, real-world insights available nowhere else.

Bar and Kechejian hold national and regional positions at American Specialties, Inc. (ASI), a respected U.S. manufacturer of sanitizer dispensers, partitions, lockers, visual display products, and other washroom supplies. Their national and regional perspective allows them to engage with architects as well as acility owners like New York's top hospitals. Bar and Kechejian share a few words on the lessons learned:

- Wide Design Freedom. "Identify a supplier that presents you with a large
 design palette," says Kechejian. "Don't limit yourself to a narrow range of
 material choices just because that's all the supplier offers. For example, look
 for a source that represents metal, plastic, and phenolic partitions across a
 wide array of sizes and colors."
- Think Open Source. Some soap and sanitizer companies offer proprietary products that may sound good upfront, but lock the owner into a costly long-

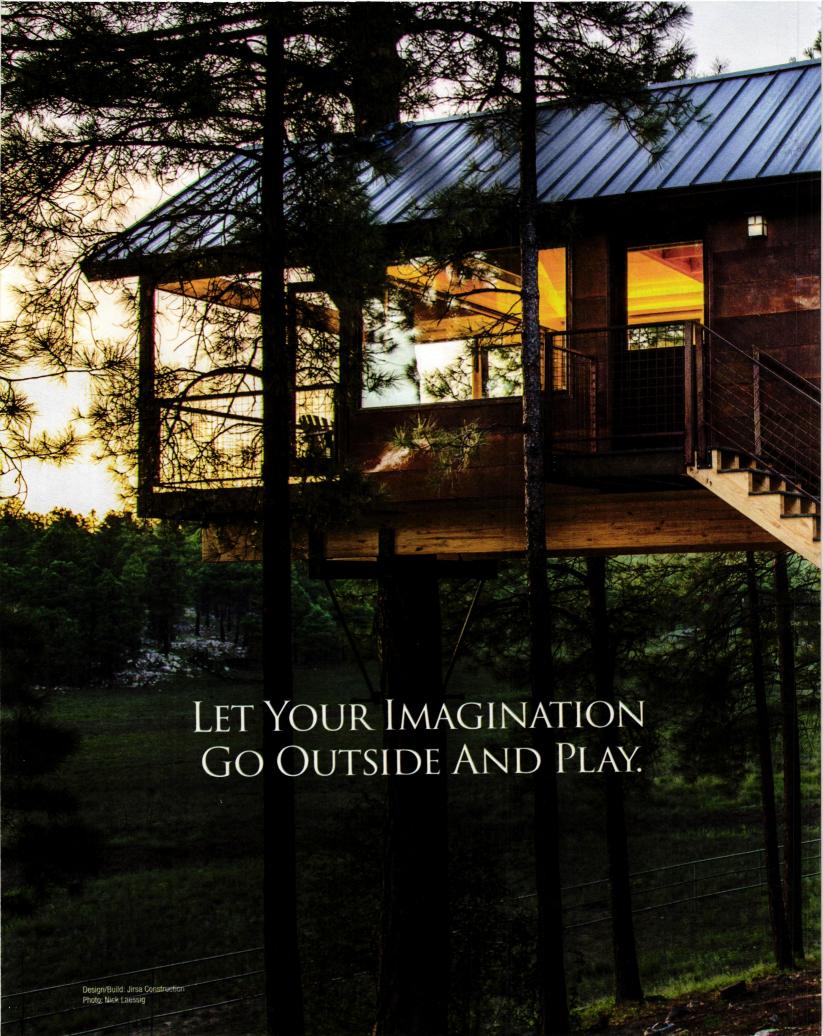


term contract. "Don't specify soap or sanitizer products that tie-up your owner financially. Non-proprietary dispensers accept any qualified product, which can increase availability and reduce costs," Kechejian advises.

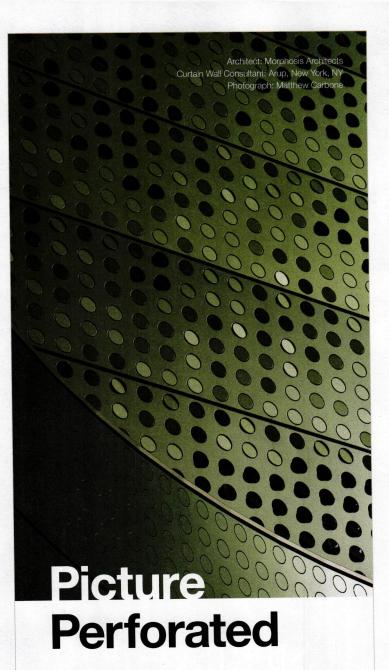
- Collaborate. Our understanding of and the demands placed on us by COVID-19 are constantly shifting. Your supplier should have the manufacturing agility to respond to nearly any design requirement. ASI, for example, supplied and installed metal partitions for an emergency Covid-19 field hospital in Old Westbury, a village on the north shore of Long Island, in 72 hours.
- 1% Risking 100%? Don't underestimate the washroom. It may represent less than 1% of the building cost, but it puts 100% of the occupants at odds or at ease with their employer's return-to-work decision.

Learn more about successful washroom design at www.ASIGroup.us.









The first academic building to open on Cornell Tech's Roosevelt Island campus, the **Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Center** aims for net-zero energy performance, a mission that drives its advanced aesthetics.

Designed by **Morphosis**, its facade of pixelated perforated aluminum and curved glass provides both thermal protection and inspiration for a new generation of research. Read more about it in **Metals in Construction** online.



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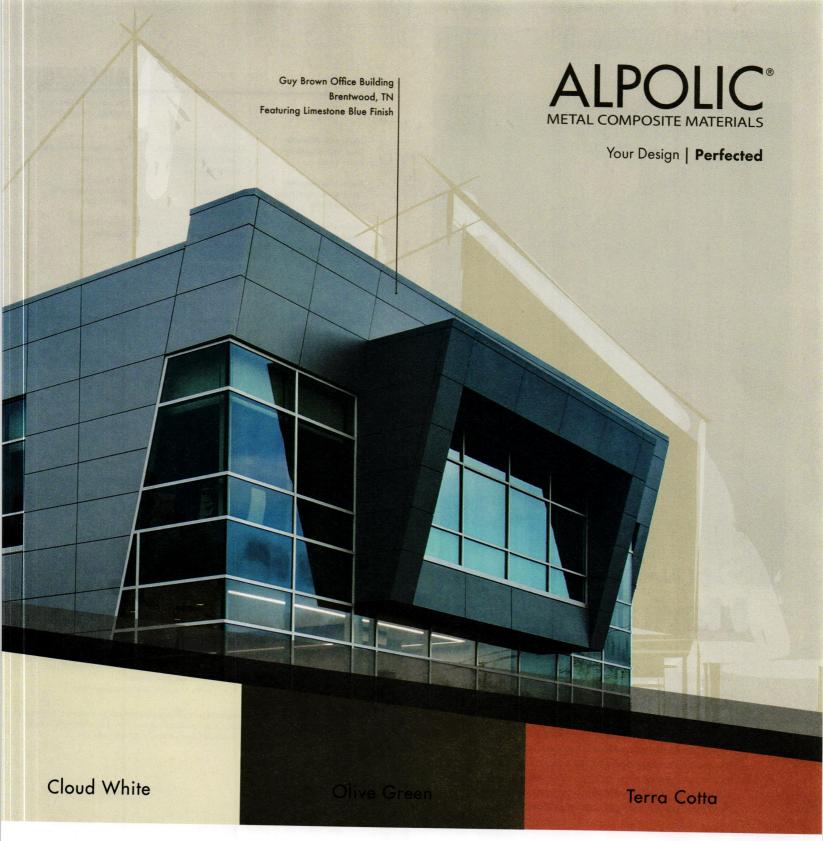
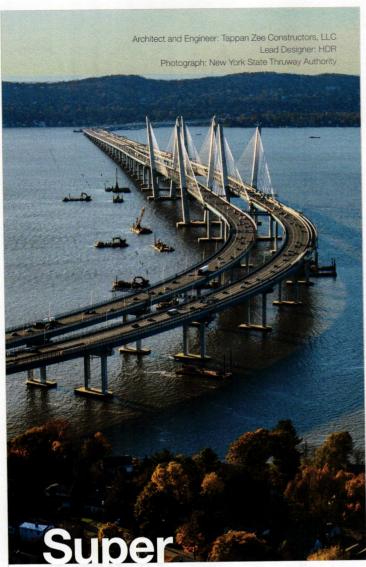


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Mario

The Tappan Zee Bridge, revolutionary in its day, was well past the end of its operational life. Replacing it with the new **Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge**, a span of more than three miles across the Hudson River, required erecting a structurally complex cable-stayed design with careful attention to the river ecosystem. The resulting "smart bridge" takes an active role in monitoring its own performance while carrying traffic—a triumph that will benefit the Hudson Valley for generations to come. Read more about it in **Metals in Construction** online.



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HAVE FORMWORKS, WILL TRAVEL

To understand the design power of KnitCandela, start with a pair of suitcases.

It's not often you can carry the formworks for a 5-ton, 19-foot-tall hyperbolic paraboloid (hypars) concrete shell in a pair of suitcases.

But that's exactly what Dr. Mariana Popescu and her colleague from Switzerland's Block Research Group (BRG) carried onboard a flight from Zurich to Mexico City. The contents of their suitcases formed the basis for an award-winning tribute to renowned Mexican-Spanish architect Felix Candela (1910–1997) called KnitCandela. The curvy, sinewy concrete shell was designed and built by BRG, Zaha Hadid Architects Code, and UK-based Architecture Extrapolated.



WIDTH OF SWITZERLAND

"We packed 50 square meters of knitted drapes in two suitcases," explains Popescu. The fabric represents about 350 kilometers (roughly the width of Switzerland) of polyester yarn, describing a complex formwork mold the team used to build the shell over a two-week period in 2018. The Museo Universitario Arte Contemporaneo (MUAC) in Mexico City hosted the exhibit.

Popescu is an architect and Ph.D. doing postdoctoral research in the casting of double-curved geometries in concrete using 3D knitting.

Why knitting? Constructing extreme geometrical forms with concrete ordinarily requires casting molds built with timber or with milled foam supported by scaffolding. It's a time-consuming, one-off process that produces lots of waste.

NEXT-GEN APPLICATION

"With textiles we move away from a rigid system to a flexible formwork system," says Popescu. "A flexible formwork system means there's some sort of membrane that's being tensioned to gain its 3D geometry. This can be done in various ways. It's not a new idea and has been tried throughout the last century but never gained traction because of the lack of computational design and fabrication tools."

BRG terms the next-gen, textile-based approach KnitCrete. "Knitted textiles can be made directly into 3D geometries, so it's more efficient. It minimizes the need for cutting patterns to create spatial surfacing. You can also add channels and openings without cutting, gluing, and stitching," observes Popescu. Compared to conventional weaving, knitting allows for more directional variation and better supports additional formwork elements, such as insulation, electrical components, and HVAC systems.

BETTER CONSTRUCTION

To help turn the precisely fabricated knit into a rigid 3D shape, the fabric, the shuttering component, is supported by a load-bearing





Photo Credit: Lex Reiter



Photo Credit: Mariana Popescu



Photo Credit: Angelica Ibarra

cable net. The fabric is coated with a specially formulated cement paste.

In many respects, the precise off-site nature of the KnitCrete process resembles modular construction. The net result is a complex formworks mold that drastically reduces the need for field effort and uncertainty, which vastly simplifies logistics.

HOLD YOUR BREATH

With so much of the formworks meticulously choreographed 9,677 miles away in Zurich, was there anything left to surprise or delight in the MUAC courtyard? After all, this was the first time BRG used knitted textiles at an architectural scale.

"We had no doubts about the science and computations behind the formworks," Popescu

says. "Even so, you're not quite sure how it will all work until you're standing there in front of it. You hold your breath. Wow, this is happening. There's no way this isn't happening," she smiles.

HIGH PERFORMANCE OUTCOME

KnitCandela was an immediate sensation, earning a half-dozen notable awards and distinctions. How should architects understand the larger lessons of KnitCandela?

Consider a Formula 1 car race, Popescu advises. You won't find Formula 1 racers in city traffic. But the innovations used to create high-performance motor vehicles often find their way into mainstream design and manufacturing. Likewise with KnitCandela. The proven techniques used to realize sophisticated

geometries in concrete now have far broader possibilities in residential and commercial design. And are simple enough to carry in a suitcase.

To learn more, visit BuildwithStrength.com.

Design: ZHCODE: Filippo Nassetti, David Reeves, Marko Margeta, Shajay Bhooshan, Patrik Schumacher; BRG: Mariana Popescu, Matthias Rippmann, Tom Van Mele, Philippe Block

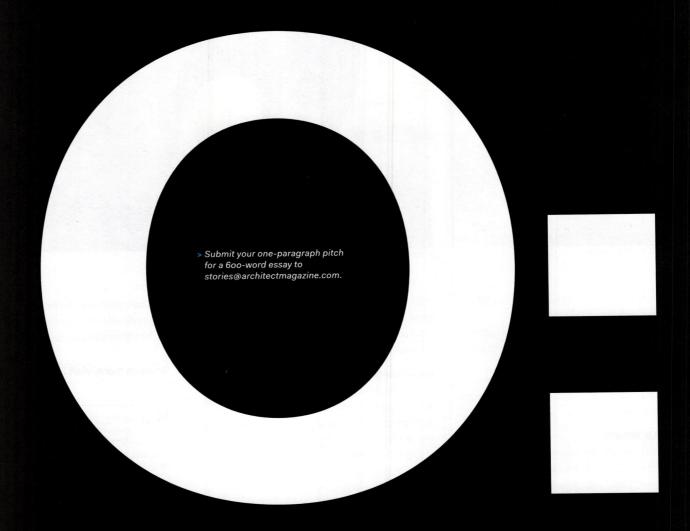
KnitCrete Technology: BRG: Mariana Popescu, Tom Van Mele, Philippe Block; Chair of Physical Chemistry of Building Materials, ETH Zurich: Lex Reiter, Robert Flatt

Fabrication and Construction: BRG: Mariana Popescu, Matthias Rippmann, Alessandro Dell'Endice, Cristian Calvo Barentin, Nora Ravanidou; R-Ex: Alicia Nahmad Vazquez, Horacio Bibiano Vargas, Jose Manuel Diaz Sanchez, Asunción Zúñiga, Agustín Lozano Álvarez, Miguel Juárez Antonio, Filiberto Juárez Antonio, Daniel Piña, Daniel Celin, Carlos Axel Pérez Cano, José Luis Naranjo Olivares, Everardo Hernández, Ramiro Tena

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Your Voice Matters

ARCHITECT is about you, the people who enrich the design community with your perspectives, ideas, and talents. We are seeking contributors to write thoughtful, timely, and provocative opinion articles. What does the industry need to hear? And how can it make a better, greener, and more equitable built environment?



Opinion: Dismantle and Rebuild

TEXT BY TIFFANY BROWN, ASSOC. AIA



In the midst of a global health pandemic, another pandemic is shaking up our country as the world watches: Systemic racism has been centuries in the making, but recent acts of police brutality have brought it to the forefront. As the voiceless act out in rage, those with a voice—including architects, creators of the built environment—are frantically seeking to end the sickness in our society, once and for all.

Calls to defund the police have been met with outcries. Though such measures require time and a democratic process that includes all citizens of this country, I view reducing police funding as more like reimbursing our communities—freeing up resources for programs that may promote reconciliation, collaboration, or something that we have yet to dream of.

Did we ever consider the impact of defunding state and national parks, environmental protections, or even the U.S. Postal Service? As a student of Detroit Public Schools, I watched as all art programs were defunded midway through my middle school years. Did anyone think about how that would affect the future of youth in those programs?

American culture has a long history deeply rooted in the design of inequitable practices and institutional systems of oppression. Together, as individuals, let's begin to explore and dismantle the barriers set in place so long ago. Let's commit to rebuilding equitable structures at all levels. Society must invest in community, arts, and leadership education for every person, every child. We must begin to enact and navigate the monumental change that is necessary. And it starts from within.

In his keynote speech at the 1968 AIA Convention, Whitney M. Young Jr. rightly laid out why change would require an integrated approach: "The crisis is not in our cities, ladies and gentlemen. The crisis is in our hearts, the kind of human beings we are. And I submit to you that if you are a mother or a father you are today being challenged either silently by young people or you will be challenged even more violently by them, but you are risking the respect of generations not yet adults and generations yet unborn."

I am among the generations that Young warned would come. Like many others, I was affected by the discriminatory urban renewal efforts of Robert Moses that seeped into the policies and procedures of our profession nationwide. I grew up in an environment that was an incubator for drugs and crime, physically and subliminally caged in by a black wrought iron fence. I am a survivor of racist city planning.

I broke through those barriers using the strength of my love for art, and my determination to beat the odds. I'm a Black female with an M.Arch. and an MBA. I am a designer of the built environment. I refused to be seen as "disadvantaged youth." I am my ancestors' wildest dreams.

My generation has our work cut out for us. We must put systems in place that will help diversify the talent pool and, in turn, the leaders in the profession.

To my fellow designers—especially those with the agency to make change—I ask you to engage now. Ask how you can be a part of the change. Ask what you can do with and for your colleagues, clients, and peers of color. Ask how their lives were impacted by discriminatory practices and policies that many of you will know now or see.

Revisit your promotion policies and implement change in your firm now.

Make a conscious effort to bring in minority leadership. Partner with entities that can assist you in diversifying your staff. Make it a core value.

Don't limit change to your work: Take the initiative and learn America's history of racial injustice. Read, listen, and watch educational content. Many resource lists have been put together; go and find them.

We must meet this moment now and abolish systemic racism in its tracks.

We are the catalysts for humanity. We are history in the making.

Based in Detroit, Tiffany Brown, Assoc. AIA, is executive manager of the National Organization of Minority Architects and raises awareness on how representation impacts firm practice, culture, and education.

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Hanley Wood congratulates and thanks SAFTI FIRST for supporting enlightened standards in building regulation, design, and construction.



The Rules: The Research & Development Tax Credit

TEXT BY TERRI PETERS

Introduced in 1981 as an economic recovery measure and amended continually thereafter, the federal Research & Development tax credit aims to increase domestic technological advancements by allowing companies to claim research-related employee wages and other allowable expenses as adjustments. The economic conditions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in "many companies experiencing liquidity issues," says Greenville, S.C.-based Adam Quattlebaum, a partner at accounting firm Dixon Hughes Goodman. "The R&D credit is a great mechanism to address this through reducing estimated tax payments, reducing tax liability, and by requesting refunds for previous 'open tax years' paid." This window typically stretches back three years.

The credit can offset future tax liability as well. "Oftentimes, research credits exceed a firm's tax liability," Quattlebaum says. "In this situation, excess credits can be carried forward for 20 years to offset future tax liability."

He estimates that the credit "typically ranges from 5% to 10% of eligible research expenditures; that is, if a firm has \$1 million of eligible research costs, the tax credit and associated cash savings could be \$50,000 to \$100,000."

To qualify, the work needs to involve the design of new products or processes, the enhancement of existing products or processes, or improvement upon existing prototypes or software. Many firms leverage time-and-expense

software to track eligible wages and costs in detail, but they can estimate qualified costs as well.

Brian Aumueller, managing director of the consulting firm Alliantgroup's New York office, has written about ways that architects specifically can qualify for the R&D credit. Eligible tasks can include employee time and relevant expenses relating to sustainable innovations; for example, work that could help a project achieve LEED certification, schematic design for any project type, and conducting environmental performance and impact analyses.

Since 2014, Seattle-based LMN Architects has claimed the tax credit to offset wage costs in research and development conducted largely by its internal LMN Tech Studio. The sixdesigner group splits its time between project-based research and product development of tools and processes for general use. LMN recently claimed the credit for some employee time spent on the design for the Seattle Aquarium's Ocean Pavilion. "The tax credit supported our design work incorporating parametric analyses for daylighting in this aquarium context," says partner Sam Miller, FAIA. The project prioritized access to daylighting and views, but also had "to minimize the amount of direct sun on the exhibits."

Firms might not realize their design work can qualify for the tax credit, Miller says. "In our design process, we use iterative design methods and simulation and that can all qualify."

One litmus test to conduct: "If the architect does not have financial risk for their work, then the costs associated with that project would not be eligible," Quattlebaum says, Typically, a firm's fixed-price or lump-sum contracts carry financial risk, he adds, but the terms of each contract must be analyzed to evaluate eligibility.

A bill proposed in Congress, the Furthering Our Recovery With American Research and Development (FORWARD) Act, would make R&D tax credits refundable. Because "many [architecture] firms generate credits that



The R&D tax credit helped LMN Architects offset design costs for the Seattle Aquarium's Ocean Pavilion.

exceed their tax liability," Quattlebaum says, "the proposed changes would result in additional cash savings for firms who invest in R&D."

The uncertain economic outlook may give pause to designers considering the pursuit of new methods, tools, and strategies, but the R&D tax credit, as is, can offer a cushion and an incentive.

CarbonPositive: Pandemic, Injustice, and Climate Change

TEXT BY EDWARD MAZRIA, FAIA, AND NATASHA BALWIT

Both the COVID-19 pandemic and current worldwide protests against racial injustice reveal deeply entrenched social inequities that are far from new. Powerful responses to both crises acknowledge this truth and seek both short-term solutions as well as systemic change. When public attention subsides, the hard work will continue.

Underlying these injustices is the fact that fossil fuel emissions and climate change have a disproportionate impact on low-income and communities of color. With limited resources they must contend with climate hazards such as air pollution, which can cause increased rates of respiratory illness and vulnerability to disease; displacement from flooding, fires, and other natural disasters; migration because of drought, scarcity of clean water, and lack of food security; and heat waves and heat-related occupational illness. These impacts will only deepen and exacerbate current injustice if the root cause of climate change is not immediately addressed. Slowing and reversing the climate crisis requires a sustained focus and urgent commitment in the wake of the current pandemic: Once a threshold of global warming is crossed, climate change will continue to intensify and will be irreversible.

Recognizing that timing is critical and that the built environment is responsible for more than 70% of all CO₂ emissions, Architecture 2030, ARCHITECT, and their partners will host the CarbonPositive Reset! 1.5°C Global Teach-In. The UN Framework Convention on Climate

& AFRICA

Global Teach-In

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MIDDLE EAST

Change (UNFCCC) sets the threshold for global temperature rise at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels to avert an irreversible descent into climate chaos. We know the extent of change and work required to stay below this threshold: a 50% to 65% reduction of fossil fuel CO₂ emissions by 2030, and complete phase out by 2040.

There is no better time to set all sights on meeting this target and firmly commit to the immediate actions. The teach-in will bring together experts, practitioners, students, and policymakers from across the world. Together, we will focus on implementing the most effective and regionally specific architecture and planning strategies, materials, construction methods, tools, and policies to rapidly reduce carbon emissions in order to meet the Paris Climate Agreement target.

We remain in a critical race against time. On Feb. 20, 2007, Architecture 2030 hosted the first emergency global teach-in, the 2010 Imperative, which injected energy, practical knowledge, and a sense of urgency into the climate change movement. It had more than 250,000 participants worldwide.

Teach-ins were pioneered by anti-war, racial justice, and labor activists generations ago, and the opportunity to leverage this format to again reach tens of thousands of our colleagues worldwide allows us to assess and reset our priorities and actions for the built environment-including providing practical solutions for the world's most vulnerable populations. Such a platform allows us to collaborate to carry out the real work of transformation: creating affordable clean energy and zero-carbon buildings and housing, designing walkable communities with free access to recreational areas, reframing our approach to buildings and infrastructure so that they act as carbon sinks, and supporting forest and biodiversity recovery.

The CarbonPositive Reset! 1.5°C Global Teach-In is scheduled as a full-day event that will be held three times in September, each one targeted to a different global region. Together, we can make the 1.5°C target a reality.



Vibrance



The upper two-thirds of this Technical Education Center is clad with Petersen's Highline S1 panel in three shades of red, gray and white, as specified by Pfluger Architects. The mix of finishes and profiles adds a high-tech appeal, with vibrant colors that pop and installation detailing that creates unique shadow effects.

Career & Technical Education Center, TX Installing contr.: Texas Roofing Co. Architect: Pfluger Architects GC: American Constructors Owner: Del Valle Independent School Dist. Photo: alanblakely.com

Highline S1

Metal Wall Panel System Cardinal Red, Ron Red, Tor Red, Bone White, Cityscape

CASE STUDY @ PAC-CLAD.COM/DELVALLE



The Journal of The American Institute of Architects

Emerging professionals are fueling today's design conversation with high-energy ideation that challenges stated norms.

Hanley Wood congratulates and thanks ASI Group for its ongoing commitment to design innovation driven by architecture's next generation.



COLIDTESY BÜDO KODAY DUNA

Next Progressives: Büro Koray Duman

Location:

Year founded:

New York/Istanbul

2013



Education:

Bachelor of Architecture, Middle Eastern Technical University in Turkey; Master of Architecture, UCLA

Experience:

Frederick Fisher and Partners in Los Angeles; Architecture In Formation in New York City

Firm size:

Four to six

Firm mission:

We believe in architecture's ability to be a social infrastructure. We want to design spaces that encourage people to interact with others and the space around them, and spaces that are meant for production of culture. Early on, we decided to move away from prescriptive and overwhelming design gestures.

Most important project:

The Islamic Cultural Center. We were able to get involved with the project from very early on. The research we did with the client and the multidisciplinary team was pivotal to think about what it means to create a cultural center for an underserved minority community, what it means to be an American Muslim now, and what kind of an institution should foster the new generation of American Muslims. It was the first time I realized how our profession too often shrinks to being merely a technical consultant and how we need to constantly push the boundaries of our profession to expand.

Second most important project:

Helsinki Hamam. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Finnish Cultural Institute in New York. They want to expand their program beyond working with Finnish artists and designers. Turkey and Finland share several cultural rituals, including the Finnish sauna and the Turkish hammam. The idea was to create a temporary pavilion on water, looking at how people socialize around water in saunas and hammams. The project was scheduled for May 2020 and was unfortunately canceled due to COVID-19.

Biggest career leap:

Being shortlisted for a new addition to the Noguchi Museum in Long Island City. It was the first time our office was invited to a shortlisted competition for an institution. We won the project three years ago and the construction is due to start in fall 2020.

Design tool of choice:

Blackwing matte pencil

Design aggravation:

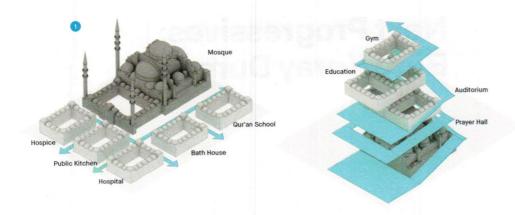
Unnecessary twisting and turning of forms for the sake of formal play. If the gesture does not provide interesting spaces within or around, or opportunities for the users or public, do not bother.

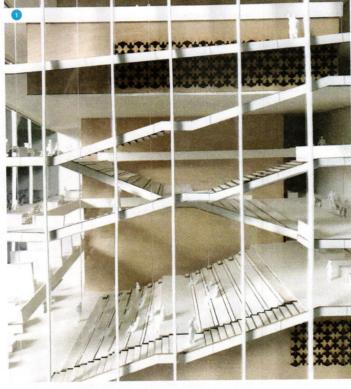
Most important advice you ever received:

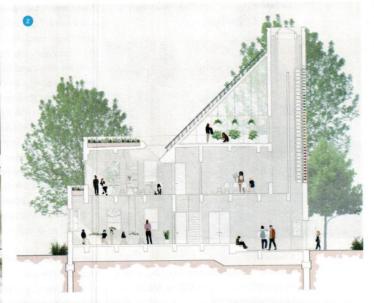
You can be the best cook in the world. It does not guarantee you to have a successful restaurant. That requires a great team.

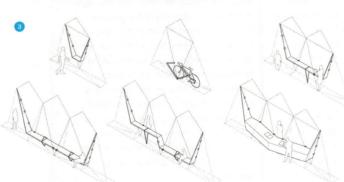
Most urgent political question facing architects today:

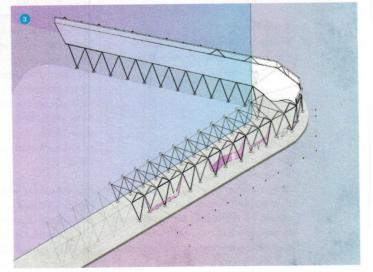
In the past few years, we witnessed the limits of the internet's transparency: its horizontality and "non-hierarchical" and "non-mediated" structure, making it a threat to elements of democracy. We have realized the echo chambers that we have been living in. How do we foresee physical public spaces taking back civic responsibilities or support a more democratic digital realm? How can we promote and make possible a physical space that provides the social infrastructure necessary to promote social exchange, conversation, and the production of knowledge and civic spaces?





















1. For the design of the Islamic Cultural Center in New York, bringing "architectural thinking to the table from the very beginning helped to form the identity and program of the institution, and the architecture became a natural extension of the research and debates we had," Duman says. 2. The LES Ecology Center engaged Büro Koray Duman to investigate how retrofitting the organization's historic New York building could make it more energy efficient through the use of geothermal, photovoltaic panels, and Tesla battery packs to store surplus energy. 3. Urban Canopy, a research initiative that seeks to reinvent scaffolding in New York City offers a kit of parts (benches, side tables, bike racks, food vendors) that can be incorporated into the ubiquitous construction framing. 4. The Publisher's Loft rethinks how an extensive book collection can be creatively accommodated in an apartment in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. 5. The Artists Studio is the conversion of a manufacturing building in Harlem into a studio and gallery for the artist Richard Prince. 6. The Artists Foundation is a gallery and art storage barn in upstate New York, constructed as part of a larger master plan for Prince's foundation. 7. The Helsinki Hamam aims to introduce New Yorkers to different ways of socializing around water. "We were able to define the question for the project with the client, rather than only providing a creative solution," Duman says.

Residential: Block 27, by Johnsen Schmaling Architects

TEXT BY MADELEINE D'ANGELO



Located on an infill lot in Sacramento's Newton Booth neighborhood, Block 27's four small units provide a mid-market housing alternative.





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Now more than ever, making the commercial restroom experience touch-free is crucial to public health and safety. Sloan is ready to provide updates from manual to touch-free fixtures, with products for every budget.

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Shown left: G2 8186 Exposed Sensor Urinal Flushometer, G2 8111 Exposed Sensor Water Closet Flushometer.



Residential: Johnsen Schmaling Architects

stretches upward, resulting in a three story height that begins to bridge the gap between the low-lying residential area to the south and the increasingly tall commercial centers to the north. "What intrigued us about the site was that weird dichotomy between these two typologies," says co-founding principal Sebastian Schmaling, AIA.

Clad in a simple palette of cedar and cementitious stucco, the building's façade grows increasingly transparent as it rises from a monolithic wooden base to a framed, open-air terrace on the third floor. "We carved out that third floor so the façade dematerializes and you see the sky through those openings instead of an enclosed volume," Schmaling says. "The intent here was to erode the volume as it rises up to the top, and reduce the visual weight that it has on the street."

An irregular pattern of floor-to-ceiling windows and vertical yellow stripes punctuates the upper two levels of the façade, and helps to distinguish the

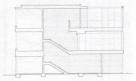
multifamily building further from the stark industrial buildings nearby. "Some are just painted metal strips, and others are LED light strips that overlay the entire composition with their own order," Schmaling says.

Although Block 27's compact lot did not allow for a sprawling, grassy yard, the architects provided outdoor space with the building's shared, third-floor terrace. Instead of individual balconies, which would have been pocket-sized and difficult to position, this 68o-square-foot communal space encourages interaction among residents.

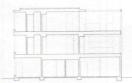
The architects also wove sustainability into Block 27's common areas, electing to include bike storage in lieu of parking. The choice not only preserved the project's valuable square footage, the lack of parking also encourages residents to take advantage of more sustainable mass transit, including a nearby light rail line.

Block 27's design not only bridges the divides between building typologies and residents, it also works to help close the gaps in Sacramento's available housing by focusing on the often-ignored middle market. "There's a whole strand of the population that are making a decent living but get priced out of attractive housing options," Schmaling says. He hopes that Block 27—with its focus on design and amenities, balanced with its small unit size and resulting relatively lower price point—can help to provide "one piece of the puzzle" of housing inventory in the region.

Section A-A₁



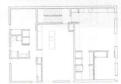
Section B-B₁



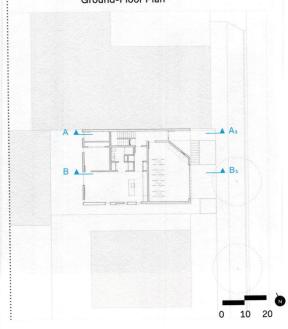
Third-Floor Plan



Second-Floor Plan



Ground-Floor Plan



Project Credits

Project: Block 27, Sacramento, Calif.

Client: Indie Capital

Architect/Landscape Architect/Lighting Designer: Johnsen Schmaling Architects, Milwaukee Brian Johnsen, AIA, Sebastian Schmaling, AIA (principals-in-charge); Andrew Cesarz,

P.J. Murrill, Ben Penlesky, Angelina Torbica, Matt Wendorf (project team)

Structural Engineer: Core 4 Engineering
MEP Engineer: LP Consulting Engineers
Civil Engineer: KPFF Consulting Engineers
General Contractor: Indie Capital Constructors

Life Safety: Ultimate Fire Systems

Size: 4,505 gross square feet; 680 square feet (communal roof terrace)

Cost: \$921,000



THE MIRACLE OF 520 WEST 20TH STREET

The design specified 11-foot-tall glazing. The fire code said no way. Guess what happened next?

The view of New York City from this floating glass-and-steel aerie couldn't be more majestic.

In the distance reigns the Empire State Building and the fabled NYC skyline. Closer in, the growing architectural wonderland of Chelsea. Below, the strolling paradise of the High Line. Imagine this crazy-beautiful view being walled-over to meet fire code.

Welcome to 520 West 20th Street, the latest architectural pearl on a string of them along the High Line from Morris Adjmi Architects. The firm's portfolio of adaptive reuse projects reveals a sensitive hand at fusing historic integrity with contemporary design and materials. 520 West 20th Street is a classic example, essentially a stacked massing of new atop old in a beguiling vision.

FLOATING THREE-STORY ADDITION

The seemingly suspended new three-story steel addition is poised above an old 60,000-square-foot, four-story brick warehouse. The family-owned building is being reimagined as an 85,000-square-foot, seven-story mixed-use center, ideal for a corporate tenant.

"The historic integrity of the warehouse is preserved with the help of two new vertical cores that support the glass-and-steel addition," explains firm founder Morris Adjmi, FAIA. The cores work like "vertical masts to support the glass-and-steel box spanning between them." The new addition is cantilevered, creating the illusion of a floating office complex to High Line strollers.

TRANSPARENT FIREWALL

The upper tier features floor-to-ceiling glass panels. As obvious as that transparency seems, it didn't come without a knotty complication: The extreme proximity to neighboring buildings mandated two-hour-rated firewalls on the building's flanks. Spanning the new addition with an 11-foot-tall glass ribbon seemed like a dim possibility.

"We discovered there were apparently no manufacturers of two-hour-rated fireresistive glass in the sizes we required," Adjmi says. "You could find smaller windows or create something with lots of mullions." In fact, the solution Adjmi's team had in mind would make 520 West 20th Street the nation's largest installation of fireresistive glass.

JNEXPECTED SOLUTION

Emphasize the word "apparently." A California company came to the architect's attention from the project's chief glazing contractor. Contact was quickly made to Safti-First, North America's only vertically integrated, single-source manufacturer of ire-resistive glass, framing, and entrances for over 35 years. Yes, their ASTM E-119-rated, fire-resistive SuperLite II-XLB 120 system met the fire code requirement. What about the oversized dimensions?



Photo Credit: Morris Admi Architects

Actually, no ... they could go bigger. Lucas Posada, Adjmi's lead architect on the project, remembers the feeling well. "It was amazing. The windows are custom-designed to just what we needed." Having a maximum clear view area of 7,980 square inches with a maximum clear view height or width of 133 inches, SuperLite II-XLB 120 has the largest tested and listed sizes of any fire-resistive glazing product available today. The inclusion of low-iron glass in the fire-resistive glazing units also ensured superior clarity and aesthetic continuity with the adjacent non-rated windows.

GOOD TO GO

There were no code issues, either. NYC code officials took one look at the third-party certifications from Safti-First and issued a quick approval. "There wasn't even a question," Posada recalls.

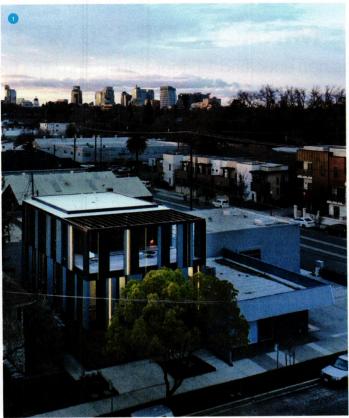
Like the acclaimed repurposing of the neighboring High Line, 520 West 20th Street is a stylish reminder of how fenestration science has helped transform the art of the possible in adaptive reuse.

To learn how advanced USA-made fire rated glazing systems, including jumbo-sized two-hour-rated fire-resistive glazing, could support your design, visit **safti.com**.



Residential: **Johnsen Schmaling Architects**







- Painted yellow strips, some with embedded LED fixtures, create a dashed pattern over the Sto stucco
- and cedar façade.

 2. A third-floor, communal
- terrace offers residents a spacious outdoor area. 3. Block 27 contains four units, each outfitted with Ikea and custom cabinets, Grohe kitchen fixtures, and Silestone countertops.

IS YOUR STUDIO FIRST CLASS?

The Studio Prize is an annual design awards program that recognizes innovative, thoughtful, and ethical studio courses at accredited architecture schools. The prize is designed to celebrate the creativity of studio course curricula and projects—and, this year, the resilience of faculty and students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The exclusive sponsor, Sloan, has generously made \$20,000 available for student prizes. The jury will also confer the \$5,000 Sloan Award to students in a winning studio or studios that address sustainability, specifically water conservation.

5th ANNUAL



Call for entries

ELIGIBILITY

All full-time, part-time, and visiting faculty and administrators may submit studio course curricula, and the resulting student work, for consideration. All studio courses must have occurred in the context of an accredited Bachelor of Architecture or Master of Architecture program, or their equivalents, and all must have been concluded within the 2019–2020 academic year. Summer 2019 studios are also eligible. For full eligibility requirements, visit studioprize.com.

RECOGNITION

Winners will be featured in the November issue of ARCHITECT with expanded coverage online at architectmagazine.com.

HOW TO ENTER

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DEADLINES

REGULAR September 2, 2020 LATE September 9, 2020

FEES

ADMINISTRATIVE FEE
LATE FEE

\$45

\$25 (for entries submitted after September 2)







The Journal of The American Institute of Architects

Responsibility is the watchword for architecture in the 21st century and beyond.

Hanley Wood congratulates and thanks the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association for its ongoing commitment to sustainable design, material innovation, and social purpose.



Typology: Culver Steps, by Ehrlich Yanai Rhee Chaney Architects

TEXT BY KATIE GERFEN



Culver City, Calif., has something that defies the car-centric tropes of the Los Angeles region: a healthy number of pedestrians. Encouraging this foot traffic, and further activating the streetscape, was a main driver behind the Culver Steps, a new mixed-use development at the heart of the city's

A public/private partnership between the city and developer Hackman Capital Partners, the Culver Steps features 35,000 square feet of new public space. complemented by 40,000 square feet of retail, and 75,000 of office. Designed

Project Credits

Project: Culver Steps, Culver City, Calif.

Client: The City of Culver City; Hackman Capital Partners

Design Architect: Ehrlich Yanai Rhee Chaney Architects, Culver City, Calif. · Steven Ehrlich, FAIA,

Patricia Rhee, FAIA, Mathew Chaney, AIA (partners); Thomas Zahlten (principal); Bryn Garrett (associate);

Alden Glauch, AIA (project architect); Lee Lamoreaux, Roy Malone, Yuan Feng, Andres Lin Shiu (designers)

Landscape Architect: SWA Group

Contractor: KPRS Construction Services

Structural Engineer: Saiful Bouquet Structural Engineers

MEP Engineer: Glumac

Civil Engineer: Psomas

Construction Manager: IDS Real Estate Group

General Contractor: KPRS Construction Services

Landscape Architect: SWA Group

Lighting Designer: BOLD

Parking Consultant: Walter P Moore

Signage: Air-Conditioned

Size: 115,108 square feet (40,000 retail, 75,000 office); 35,000 square feet (public space)

Cost: \$53 million

by local firm Ehrlich Yanai Rhee Chaney Architects (EYRC), the project brings new life to what for years had been an empty lot. "It's an amazing site because you have the historic Culver hotel on one side, and on the other side, you have the Culver Studios. You're literally in the heart of downtown," says EYRC partner and project lead Patricia Rhee, FAIA. The plot served temporary uses, such as a Christmas tree lot in the winter or a staging area for outdoor events in the summer, but to have such a prominent piece of the sidewalk lie fallow was "just such a shame," she says.

The project's massing is broken down into a four-story office building with retail lining the base, a two-story restaurant volume, and the surrounding public space. "You don't have any back sides of the building," Rhee says. "Every façade needed to have that pedestrian scale break down—the ability to draw people in and that fineness of detail everywhere. It's always engaging, on whichever side you're walking by."

A bevy of glazing strategies help break it down further: floor-to-ceiling glazing for the restaurants and retail shaded by warm wood-lined overhangs that help prevent heat gain; fixed louvers on multi-story glazing facing east and west; and punched, operable windows that project from the easternmost corner of the project. All of the glazing is darkly tinted to help minimize heat gain, and, combined with a dark brick selected to make the project stand out from the red tones of the historic brick hotel,

"it makes an amazing backdrop for all the color that comes from the landscape, like the vines that grew up the wall,"
Rhee says.

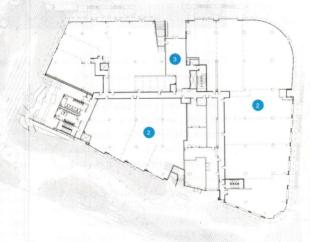
Most of the interiors will be tenant improvement projects for Amazon, which leased the office space, or for retailers. But EYRC did design the bright and sculptural office lobby, cladding the walls and ceiling with alternating strips of light wood and lighting. "We went a little bonkers with the wood," Rhee says, noting that the goal was for the space to feel "like it was very carved out."



The project's ample public space runs throughout the complex, and was designed with the Los Angeles office of landscape architecture firm SWA Group. A plaza anchors the space to the west and south, and hosts green lawns, shade trees, seating, and paved areas with integrated strips of grass that help mitigate the heat island effect. But the main event is a nearly 50-foot-wide, two-story-tall monumental stair at the southern edge of the complex: With integrated lighting, plantings, shade trees, and seating, the stair can serve as everything from an outdoor gym to seating for a concert. The staircase leads to a second, raised plaza, and further gardens on the podium; while these spaces can be cordoned off for private events, they were designed to be accessible to any of the pedestrian traffic in the area.

The complex opened at the end of 2019, and with tenants still moving in, did not reach full vibrancy before COVID-19 shut offices and retail across the country. But "now that we have bean bags and umbrellas out, people have little picnics out there—they're with hanging out with their kids and their dogs," Rhee says. "It's really for everyone."

Ground-Floor Plan





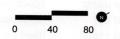




Upper-Plaza Plan



- 1. Plaza
- 2. Retail
- Office lobby
- Monumental stair
- Upper plaza
- 6. Restaurant
- Office



- 1. The easternmost corner of the complex has punched window openings in the façade formed from H.C. Muddox brick. 2. Tinted glazing from with tinted glazing from Guardian Glass combined with fived lowers on this west Guardian Glass combined
 with fixed louvers on this west
 façade help mitigate heat gain
 to the offices within.
 3. The upper level plaza
 features fixed planters and
 pavers from Acker-Stone and
- StepStone. 4. The office lobby is clad in wood from gWood.

Wood Window Walls Achieve Biophilic, Sustainable Design in Contemporary Architecture





L'Angolo Estate Winery. The use of wood throughout this beautiful tasting room is enhanced with a timber curtain wall system. Photographer | Jeremy Bittermann | LEVER Architecture

AN INTRODUCTION TO HISTORIC EXPERIMENTATIONS WITH WINDOW WALLS IN MODERN ARCHITECTURE: LE CORBUSIER AND PHILIP JOHNSON

As the modern movement began in the 1920s, there were two primary responses to the potential architectural uses for large sheets of glass, which were a new innovation in glazing: letting in light and dematerializing architecture. The first school of thought was championed by Le Corbusier. By using reinforced concrete, Le Corbusier did not need framing walls and could instead install wall-to-wall windows. He ultimately wanted to "treat the interior like an exterior, creating effects of light and shade, volume and space."

Villa La Roche serves as an example of one of Le Corbusier's most auspicious

structures.² The window wall in Villa La Roche succeeded in "bringing an external quality of light into the interior and emphasizing the continuity between the external facades and the internal walls."³ The windows and light also helped Le Corbusier to create spatial volumes and a "'spatial experience"; the house functioned as both residence and art gallery, where a promenade guides occupants and visitors through "wonderfully illuminated spaces which were perceptibly designed to be experiential and viewed from a single, fixed point." The central vestibule, where the window wall appears ultimately diffuses light throughout the interior of the Villa La Roche.⁴

To hone his techniques, Le Corbusier began to experiment with glass walls, including different glazing systems, ventilation, insulation,

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand the importance of fenestration in contemporary and modern mountain architecture and how fenestration is used in these buildings for daylighting, views, and a connection to the landscape.
- Examine the concepts of biophilic and sustainable design and why wood windows, doors, and curtain walls should be used to achieve these design goals.
- Identify wood fenestration products that can be used to create walls of windows in both residential and commercial projects.
- Explore design considerations, as well as glazing options that are imperative for occupant safety and comfort when designing with large expanses of glass.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

AIA CREDIT: 1 LU/HSW

AIA Continuing Education Provider

Use the learning objectives to focus your study as you read this article. To earn credit and obtain a certificate of completion, visit http://go.hw.net/AR072020-1 to view the entire CEU and complete the quiz. If you are new to Hanley Wood University, CEU courses are free of charge once you create a new learner account; returning users log in as usual.

and natural ways of shielding the glazed surface from the sun while still allowing light to enter the interior of a structure. This resulted in the brise soliel, "a framework of concrete shutters placed in front of the window wall." Another "natural" solution he devised was one "to replace mechanical ventilation." He created an open section "designed to encourage a free flow of air through the building." Some of Le Corbusier's experiments were more successful than others. For the Le Corbusier projects that were not as successful, such as his Salvation

Army hostel, it became clear that it was not enough to simply let large quantities of light into a structure. He continued to experiment with thermal insulation, ventilation, and balancing the sometimes opposing needs of transparency and privacy.

Phillip Johnson: The Glass House

Phillip Johnson's Glass House was completed in 1949 and served as his personal residence from that date until 2005. Floor-to-ceiling plate glass exterior walls—on all four sides—are "held in place by steel stops and black-painted steel piers of stock H-beams." 5 Some of the panes of glazing are as large as 18' x 7'10".

The house "ushered the International Style into residential American architecture." During a walking tour with Johnson in 1991, he noted the house, stylistically, "is a mixture of Mies van der Rohe, Malevich, the Parthenon, the English garden, the whole Romantic

Movement, the asymmetry of the 19th century. In other words, all these things are mixed up in it but basically it is the last of the modern, in the sense of the historic way we treat modern architecture today, the simple cube." 6

Before being inspired by any style, however, Johnson was moved by the land. Stating he had "thrown out" a multitude of ideas for the house for several years, it was not until he discovered a knoll in the woods that he began to conceive of the ultimate design for the house. In short, the design was "conditioned by the landscape," and "the view from the knoll and the view back was how [Johnson] figured the whole thing." The house is situated against the knoll with a pavilion at the end, affording views in all directions.

While the house cannot be seen from the road, achieving privacy without destroying the aesthetic was a concern. The solution was the result of discussion and planning between

Johnson and Van der Rohe. A separate, circular pavilion in the center of the house contains the bathroom, and the house as a whole is arranged asymmetrically as blocks and planes. Johnson then encapsulated the interior design in a "symmetrical cage" which he found to exude an exterior calmness and sense of organization. The entire Glass House sits on a step, resting on a lawn "delineated by a granite edging [that] anchors" the house to the land. 8

Ultimately, however, the Glass House afforded little privacy, and while Johnson made the property his weekend home, he also built another 14 structures on it, dividing his time between the Brick House, where he slept; the Library, where he worked; and Calluna Farms and Grainger, where he relaxed. In short, while the floor-to-ceiling windows across all four exterior "walls" at the Glass House afforded unrivaled views of the surrounding landscape, they did not offer enough privacy to make the house fully functional.

GLOSSARY

Biophilia—was coined by German social psychologist Erich Fromm in 1964 and further developed by Edward O. Wilson in 1984 in his work, Biophilia. The term itself can literally be translated as a "love of life" or of living things, and Wilson maintains that people have an "innate tendency to focus on living things, as opposed to the inanimate"; "long-term sustainability of restoring and strengthening the relationship between man and nature."

Brise Soliel—"a framework of concrete shutters placed in front of the window wall."

Contemporary Design—started to become popular around the 1970s; incorporates elements of any style, including modernism, postmodernism, art deco, deconstructivism, and futurism; literally means "of the moment" and is constantly evolving and incorporating new and old trends, as well as design principles and elements.

Daylighting—natural light is incorporated into a space; desirable from both a health and an energy-savings perspective; adds to visibility; can help to regulate circadian hythm as well as body systems and moods. With the right fenestration systems, daylighting can further increase ventilation and contribute to energy savings.

ndoor Environmental Quality (IEQ)—encompassing "the conditions inside a building—air quality, lighting, thermal conditions, ergonomics—and their effects on occupants or residents."

.ow Emissivity (Low-E)—comprised of several layers applied to glass; heat s filtered out while visible light can filter in. The layers, or coatings most

commonly in the form of metal oxides, are applied to glass during production and help reduce radiant heat transfer. Such coatings help to lower a window's U-factor and can protect furnishings from fading while providing benefits to the wellbeing of occupants.

Modern Design—trends began in the late 1800s, are rooted in the German Bauhaus school of design, and have taken cues from Scandinavian emphasis on simplicity and function; eventually gave birth to mid-century modern in the 1950s and 60s and then to postmodernism in the 1970s and 80s.

Mountain Modern—does away with clutter and heavy décor, rejecting the 20th century stereotype of dark log cabins filled with hunting motifs, heavy textures, and dark colors. Instead, modern mountain architecture strives for unique exteriors; windows and light; subtle texture over dark color; locally sourced materials; indoor/outdoor living; and low maintenance designs.

Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)—the measurement of the solar heat that passes through glass from sunlight. This measurement is expressed as a number between 0 and 1. A value of 1 indicates that all solar heat passes through, and a value of 0 indicates that no solar heat passes through.

Vertical Timber Architectural Wall Systems—give specifiers the design freedom and load bearing capabilities to meet current commercial and residential trends including expansive use of glass, clean straight lines, and transparency between indoor and outdoor living.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE¹⁰

Today's architecture and design encompass a broad range of styles from numerous influences. What is currently considered "contemporary design" started to become popular around the 1970s. It incorporates elements of any style, including modernism, postmodernism, art deco, deconstructivism, and futurism. Contemporary design, which literally means "of the moment," is constantly evolving and incorporating new and old trends, as well as design principles and elements.

One of the most influential trends that contemporary design incorporates is modernism. Modern design trends began in the late 1800s, are rooted in the German Bauhaus school of design, and have taken cues from Scandinavian emphasis on simplicity and function. Modern design trends eventually gave birth to mid-century modern in the 1950s and 60s and then to postmodernism in the 1970s and 80s.

While modernist adaptations of the principles and elements of design are still currently in use, there are some differences between modern and contemporary interpretations. Because contemporary design is constantly growing and changing, it involves components of modern design as well as components beyond modern

design's scope. For instance, modern design uses pops of color or dark colors eliminating coldness, whereas contemporary design might either use pops of color or encompass minimalist trends and intentionally create starkness. Modernist design also focuses on functionality; however, contemporary design has the tendency to focus on form. Additionally, modern design emphasizes vertical and horizontal lines whereas contemporary design includes curved shapes, as well as horizontal and vertical lines.

Contemporary architecture also uses the latest technology and materials, veering away from the architecture of the late twentieth century by including eco-friendly features and embracing sustainability. Building design has become focused on energy efficiency and the use of appropriate materials. Walls of windows or glass for natural lighting and ventilation are common, allowing occupants to interact more seamlessly with the natural environment, as well as improving heating and air conditioning costs.

Both contemporary and modern design, however, embrace a straightforward use of building materials and structural systems, and design facilitates the integration of interior and exterior environments. A general lack of ornamentation encourages a focus on materials such as glass, steel, wood, or stone,

or on asymmetrical compositions, to provide aesthetic interest. Both styles incorporate clean lines and uncluttered spaces with the goal of making rooms comfortable and inviting.

Characteristics of Mountain Modern Architecture

Mountain modern architecture also does away with clutter and heavy décor, rejecting the 20th century stereotype of dark log cabins filled with hunting motifs, heavy textures, and dark colors. Instead, modern mountain architecture strives for unique exteriors; windows and light; subtle texture over dark color; locally sourced materials; indoor/outdoor living; and low maintenance designs. Technological advances have created new opportunities for mountain design that embrace the outdoors while still providing warmth, comfort, and security.¹¹

One of the most important features of a mountain modern home is its use of windows. An article on design trends in Mountain Living notes, "Contemporary mountain forms reach up and out, to bring the outdoors in, as opposed to the sheltering, enclosing shapes of traditional mountain designs." While older technologies and building techniques sought to protect inhabitants from harsh mountainous climates by creating dark, cave-like dwellings, newer technologies and



Daylighting in abundance comes through these floor to ceiling contemporary windows. *Photographer | Farmer Payne Architects*



Open an entire wall to the outdoors, and create a seamless transition to nature.

techniques permit the use of floor-to-ceiling windows that simultaneously let in light and protect occupants. These window walls are comprised of operable glass, blurring the boundaries between exterior and interior and allowing occupants to get the most of views through indoor/outdoor living.12

Not only does indoor/outdoor living afford better integration with the surrounding landscape, it also increases the total living space of a home. This means both the incorporation of retractable windows into design but also large decks and ski-in, skiout basements. Native landscaping further contributes to the feeling of being at one with the outdoors and escaping to the mountains.

Open layouts and tall ceilings further contribute to views, brightness, and a connection with the outdoors. They also emphasize larger design features like building materials rather than smaller, cluttered decorative items. Glass, stone. concrete, and thick woodwork create varied interior textures and focal points while connecting to the exterior landscape. Many of these materials are locally sourced or reclaimed, contributing to sustainability efforts while offering the added benefit of amalgamating with natural surroundings.



This article continues on http://go.hw.net/AR072020-1.

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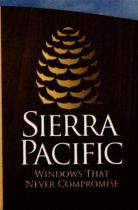
- 1. Phillip Johnson's Glass House was completed in a. 1926 b. 1949 c. 1955 d. 1960
- 2. According to the course, which design trend began in the late 1800s and is rooted in the Bauhau school of design?
 - a. Contemporary Design b. Futurism c. Modern Design d. Deconstructivism
- 3. Which design trend started to become popular around the 1970s? a. Contemporary Design b. Futurism
- c. Modern Design d. Deconstructivism
- 4. Mountain Modern Architecture can best be described by which of the following?
 - a. Hunting motifs
 - b. Heavy textures and dark colors
 - c. Log cabins and heavy décor
 - d. Subtle texture, locally sourced materials, low maintenance design, and windows and light
- 5. Biophilic design offers which of the following benefits?
 - a. Improved mental health and reduced stress
 - b. Attention restoration and increased wellbeing
 - c. Decreased violence and crime and greater altruistic behavior
 - d. All of the above
- 6. Wood is better for the environment in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, air and water pollution, and other impacts. Steel and concrete consume 12% and 20% more energy, emit 15% and 29% more greenhouse gases, and release 10% and 12% more pollutants into the air, and generate $_$ more water pollutants than wood, respectively.

a. 100% b. 200% c. 300% d. 400%

- 7. This type of window can be described as a specialty window designed to take contemporary aesthetics to any level, turning walls into moving focal points. It folds effortlessly to the side, creating an expansive opening that is ideal for a pass through to an outdoor living space.
 - a. Casement b. Bi-fold c. Multi-slide d. Awning
- 8. This type of window can be described as being able to slide in one or both directions. They can stack on the sides, or even slide completely into a pocket in the wall. They can also turn a 90-degree corner into an opening.
 - a. Casement b. Bi-fold c. Multi-slide d. Awning
- 9. Which option listed below is comprised of several layers applied to glass, filtering heat out and letting light filter in?
- a. Low-E b. Gas-filled airspaces c. Non-metal warm-edge spacers d. None of the above
- 10. The WBDG maintains that low SHGC windows should be specified on which façade of large commercial and industrial structures?
- a. South b. East
 - c. West d. All of the above

Construction and design practices that protect the environment are more than a good idea, they're becoming an essential part of doing business. But when it comes to building in a way that truly respects and preserves our limited resources, it's only part of the story.

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Planning for Multiple Scenarios

Q&A with Sheela Søgaard and Kai-Uwe Bergmann, FAIA

A strong network can be an asset in challenging times.

Bjarke Ingels Group has grown to four offices and more than 600 employees in the last 15 years, which is a huge undertaking even under the best economic circumstances. Here, BIG partner Kai-Uwe Bergmann, FAIA, and CEO Sheela Maini Søgaard talk about what the current public health crisis means for a creative and business enterprise, and the value of creating a support network for designers and architects who have moved through the firm over the years. "We have a saying at BIG," Bergmann says: "Once a BIGster, always a BIGster."

As told to William Richards

Søgaard: The uncertainties that affect global markets also affect our clients, and therefore us, and the need to plan for several scenarios is stronger now than ever. We are learning a new way of working not only with each other, but also with our clients and external collaborators.

Perhaps the learnings accumulated now will reduce our need for frequent travel in the future. We are learning new styles of management that depend on the ability to disperse assignments efficiently across team members and rely on their deliverables without as much supervision or guidance as normal. We are approaching this situation as an opportunity for growth of our leadership and BIGsters alike.

Bergmann: Google is one of our current clients, and we have already been integrating a lot of their digital tools for remote working and conferencing over the past years, so our staff is very adept at this already. As such, we have maintained our productivity in these challenging times. At BIG, we are currently sharing conceptual PDFs within our design teams and learning how to interact and sketch within a group of 5-10 designers, one on top of another, to further the design interactively. I feel that this will quickly be adopted into the studio environment if it has not already.

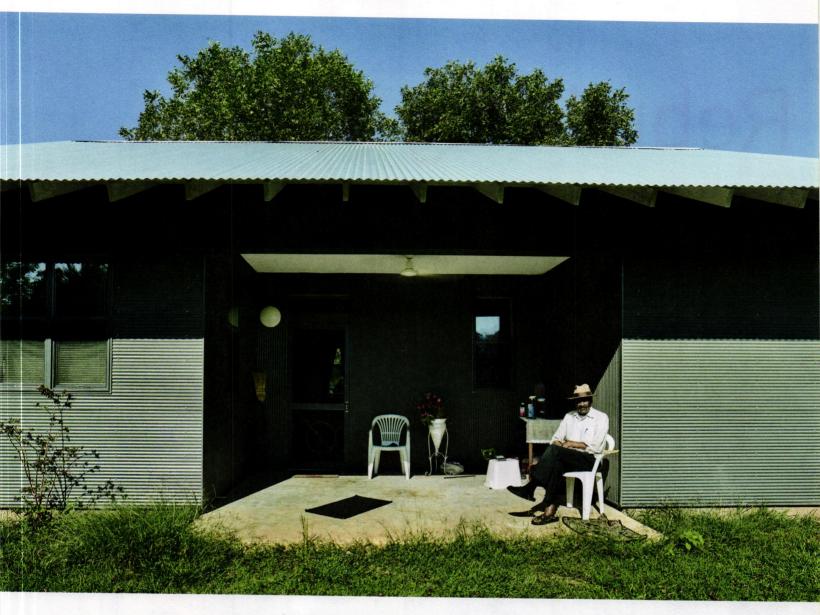
Søgaard: In many regions, the immediate future is somewhat less predictable than usual, and that has increased our tolerance for risk in the short term. As an employer we are doing our best to ensure that we inform our BIGsters transparently about market and business developments, how BIG is affected, and how this may in turn affect them in the short and medium term.

Bergmann: BIG was founded 15 years ago and we currently number more than 600 BIGsters in our four offices around the globe. [This number is complemented by the 1,000 or more BIGsters who have left BIG for new horizonsreturning to school to finish their studies, or starting their own offices. Over the years we have mentored many of these entrepreneurial spirits as they started their own design practices, visualization studios, or, in some cases, their own restaurants. We see former employees as our family, and provide a helping hand when we can through our "Big Resources for Small Businesses" network, so that in these challenging times, they all can fall back upon our incredible network and ask their most pressing questions to see if anyone else may have dealt with a similar issue. We can allow our collective experience to provide a helping hand.

Søgaard: We acknowledge that 2020 will be a year marked by risk and less growth than in recent years. Whenever the immediate future is unpredictable, it is natural to experience some concern—and rightly so. Focus on those things you can control. Plan the possible scenarios and remedies for each, as well as which triggers will alert you to the development of one scenario over others. Plan. Evaluate. Act. Re-evaluate. AIA



AIANow



Buster Ward sits outside his West Alabama home, which was designed and financed as part of Rural Studio's Front Porch Initiative.

Holistic Solutions for Homeownership

The work of Rural Studio's Front Porch Initiative doesn't stop at design.

By Katherine Flynn

Since its founding almost three decades ago, Auburn University's Rural Studio has focused on affordable housing as a core part of its mission to serve the residents of Hale County, Ala. This commitment was formalized through the Front Porch Initiative, an offshoot of Rural Studio that aims to build single-family houses and enhance access to mortgages in high-need rural areas. Each house design prioritizes the objectives of affordability, energy efficiency, and resilience.

Beyond design, the Front Porch Initiative tackles the accumulated costs of owning a home, including building operations, maintenance, and insurance. "When you think about housing affordability, you think about what a house costs to build," says Rusty Smith, associate director of Rural Studio and a faculty member at Auburn University's College of Architecture, Design and Construction. "But we've found that thinking about the

total cost of homeownership is where the most traction can be made." Through work with partner Fannie Mae, which extended a research agreement with Rural Studio for three additional years in April 2020, faculty and students developed four prototypes for one-and two-bedroom houses that can be adapted to different site conditions. The detailed construction documents and supporting technical materials allow the houses to be built by local workforces with easy-to-access materials.

Over the next year, the Front Porch Initiative plans to further refine prototype designs and start construction on houses in Tennessee, Florida, and South Carolina. AIA

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Rebuilding Trust

Community-led design seeks to dispel myths about who best understands how to shape public space.

By Patrick Sisson



For Chicago-based architect and designer Craig Stevenson, it's always been vital to work with, not for, the community.

Stevenson is director of the Chicago's chapter of the Open Architecture Collaborative (OAC)—a national nonprofit that does pro bono work designing buildings and placemaking projects for local communities. The realities of working in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, and the recent wave of protests over police brutality and the death of George Floyd, have made outreach and community engagement even more essential tools for facing an "existential crisis."

"It's an interesting challenge to design when fear and grief is prevalent," he says.

Stevenson is part of a team working on Under the Grid, a kind of reverse High Line for the North Lawndale neighborhood in Chicago that aims to turn vacant lots underneath rail lines—specifically a stretch of the Pink Line of the city's elevated train system-into a park, community green space, and gathering place. The ongoing project seeks to spark interest and re-emergence in art and the business corridor—a place for farmers markets, basketball, and dance events, created in concert with community groups, local businesses, and residents. To do so, the group has been holding hackathons and meetings with community groups as part of OAC's goal to democratize design, flatten hierarchies, and dispel myths about just who understands how to shape public space and how it can best serve a community.

"We're not here to impose solutions on people," he says. "It's about figuring out how the community wants to solve the immediate need for public space, and the best solutions to bring people together."

A New Challenge

In coming years, architects will be challenged like never before to help disadvantaged communities rebuild after these crises.

Neighborhoods across the nation have been irrevocably changed by coronavirus and protests, both of which have altered perceptions of public space.

Listening, responding, and shaping future designs around neighborhood needs will become even more vital. And while some might see the time and effort involved in garnering feedback and engaging in community-led design as a luxury, that would be a mistake, according to architects and designers who place equity, community feedback, and social justice at the center of their practice. When resources are scarce, the value of truly reflecting the community in design, hearing about their struggles and trauma, and getting their buy-in is immeasurable.

"Architecture often sets itself up to be an expendable service, a luxury," says Liz Ogbu, a designer, urbanist, and social innovator who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley. "We should do work that's vital to people's day-to-day ability to live their life. During the last recession, I worked for a small nonprofit, and while there was a culling of the industry—a third lost their jobs—I never feared, because the work we were doing was essential. Community-based work is about creating tools that let people thrive and live their best stories. That's what success looks like to me."

It's a priority that the profession as a whole is being increasingly challenged to meet. "Democratizing the decision-making and

design of the built environment is critical to both the future relevance of our profession and a truly equitable society," says William Bates, FAIA, 2019 president of AIA.

It³s instructive to look at the Great Recession of 2008, and the birth of placemaking, as architects adjust to new financial realities, Ogbu says. With city budgets on hold back then, the DIY/guerrilla approach created an opening for smaller street-level projects. In the coming years, communities recovering from historic disinvestment, a pandemic, and the loss of so many small businesses will look to the kind of rapid response design, such as parklets and popups, that flourished in the early 2010s.

This approach also offers quick ways to help neighborhoods recover. Coronavirus has exposed long-standing social inequities, says Sara Aye, executive director of Greater Good Studio, a Chicago-based social design practice. People of color and low-income people, who were already marginalized, have been further marginalized in the management and containment of the outbreak. Any project purporting to help needs to first engage with these uncomfortable truths.

"If you design something for a group of people, but not with them, you're not doing it for them, you're imposing upon them," Aye says. "You're assuming the role of a savior, that your expertise outweighs their lived experience. These assumptions aren't just dangerous, they add up to irreparable harm."

For Aye, whose specialty—like a recent multi-city collaboration with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help local groups design children's health programs—is process, what's required now goes beyond the typical methods

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of listening and outreach. Design teams can't rely on the traditional engagement checklist and community meetings, which typically exclude those who can't take time off or obtain childcare, and often favor louder, more organized, and more white voices (Katherine Einstein, a Boston University professor and researcher, has analyzed who speaks at public meetings and found a significant racial divide and underrepresentation of people of color).

Language is key to engagement, Aye says. Don't ask about problems someone faces, projections of the future, or the needs or dreams of a community at a time when compounding crises make that sound slightly tone deaf. Start with questions that honor the moment and ground feedback in lived reality, with inquiries about daily activities, fears, attitudes, and small improvements.

As fears of coronavirus make some of the preferred methods of in-person outreach—listening sessions, setting up pop-up booths at fairs and public events, door-to-door surveys, and small group meetings—impossible, digital means have become more prevalent. That's created fear of a digital divide, says Katherine Darnstadt, AIA, architect and founder of Chicago's Latent Design. But it's not so simple. Done right, digital meetings can actually encourage more interaction, and they can be recorded and remain online well beyond the live event, inviting more feedback from those who can't attend.

"Establishing a digital footprint doesn't solve every access issue, but it can make it easier for a larger number of people to connect," Darnstadt says. "But more doesn't always mean better. Policymakers need to change the status quo of how they intake and utilize feedback."

Seizing the Moment

As cities and neighborhoods begin to reopen, rapid prototypes and small-scale projects for commercial districts will be a focus due to changing regulations, the growing needs of local businesses, and evolving health guidelines. Darnstadt believes architects need to seize the moment and advocate not just good design, but for reforming processes and cutting costs that further benefit the community. How can policies be nudged in a direction that allows for quicker deployment of car-free streets, outdoor dining areas, public space, or pick-up and drop-off zones? Can designers reappropriate common items, such as sawhorses or other materials used by municipal authorities, for other purposes? For instance, in early June, Darnstadt offered to do pro bono work to help damaged businesses

rebuild, which required design from a licensed architect; can that process be accelerated?

"We need to look at temporary solutions that allow us to critically analyze what a more permanent solution looks like," she says. "It's not a fixed, start-and-stop process."

Darnstadt's Boombox project, a series of small, 8-by-20-foot portable pop-up shops for small Chicago businesses, exemplifies her vision for mobile, malleable design. To create these low-budget, floating storefronts for small businesses and entrepreneurs out of shipping containers and cement board, Darnstadt met with potential operators and nonprofits to learn about their needs, in terms of interior space and layout; compliance with city regulations (she helped write an ordinance that legalized the pop-ups); and how to best take advantage of outdoor space.

Originally introduced in 2015, the project has continually been refined over time; Boombox offers design services for businesses, in addition to managing and leasing the spaces. Darnstadt sees an even bigger future for these structures now, when businesses seek new ways to deliver goods and services in neutral locations, and buyers are wary of shopping indoors. With budgets tighter all around, there's great need for multi-functional small space and points-of-service hubs in communities.

"We fell into a common trap, thinking that we had a representative sample after a few interviews, and later found that there were so many organizations that felt left out, that couldn't afford good design," she says. "You need to constantly evolve to make the project work."

Buildings that reflect community need and engagement can also bolster local economies via community labor and business collaboration. Patricia Gruits, director with the Boston and Rwanda-based nonprofit MASS Design Group, says their design process always looks at ways to tap into local materials, labor, skills, and ingenuity. The firm has extensive experience working in Rwanda and other developing nations-work that has been informed by a core framework of collaboration as a way to improve the value and impact of a project. Gruits points to a number of decisions made in past projectsfor the Butaro District Hospital in Rwanda, built in 2011, hiring local laborers instead of bringing in a bulldozer cost the same amount of money and provided local jobs; and relying on locally found or reclaimed material, from volcanic stone in Rwanda (used on the Butaro project) to beetle-killed pine in the U.S. (used during a 2015 dorm project for Colorado College), helped support local business and industry.

A Neighborhood History Lesson

The added value of tapping into community skills and vision can take many different forms. In Los Angeles, another chapter of OAC has spent the last two years designing a renovation of the Avalon Carver Community Center. According to Sarah Loy, a member of the LA chapter of OAC, the first six months were a neighborhood history lesson, gleaned from extensive community conversations and interviews, aided by Jamivo Elder, the director of the community center. Built in the '50s after being championed by local activist and civil rights leader Mary B. Henry, who helped found the Head Start program, the building has always been a progressive nexus for the South Central neighborhood. Loy and her collaborators sought to infuse that history with the neighborhood's new vision for its future (a colorful new mural on the building's exterior recalls woven fabric, a nod to Henry's vision for a space that weaves together the neighborhood). The pending final design now includes a music production space for local artists and students, low-income housing, a STEM learning center, and a shelter for transitional youth.

"Typically, projects like this involve communities working directly with a contractor, which means they don't have designers who can translate community vision into something concrete," says Loy. "In this case, we can step in and really help them define their new space and environment, and by listening, we can help shape their voice."

That may be the core lesson to deploy when working with communities in need; don't just assist or aggregate ideas, amplify their experiences.

"We have a role to play, and it's not that we're all powerful, it's that we're complicit in either healing or harm," Ogbu says. "This is a point where we might radically change how we practice."

Stevenson, of Chicago OAC, says that he sees the community-led design process as akin to running a church, something he did while growing up. He wants his designs to be something that people interact with, because there's shared ownership and vision. It's hard to build the relationships needed to accomplish that over a small period of time.

"We're not going to show up for 24 hours [and then leave]," he says. "You need to be embedded enough to care whether the solution works or not. I approach outreach by thinking, 'I would like our grandchildren to be solving problems together." AIA





A Perfect Storm

How architects can plan for the intersection of COVID-19 and hurricane season.

By Amanda Abrams

Mid-2020 may go down in history as a summer of natural disasters: The coronavirus pandemic, an unprecedented biological disaster, will likely continue wreaking havoc around the country for the next few months—or longer. Meanwhile, NOAA has predicted an abovenormal hurricane season this year, due to warmer-than-average ocean temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea. And air temperatures across the country are slated to be hotter than usual this summer, leading to potentially dangerous overheating in urban areas and wildfires in the West.

These cascading events could utterly tax emergency management officials, who are already stretched in their efforts to respond to COVID-19. While FEMA and the Red Cross play vital roles in disaster preparedness and response, local governments take the lead in assisting residents before, and after, a disaster strikes. But responding in the middle of the pandemic will require a vastly broadened skill set: Shelter plans will need to be expanded to accommodate social distancing, for example, and officials will have to develop plans for contingencies such as flooding or power loss to hospitals with patients on ventilators, or to senior living facilities whose residents may be infected with COVID-19.

From the Ground Up

Some of these potential situations are outlined in FEMA's recent "COVID-19 Pandemic Operational Guidance for the 2020 Hurricane Season," which aims to align closely with the federal government's Guidelines for Opening Up America Again. It recommends temperature and health screening procedures prior to entry at all facilities or sites, cleaning and disinfection procedures, and instructions about face coverings, among other things. "The nation's emergency management system is most successful when it is locally executed, state managed, and federally supported," the guide reads-meaning that many details will have to be worked out on the ground by local emergency management officials.

Architects will have a distinct role to play as well in the upcoming season. While most aren't directly trained to respond to natural and man-made hazards, they do have a distinct knowledge base and set of capabilities that can be very valuable during disaster recovery.

"Architects by training have something to offer," says Al Comly, AIA; he serves as AIA Pennsylvania's state disaster coordinator, and is also on AIA's national Disaster Assistance Committee. "We know something about human behavior in terms of how design works. And a good part of [disaster response] is about human behavior and how to modify it." Architects are uniquely trained to handle all the different moving parts that accompany the response to a natural disaster. "If you liken it to designing a big project where the architect is facilitating the interactions between the engineer, the owner, the designer, and othersthe architect is the composer that makes sure everyone is doing what they're supposed to be doing. It's the same when you're responding to a natural disaster," says Brandon Love, AIA, the deputy city manager of Lumberton, N.C., which was devastated by hurricanes Florence (2018) and Matthew (2016). "Architects in general tend to think a little differently."

But governments and the general public aren't necessarily familiar with architects' value-add when it comes to crisis recovery. Finding a point of entry or figuring out who to work with can be a challenge for anyone; the agencies in charge can vary from county to county.

Getting Involved

AIA has some clear ways that architects can get involved in disaster response.

A first stop might be AIA's Disaster
Assistance Committee (DAC), which has been around for decades. Among other focuses, the committee offers a volunteer Safety Assessment Program that trains architects and others in the AEC industry to evaluate homes and other structures after a disaster has occurred. The service can allow individuals to return to their homes quickly and thereby spend less time crowded into a shelter where the risk of contracting COVID-19 may be higher.

Usually, the program requires an eighthour, in-person training, but DAC chair Scott Eddy, AIA, says that during this time of social distancing, it can be done virtually. He and his colleagues on the committee are determining other ways to ensure the safety of volunteer evaluators as they visit affected structures.

The assessment program is a way of becoming involved after a disaster has occurred, but architects can insert themselves in preparedness efforts as well—though those avenues aren't as established.

In New York, the New York arm of AIA's Disaster Assistance Program can serve as an inspiring example for interested architects.

In response to the spike in coronavirus infections that occurred there this spring, Illya Azaroff, AIA, the AIA New York state disaster coordinator, led an ad-hoc effort to lend expertise to the city and state.

It started with the N.Y. State Department of State contacting AIANY in search of a list of buildings across New York that could be used as alternative care facilities during the crisis. The call came on a Thursday, Azaroff says. "We activated our network of emergency architects, and then AIANY put it out to every architect throughout the state"—well over 9,000 people, he says. "By the next morning, we'd identified over 1,000 buildings for the Department of State."

That effort jump-started the creation of a unified task force of engaged AIA members, most of whom had many other ideas about how they could be of use. The group began meeting twice a week and eventually divided into eight subgroups with different focuses. One of the subgroups created a list of healthcare architects, engineers, and facility managers for the state Department of Health; another coordinated the 3D printing of PPE, which was then scarce; and another continues to develop advisories for building owners and managers that lay out HVAC and air quality standards in plain language.

"We're just a group that created an umbrella and is finding common ground," Azaroff says. "We're making sure people's ideas and work have a foundation and the traction to go somewhere."

The group was focused on the coronavirus crisis, but their work is relevant to any number of different types of disasters. And now that New York's peak of infections has passed, the task force is beginning to examine how to mitigate the compound effects of extreme heat, storms, and the coronavirus. In New York, the real issue is heat, not hurricanes. But the questions are the same: How do you

"We know something about human behavior in terms of how design works. And a good part of [disaster response] is about human behavior and how to modify it."

–Al Comly, AIA

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create barriers, design for social distancing, or expand the number of facilities in order to make sure that cooling centers or shelters aren't too crowded?

A Need for Space

In many cities and counties, officials are just beginning to look into additional sites for emergency shelters; by some estimates, they'll need roughly five times as much space as in normal years in order to meet social distancing standards. When asked about it, Azaroff says, "My answer is always, 'You need to engage your local AIA and get candidates for space."

When they do create a list of potential alternative shelters and care sites, architects can be aided by a new guide released by AIA in late May. The Re-Occupancy Assessment Tool provides parameters and strategies that will allow businesses, schools, restaurants, and other facilities to safely reopen and provide services. It lists designs and details meant to reduce the spread of infection, outlining elements like indoor and outdoor space planning, ventilation, and the design of restrooms, as well as policies and procedures covering symptomatic people and generally reducing the spread of pathogens.

In creating the tool, AIA sought to address a need for guidance for the built environment that holistically addressed the CDC's Hierarchy of Controls to ensure the public's health, safety, and welfare. An accompanying seven-step Risk Management Plan for Buildings helps architects to conduct a hazard analysis and assess potential primary and secondary risks. While the tool is largely focused on addressing the COVID-19 threat, it's also meant to be useful in the case of a secondary crisis, says Ken Filarksi, FAIA. As the AIA disaster coordinator for the state of Rhode Island, he helped write the report.

In the case of a hurricane while the coronavirus is still a major worry, Filarski says, "What if they crowd a whole bunch of people into a gymnasium, or even a parking lot? That's a breeding ground for disease transmission."

"The protocols that are part of [the tool] will help in strategies and implementation in terms of how to care for people," he says.

It's a step-by-step guide that will help structures and spaces remain healthy and safe—created by people whose entire professional lives have been spent studying how humans interact with the built environment. AIA

AIAPerspective



A Tipping Point for Systemic Injustice

We can no longer be complacent.

The 15th Amendment in 1870. Brown v. Board of Education in 1954. The Civil Rights Act in 1964 and Voting Rights Act in 1965. President Barack Obama's election in 2008.

In our nation's slow and fitful progress in reckoning with the original sin of slavery, some years stand out as turning points. Could 2020 be a tipping point toward dismantling systemic racial injustice?

It must be. It is up to all of us—as individuals and as a profession—to do our part to make it so.

The righteous demonstrations spurred by the brutal murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police seem to indicate a nation, and a world, finally awake to the destructive and deadly injustice that permeates daily life for people of color. It should not have taken Mr. Floyd's death—one of a devastatingly long line that includes Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others just this year—to open the nation's eyes. But it does seem that eyes are open, and even the most complacent in our society can no longer ignore the fact of systemic, pervasive racial injustice—and collective culpability in sustaining it.

The fact that Mr. Floyd's death occurred during a pandemic that is disproportionately killing African Americans only underscores the reality that American society is failing people of color—not sporadically, but systemically. Not incidentally, but existentially. Health, home, safety, education, economic opportunity, environmental quality—no aspect of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" is free from inequality.

It is a failure that extends back 400 years and takes different forms in different eras. In a

virtual town hall on June 3, President Obama emphasized that the injustices exposed in 2020 are the outcome of not just an immediate moment in time, but as the result of a long host of things—slavery, Jim Crow, redlining, and institutional racism." Noting that so many have been "awakened" to existing "structural problems," Obama described this moment as "an opportunity to work together to tackle them and take them on and change America and make it live to its highest ideals."

Our profession certainly has a role to play, and The American Institute of Architects is fully committed to action.

AIA's Board of Directors has made the decision to make addressing systemic racial injustice fundamental to the organization's mission. Addressing systemic racial injustice and inequity will be an organization-wide focus in the same way leading the fight against climate change is a fundamental focus of the organization.

For instance, there is no question that housing policy is one of many factors impacting the epidemic of discriminatory policing and outright brutality that jeopardizes communities of color. Accordingly, AIA's Board of Directors has committed to "address and work to correct the built world's role in perpetuating systemic racial injustice" including "designing housing that marginalizes communities of color, helping to design communities that exclude people of color, and participating in municipal projects that destroyed or weaken thriving African American, Hispanic, and Native American communities."

We're also looking inward, actively working to create a more inclusive governance and leadership pipeline, as well as develop a more diverse slate of award recipients.

It all starts by listening. We know we don't have all the answers. So we're holding listening sessions with stakeholders, partner organizations, and affinity groups to find concrete ways to break down barriers and redouble efforts to ensure that the profession more closely reflects the diversity of society.

In his historic 1968 speech to AIA's National Convention, National Urban League executive director Whitney M. Young Jr. challenged architects to "stand up and say something."

Let's make 2020 the pivotal year that we fully accept the challenge, not only to "stand up and say something" but to stand up and do something to help dismantle systemic racial injustice and inequity in AIA, in firm culture, and in communities in this country. AIA

Jane Frederick, FAIA, 2020 AIA President



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"The protesters may disperse, the smoke clear, and the sirens fade, but one thing is certain: We cannot return to the old ways."

James Garrett Jr. Lists Actions for Architects, Institutions, and Business Owners to Combat Systemic Racism by Blaine Brownell, FAIA

The killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis is one of countless examples of police brutality against Black people, and the widely circulated video of his death at the hands of white police officers has triggered an outpouring of rage, grief, and heartache in cities worldwide. A significant portion of human society now stands united against racial injustice and is making strident calls for reform.

The architecture community shares this anger, pain, and sense of loss. Architects generally focus on creating and building, so Floyd's murder has led some to feel helpless—but inaction is not an option. What can architects do to make a measurable difference against racial injustice?

James Garrett Jr., AIA, has some answers. A fifthgeneration Black resident of St. Paul, Garrett is a founder of the architecture firm 4RM+ULA and a colleague of mine at the University of Minnesota. He also knew George Floyd personally, making the news of his brutal killing even more devastating.

Although Garrett was not surprised that Floyd's death sparked protests, the fact that several of 4RM+ULA's commissioned projects were damaged—including two community art centers—has deeply unsettled him. "It's very traumatic for me to be in the midst of such intense destructive energy," he says.

Garrett feels that his highest value will be in the rebuilding process, but he says that time has not yet arrived. "There has to be an endurance of the pain, frustration, sadness, anger, and all the emotions of this destructive cycle—balanced with the understanding that there will be a moment when we shift, and the energy moves toward creating new things from the remnants of the old things that are literally and figuratively burning down."

When the time to build does come, Garrett will pursue a three-step approach that is standard practice at 4RM+ULA—and a method that he believes all

architects can employ to achieve more equitable and inclusive outcomes.

The first step is to organize a representationally diverse team that has broad-based knowledge and expertise. The second step is to establish a community engagement plan. Ideally, at least one team member should have a personal connection with the neighborhood in which a project is based. The third and final step is to leverage the work of one or more community-centered artists. As members of the design team, the artists will incorporate site-specific responses into a project as a further means of engagement. Garrett's three-pronged strategy effectively partners with diverse communities because community members can relate to team members, are heard and understood, and ultimately see themselves represented in the work.

Unfortunately, Garrett often witnesses a different approach employed by architecture firms that results in a "disaster capitalism" phenomenon. They do not hire or mentor a diverse staff, they lack a connection to the community, and they have no engagement plan, which creates an exploitative relationship. "You're going to jump in and cash in on the pain and suffering and explosion of decades of all kinds of inhumane treatment," he says, "and you're not putting any of that money, leadership, or opportunity into that community."

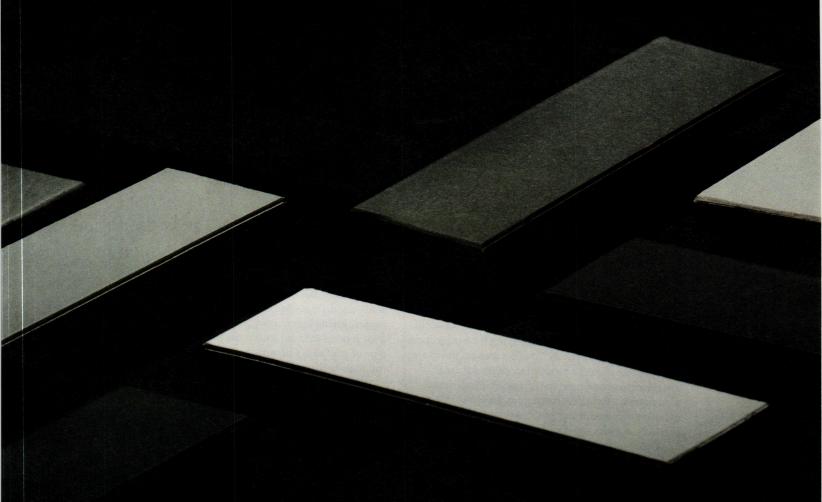
White-owned businesses and exclusively white selection committees can also present challenges. Architects can make a difference by paying attention to—and holding them accountable for—racial bias, explicit or implicit. As a partner in a minority-owned firm, Garrett is all too familiar with discrimination disguised as discernment. He is frequently invited to submit project proposals so that his presence diversifies the candidate pool. However, when his firm is not selected, the debrief is often suspect or problematic. "RFPs say the right things, but the goal posts move,"



A 4RM+ULA-designed campus for Juxtaposition Arts, under construction in Minneapolis, was vandalized during the civil unrest following the death of George Floyd.

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Left: 4RM+ULA

collaborated with AECOM on the design and documentation of the 18 stations comprising the Twin Cities' Green Line



Garrett explains. Established criteria suddenly change during the process, replaced with new standards that are inherently biased; for instance, a minority firm invited to submit might later be told it does not have enough experience in the specific project typology.

Garrett argues that such expertise is difficult to obtain when opportunities are kept out of reach. When 4RM+ULA pursued a theater project, for example, the client rejected the proposal due to the firm's lack of theater-design experience. However, Garrett points out, no firm of color has had a chance to design a theater in the state of Minnesota. "The moment you make similar experience a criterion, you are committing to perpetuating the system of white supremacy," he says. "You can say whatever platitudes you want, comfortably knowing you don't have to work with firms of color. The message is: 'I've shown initiative in trying to be inclusive.' But you haven't."

Garrett has community allies who inform him when selection committees, often all-white, show signs of racial bias-a practice they call "the same old bullshit." However, not all firms vying for a project are aware of this phenomenon. To effect meaningful change, all architects should be trained to detect evidence of discrimination and hold the responsible individuals accountable. Architects serving on the client side must pay attention to shifting goal posts and other biased practices in order to stand up for people of color.

Other questions that Garrett recommends architects ask include: "What is your plan for equity? What is your procurement strategy? How does that translate into capital projects? How much of that gets into the bloodstream of the communities you talk about uplifting?"

The prevalence of discriminatory behavior in the design industry is a key reason that many Black architecture students pursue other career paths. Young people of color need compassionate mentors who can advocate for their academic and professional







development. Garrett has taught and mentored many individuals who have remained devotees to the field-and to him-for life. "I'm investing in young people, giving them opportunities," he says. "[T]hat's what it takes to build a different profession. That's the type of stuff that's necessary if we're going to build a community that reflects the community."

The protesters may disperse, the smoke clear, and the sirens fade, but one thing is certain: We cannot return to the old ways.

Eradicating systemic racial bias in architecture will not be easy, however. No one knows the magnitude of this challenge more than firm owners of color, who have uniquely faced a steep uphill battle since their existence. "I don't have any sympathy for a system that is systematically underserving me," Garrett says. "What's the opportunity cost for all these projects that I don't get over the years in terms of the growth of my business, and my ability to hire and train for this profession? The impact that we're having on young people-I could be doing a lot more of that. It's devastating for our industry, and nobody cares."



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"The profession needs to do all it can to help and support the growing number of architecture graduates of color as they move through the licensure process." When will students return to campus? The COVID-19 pandemic has not only shuttered architecture schools around the country; it will also likely exacerbate a long-standing crisis in the profession. Architecture, much like higher education, is facing a slow-moving demographic disaster. The number of international students, who have buoyed university enrollments since the Great Recession, has started to slide. And enrollments of women and students of color may be on the rise, with women outnumbering men on many campuses, but the number of women and people of color who become licensed architects has not increased at anywhere near the same pace. If we want to increase the number of practicing architects and further diversify the profession, we need to respond to these demographic challenges.

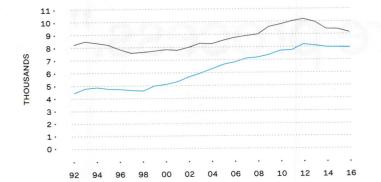
First, let's review the good news: Data collected by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) in 2016 reveals that the gap in the number of male and female architecture students continues to close. There were nearly twice as many male students as female students enrolled in architecture schools in the early 1990s, but women are now within 3 percentage points of pulling even with men. While the gap remains larger within B.Arch. programs, the number

of women receiving M.Arch. degrees is now very close to that of men.

A similarly optimistic view of gender equality in the profession comes from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). "In 2016, women accounted for 36% of newly licensed architects ... compared to 34% in 2015," a rate that, if it continues, would see the number of new female architects equaling that of their male counterparts by the mid-2020s. Women also outperform men in the time it takes from the start of school to the earning of a license—11.8 years versus 12.6 years.

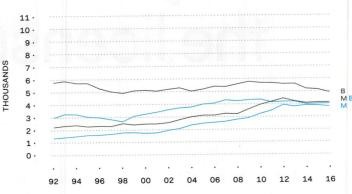
But the pessimists can make a case here as well. ACSA data from 2013 shows that the number of women working as architects has not nearly kept up with the number graduating from schools, suggesting that the profession needs to do a better job of keeping women in the pipeline. That includes improving pay equity and work-life balance at firms. ACSA data from 2015 shows that men's and women's salaries track very closely for the first couple of decades in the field, but that the salaries of women start to drop off after about 23 years of experience, with the median salary for women after 28 years almost \$20,000 lower than that of men.

The Closing Gender Gap for Design Graduates



Number of degrees conferred each year in architecture, city and urban planning, environmental design, interior architecture, landscape architecture, architecture history, architectural technology and building sciences, real estate development, and architecture and related services

Larger Gender Gap Among Undergraduates/Bachelor's and Master's Degrees by Year





B Bachelor's degree

Master's degree

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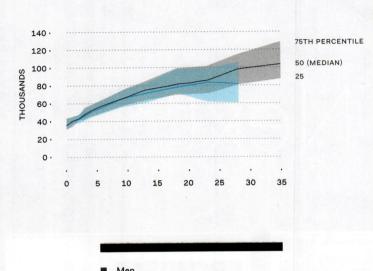
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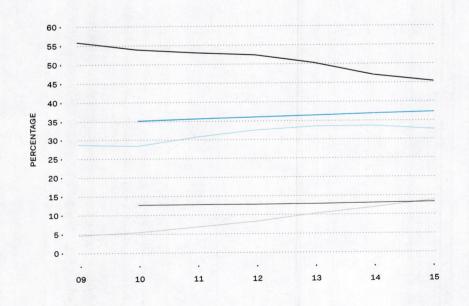
Women

Diversifying the Profession

We can make another glass-half-full or -half-empty assessment of the diversity data. The profession has historically had a horrible track record when it comes to racial diversity: among NCARB certificate holders in 2018, only 2% were Black and less than 1% Latinx, despite those groups accounting for more than 12% and 16%, respectively, of the U.S. population. In that context, the growing diversity among students enrolled in architecture programs seems particularly impressive. According to 2015 ACSA data, well over 25% of M.Arch. and pre-architecture enrollees are students of color, representing a more than 10-percentage-point increase since 2009.

As the percentage of students of color has increased, that of white students has been on a steady, downward trajectory. White students constituted more than 55% of all architecture students in 2009 and accounted for 45% of the total by 2015. What is interesting about that figure is how it follows future projections of the U.S. population: demographers predict a more than 16% decline of white people as a percentage of the population between 2015 and 2055, when white people will be at, yes, about 45% of the total. In that sense, American architecture schools may be at the leading edge of a demographic trend already transforming this country.

Student Enrollment Percentages Compared to the U.S. Population, by Year



- Total White Enrollment %
- People of Color* Population %
- People of Color Enrollment %
- Immigration Population %
- Total Foreign Enrollment %

* "People of color" is the number of people who are nonwhite and whose race is known. It includes those who are two or more races; it does not include "nonresident aliens."



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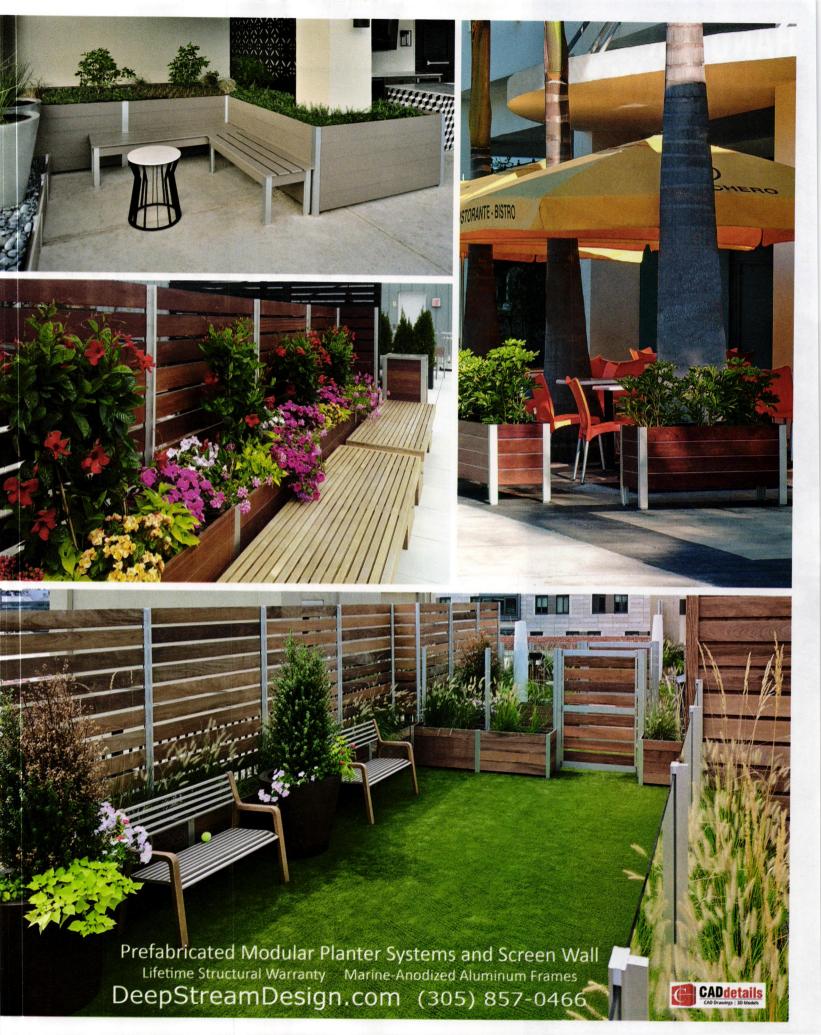


Whether the growing number of students of color will become architects, though, remains an open question. NCARB data shows that fewer than 20% of new architects identify as racial or ethnic minorities, even though they represent 30% of new ARE candidates and 42% of new AXP participants. This suggests that the profession needs to do all it can to help and support the growing number of architecture graduates of color as they move through the AXP and ARE process. The data on that front isn't encouraging. NCARB data from 2017 shows that while roughly 45% of new record holders identify as a racial minority, that drops to around 15% of those who are licensed, with the biggest gap occurring between the start of AXP and the start of the ARE.

The Decline of Foreign Students

Another diversity data point should also cause us concern. ACSA has tracked the steady increase of international students in North American architecture schools, from 5% in 2009 to roughly 15% in 2015. That is a higher percentage than in universities as a whole, where foreign students in 2015 accounted for about 5% of the total student body at U.S. universities, about a third of them from China. By 2017, however, the number of foreign students in American universities had dropped almost 7% from that total and some analysts see an even more precipitous decline ahead, given the federal government's stance toward immigration and its trade war with China. (In the short term, the COVID-19 pandemic will likely depress those numbers ever further, as students face travel restrictions and visa issues.) Such a decline would not only negatively affect architecture-school enrollments and their budgets, but also impede diversity efforts in the profession.

The overall architectural workforce could also take a hit if foreign students stop coming. While ACSA has tracked a rise in the number of architecture degree programs of all types, which have increased from about 600 in 1992 to 1,100 by 2016, the overall number of students in accredited programs has declined by roughly 6% between 2009 and 2017. That data may seem contradictory, but it reveals something important about the future of our field. Universities have responded to the growing interest in design and have created more diverse offerings-certificates, minors, and nonprofessional degrees-for those who may or may not have any intention of becoming architects. Optimists might see this as a good thing-more people want to learn how to think and work like designersbut pessimists might point to the softening demand for accredited degrees as a real concern.



Number of degree programs in architecture, city and urban planning, environmental design, interior architecture, landscape architecture, architecture history, architectural technology and building sciences, real estate development, and architecture and related services

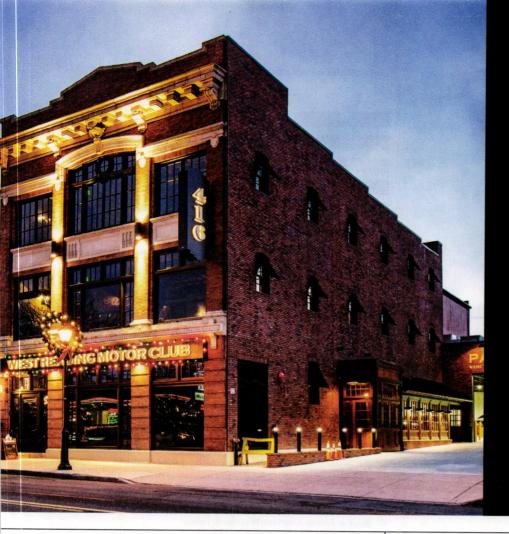
How to Grow the Profession

In the January 2018 of ARCHITECT, Kermit Baker, HON. AIA, posed the question: "How Many Architects Does Our Economy Need?" He concluded that "we'll need about 25,000 additional architectural staff over the coming decade to handle growth in the construction industry and replace those who will leave the workforce. This need accounts for about half of all future graduates of accredited architectural programs nationally who are eligible to work in the United States." Nobody knows yet to what extent the current economic downturn will change these long-term projections, but needing only half of all future graduates to become licensed sounds like an achievable goal. If the enrollment decline continues, however, the profession must find ways to spur a higher percentage of graduates to achieve licensure to keep up with the projected demand.

To attract both the number and diversity of architects we will need in the future, we must pay attention to how the profession gets portrayed in places where prospective students and their families look for advice. This year, U.S. News & World Report ranked "architect" sixth among the eight "best engineering jobs," claiming that our field has "average" opportunities for upward mobility and workplace flexibility, but an "above average" stress level, which lowered our ranking. And WalletHub ranks architecture ninth out of 109 entry-level jobs, behind eight engineering careers, but well above other professions like law and accounting. Again, architecture does well in terms of job opportunities and growth potential, but poorly—59th place—in terms of long working hours.

In 2008, AIA held a "Diversity Plenary" in which it committed "to develop a profession that reflects the diversity of the communities, users, and the clients we



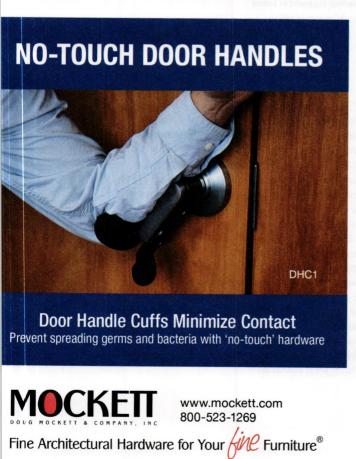


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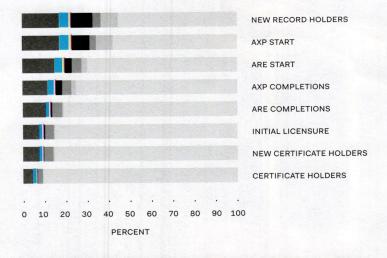
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2017 NCARB Licensure Data



- White/Not Hispanic or Latino
- White/Hispanic or Latino
- Other/Not Hispanic or Latino
- Other/Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander/Not Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander/Hispanic or Latino
- American Indian or Alaska Native/Not Hispanic or Latino
- American Indian or Alaska Native/Hispanic or Latino
- Black or African American/Not Hispanic or Latino
- Black or African American/Hispanic or Latino
- Asian/Not Hispanic or Latino
- Asian/Hispanic or Latino

serve." That goal remains achievable if schools and the profession see themselves as part of a singular, coordinated effort to reach out to underrepresented students in primary and secondary school and to create a path for them into architecture school, through AXP and the ARE, and into practice. The COVID-19 pandemic and the current economic downtown only makes the challenge all the more difficult. How many aspiring women and minority architects may be laid off or find themselves locked out of the profession? Will remote learning expose further inequity by limiting students who may not have access to the necessary technology? We need to remain committed to the goal of diversifying the profession because it's the right thing to do. But it's also a question of professional survival: Without such an effort, schools face a shrinking pool of students, and the profession a shrinking workforce. Demography may be destiny, but we cannot let it defeat us.

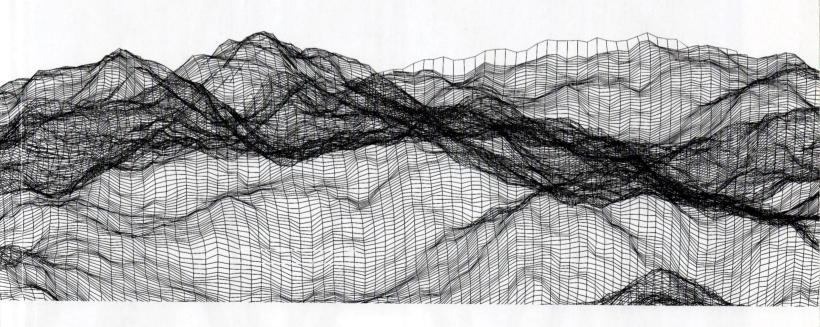


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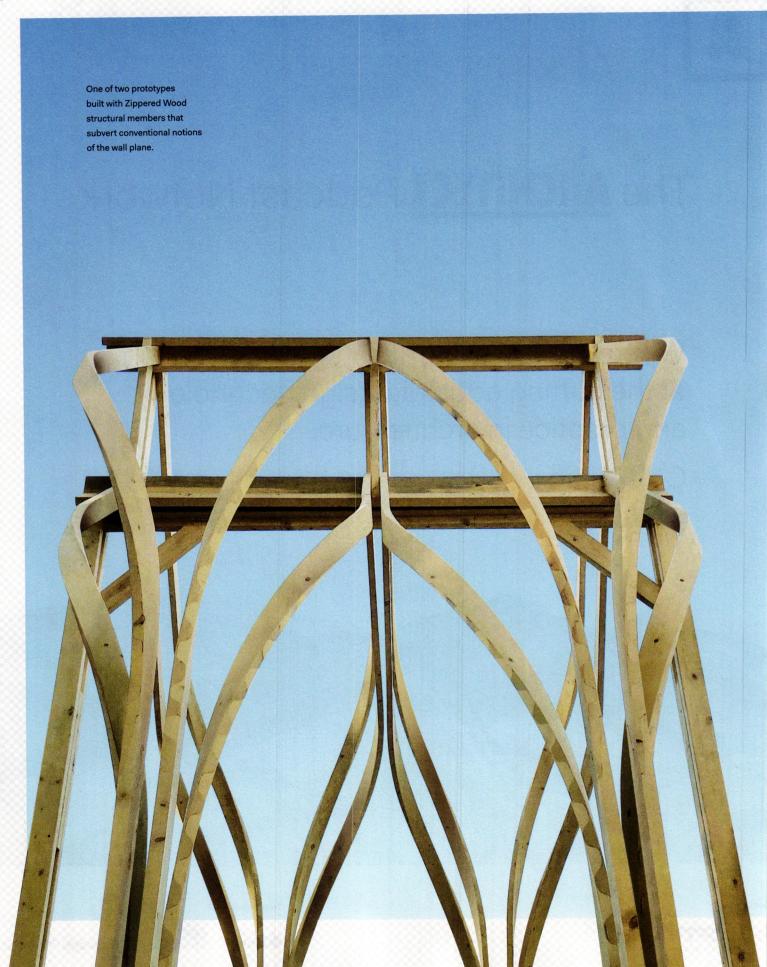
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IURY

Steve McDowell, FAIA, principal, BNIM
K.P. Reddy, founder and CEO, Shadow Ventures
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the 14th Annual R D Awards

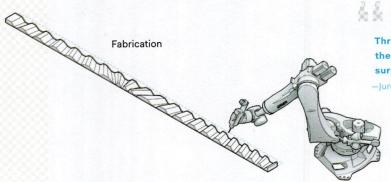
PROJECT TEXT BY GIDEON FINK SHAPIRO EDITED BY WANDA LAU

Society is confronting no shortage of crises, with climate change and housing access among the most critical. But the design community, undaunted, is responding with no shortage of thought-provoking ideas and new technologies, as evidenced by the 90 submissions to ARCHITECT'S 14th annual R+D Awards. Jurors Steve McDowell, FAIA, K.P. Reddy, and Ming Thompson, AIA, evaluated each entry's potential to have a lasting, positive impact on the built environment and beyond—and its ability to, as Reddy put it, "iterate to something special."

The resulting seven award winners have room to grow and scale while also "taking on fairly important and ordinary problems that the world is facing, or using data to help make better decisions for humanity," McDowell says. Despite the challenges we face, Thompson says, "these projects are all hopeful about the future."

Zippered Wood

University of British Columbia, HiLo Lab + University of Colorado, Denver, LoDo Lab + HouMinn Practice



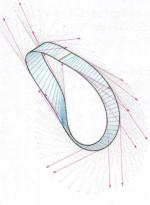
Through this analysis of standard sizes and fabrication methods, the team came up with something very sinuous, beautiful, and surprising from a 2×4.

-Juror Ming Thompson





Vector Analysis Diagram



The "aha!" moment at the University of British Columbia's HiLo Lab came when researchers, intent on bending strips of wood veneer into unusual forms, stepped back to look at their elaborate setup. "We realized we could use the formwork itself as the member," says Blair Satterfield, UBC department of architecture chair and associate professor. + That breakthrough led to zippered wood, which leverages ordinary construction methods to create extraordinary structures with the humble 2x4. "We thought about the project both formally, in terms of what we can achieve cheaply and quickly with standard studs, and also in a performative way, in terms of efficiency and strength," says Marc Swackhamer, ASSOC. AIA, who chairs the architecture department at University of Colorado, Denver and co-founded HouMinn Practice with Satterfield. + Starting with a cross-cut saw, the team created kerfs along 2×4s, enabling them to bend and twist. Using Grasshopper and the Kangaroo plug-in, they modeled the results and then wrote software protocols to map tooth patterns to specific curvatures. They upgraded to a CNC mill to cut teeth into 2×4s in such a way that two separate pieces of wood would lock or "zipper" only when they are hand-twisted together into the desired position. The mated pieces are clamped and glued to form a curving composite member with the dimensional cross-section of a 2×4. "Anecdotally, these bent and joined members are much stronger than a straight stud," Satterfield says. + To demonstrate their project's potential, the team built and exhibited two full-scale prototypes on the UBC campus in 2019. Most exciting, Swackhamer says, is the "democratizing potential" of a technique that broadens the possibilities of stick-frame construction.

Framing Possiblities





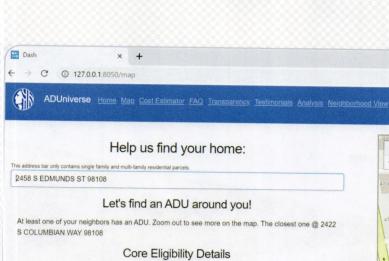








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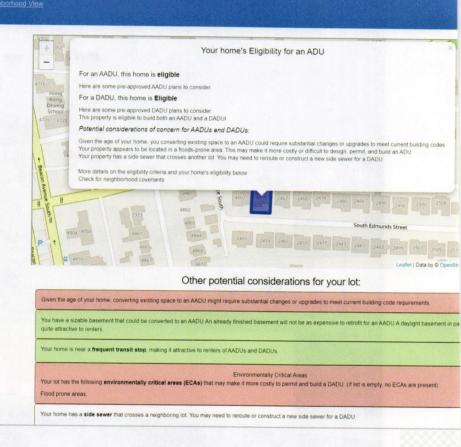
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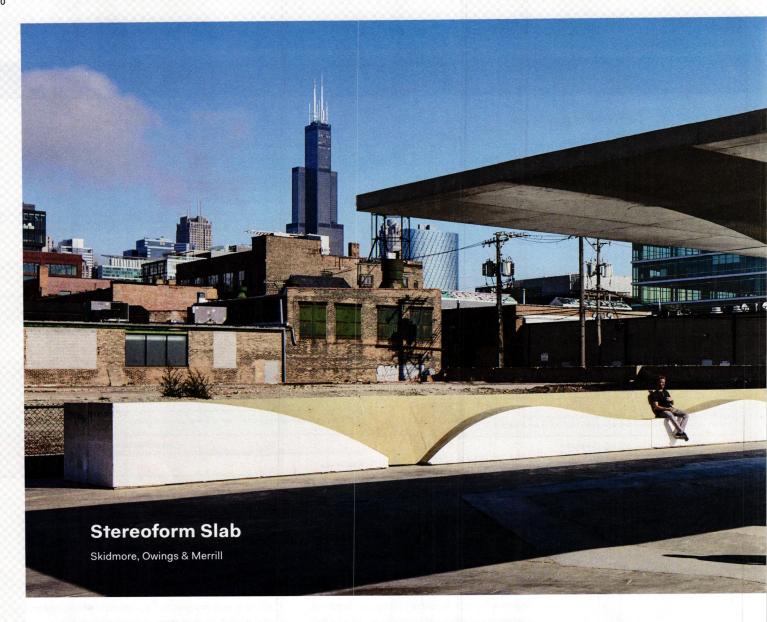
Rick Mohler, AIA + Nick Welch

ADUniverse has tremendous potential to make code legible to people, empower citizens to shape their built environment, and help solve a problem that our cities are facing.

-Juror Ming Thompson

Seattle is the 18th largest city in the U.S., but it has the nation's eighth most expensive rental housing market and third largest homeless population. About three-quarters of residentially zoned land is designated for single-family use, but the city wants to increase density. In July 2019, Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan signed legislation to make it easier for homeowners to develop accessory dwelling units-smaller structures that can house guests or renters-on their properties, with the goal of adding rental housing options while offering a potential benefit to homeowners. + "The short-term goal is simply increasing the number of available housing units, but the longer-term goal is increasing equity," says Rick Mohler, AIA, a University of Washington associate professor who serves on Seattle's planning commission. Single-family neighborhoods with parks, playgrounds, and other amenities would become less exclusive. + To help

homeowners navigate the regulatory, financial, design, and permitting challenges of developing an ADU, Mohler teamed with city senior planner Nick Welch to create the app ADUniverse. In 2019, they developed a prototype with UW's Data Science for Social Good program; a slightly modified, public version of the tool, developed by the city government, is expected this month. + With the app, homeowners can see if their lot is eligible for an attached or detached ADU. Existing GIS data on zoning, lot size, and coverage may be enough to produce a yes/no verdict, but more nuanced variables like tree canopy may prompt the user to contact the city for code compliance help. + In conjunction with launching the app to the public, the city is planning to release a set of 10 pre-approved ADU plans to streamline permitting and design. The plans emerged as winners of a design competition that was part of a city-led ADU development reform effort.



In an effort to improve upon the carbon footprint of the ubiquitous flat plate, the Chicago office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and Odense, Denmarkbased formwork robotics firm Odico jumped straight to revolutionizing the form of the slab itself. They then demonstrated the potential of their innovation-Stereoform Slab-in a full-scale prototype. + "We wanted a structural solution to minimize the amount of material [used] to reduce the embodied carbon," says SOM design partner Scott Duncan, AIA. "We wanted it to be implementable at scale, readily constructible, and no more costly than a conventional system." Typical reinforced concrete structures incorporate 10- to 12-inch-thick plate slabs, which, though simple to build, require more concrete and rebar than other slab configurations, Duncan says. The Stereoform Slab

system is a mere 6 inches thick, and is supported by a "smart band beam" whose tapering form, optimized through computational design, efficiently transfers loads to columns spaced 45 feet apart, for a floor plan with 30-foot bays. "We're able to achieve longer spans than a conventional flat plate, which means fewer columns [and less] concrete in the foundations of the building," Duncan says. + SOM began designing the Stereoform pavilion about six months before its debut at the 2019 Chicago Architecture Biennial. Odico used a robotic hot-wire cutting technique to make the expanded polystyrene (EPS) formwork. This technique is much faster than CNC milling, says Odico chief technology officer Asbjørn Søndergaard, though it limits the form to "ruled surfaces," which must be defined by the straight line of the cutting wire.



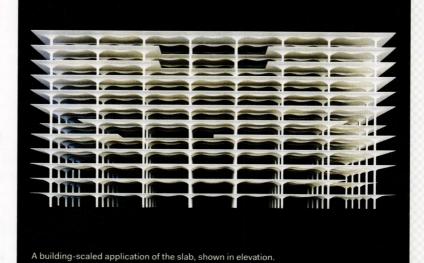
To make concrete beautiful like this, you have to build the formwork like cabinets.

-Juror Steve McDowell



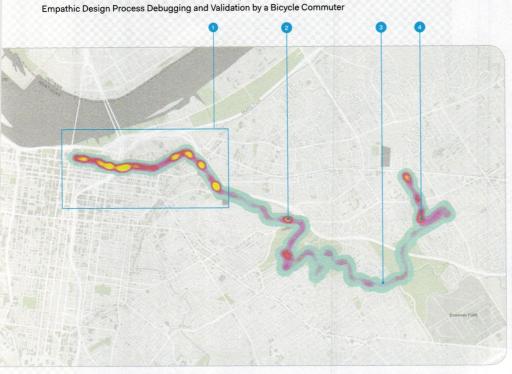


EPS is a petrochemical plastic product, Søndergaard acknowledges, but the EPS formwork takes less energy to produce than wood formwork and can be "almost 100%" recovered and recycled. + The resulting 70-foot-long, 24-foot-wide, 14-foot-tall pavilion, a potential module in a multistory structure, was erected in less than a week and uses 20% less concrete than a conventional slab with the same load capacity, according to SOM and Odico. The expressiveness of the structure adds to the Stereoform Slab's appeal, Duncan says: "Our clients are drawn to the authenticity of exposed ceilings, higher ceiling heights, and the loft aesthetic." + Stereoform's captivating form, comparable strength, and competitive cost add to his conviction: "We're committed to reducing embodied carbon and implementing this at scale," he vows. "You have my word. We're going to make it happen."



Empathic Design Process

Gresham Smith's Studio X Innovation Incubator



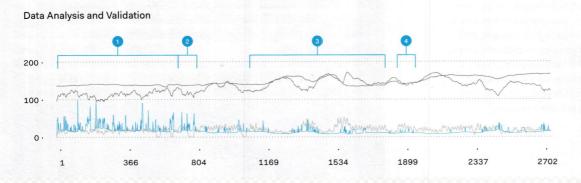
1. The test user's stress levels were high in the city center, where the environment is not very user-friendly—despite the fact that the ground terrain here is flatter. 2. The memory of a collision with a car six months earlier still creates a stressful experience at the location of the accident. 3. The lowest stress was recorded in the parks, where an abundance of green space couples with a lack of conflicts. 4. The location of a former pothole, even months after its repair, still creates stress for the test user.

As Mike Sewell, a lead engineer with Louisville, Ky.-based Gresham Smith, relished his 2019 bike trip across the Netherlands, he wondered if he could quantify and correlate his emotional response to specific places, and if the ability to objectively detect where people feel stressed or comfortable could be useful in planning and design. + Sewell enlisted colleagues from Gresham Smith's tech innovation unit to develop a patent-pending empathic data collection tool that works by comparing two datasets: geolocation data, as recorded on a smartphone or smartwatch; and the wearer's heart rate, which can serve as a biomarker in stress analysis. + Not all stress responses reflect the environment, Sewell notes; a person who is exercising, running late, or receives an angry text message, for example, could show an elevated heart rate unrelated to spatial design. Memories can also display in the data as psychological stress: "I was exhibiting remnant stress in a location where I was hit by a car a year ago," says Sewell, a bike commuter. + The solution, he says, is to gather larger datasets. "The more users we have, the more we can eliminate those [statistical] outliers." Biometric data should also be cross-referenced with data from surveys, user interviews, and direct observation to understand its significance. + Still, Sewell believes geolocated heart-rate data will allow one to corroborate "good design"-or the absence of it. The technology could improve the design of transit spaces and intersections, potentially reducing accidents, as well as hospital and airport environments. + The prototype works smoothly, Sewell says, but Gresham Smith is strengthening the platform—in which users opt to participate—to "handle lots of data very quickly, normalize the results, and improve the automation behind the scenes."



I see a lot of stuff [pitched], and I haven't seen anyone saying, 'Oh, we want to map emotional data,' which I thought was pretty cool.

—Juror K.P. Reddy



- Elevation (feet)
- Heart rate (bpm)
- Speed (mph)
- Autonomic stress score calculated by tool (0–100)

Walking Assembly

Matter Design + CEMEX

If ancient humans could create megalithic monuments without fuel-guzzling machines, modern society should be able to do likewise. "Every building component or object has intelligence," says Brandon Clifford, director and co-founder at Boston-based Matter Design and an associate professor at MIT. "In this work, we thought about transportation and positioning. How do you design the object so that it can be moved and placed with as little energy as possible?" + A shared interest in "embedding intelligence into objects" led Clifford to Davide Zampini, head of global R&D at multinational cement producer CEMEX. In 2017, their teams began collaborating on a series of eight interlocking concrete units, which range in weight from 926 to a staggering 3,902 pounds, and in height from 5 to 10 feet. The precisely irregular megaliths can be turned, rocked, and positioned by one or two

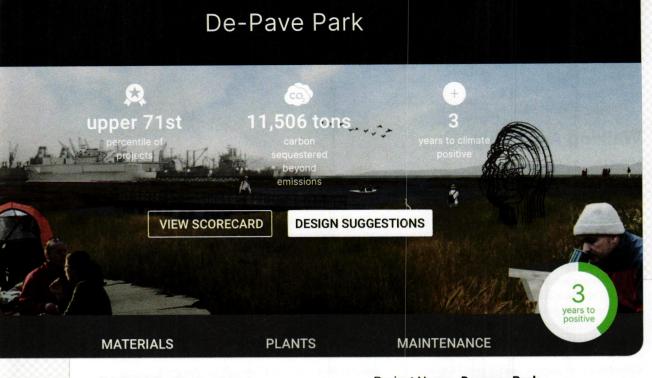
individuals with nothing but a pair of gloves. Strategic grooves, or dado joints, lock the masses together until their disassembly. + To make the units responsive to gentle nudges-like dancing with a partner, Clifford says-the designers calculated the location of each unit's center of mass. "Just moving the center of mass a quarter-inch will change the speed of rotation, how it rocks, how it moves," Zampini says. + To displace each unit's center of mass from its geometric location, the team used two concrete mixes with different densities to cast each unit. One unit was designed with two centers of mass: one when a hand-held tool is inserted into a socket, and the other when the weight of the tool is removed, causing the unit to ease into a standing position. + Admittedly, Walking Assembly is not suited for everyday construction, but the effortless maneuvering of immense forms is awe-inspiring.



-Juror Ming Thompson

- 1. Riding surface
- 2. Braking surface
- 3. Distribution plane
- 4. Curvature
- 5. Center of curvature





Project Landing Page

3 years to positive

Climate Positive Design **Scorecard**

Project Name De-pave Park
Type of Project Park

Net Impact over 50 years

Total Embodied Carbon from Materials

Total Carbon Sequestered by Plants over 50 years

Total Operational Carbon from Maintenance over 50 years

Data Input Sliders

-11,506 tons

2,758,260 lbs CO2-eq

26,391,279 lbs CO2-eq

69,845 lbs CO2-eq

Total Area

Impervious area Permeable area Planted area

1,133,694 sq feet

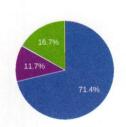
304,419 sq feet 829,275 sq feet 829,275 sq feet 26.03 acres

27% of total area 73% of total area 73% of total area

Carbon sequestration over time 3,000% 2,000% 1,000% 0 20 40 60 80 100 Years

Embodied carbon profile

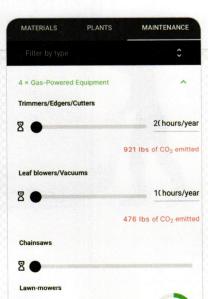
 Paving
 Drainage / Irrigation
 Planting / Soil
 Transportation and Construction (Contingency)
 Other







us Medium - Mature height 35-50ft (10-15m)



Pathfinder

CMG Landscape Architecture

Until recently, landscape architecture has been mostly overlooked in attempts to reduce embodied carbon in the built environment. "Architecture has been collecting this data for years, but we're starting from scratch," says Pamela Conrad, a principal at CMG Landscape Architecture, in San Francisco. She and her collaborators are closing the gap with Pathfinder, a climate impact assessment tool for landscape architects that Conrad began developing in 2016; it launched last fall. + The online carbon calculator provides instantaneous suggestions for substituting building materials to reduce embodied carbon emissions and to improve carbon sequestration. These recommendations are meant for general guidance, as material selection is a nuanced process, Conrad says, but "by using the app, users are able to cut emissions by 30% to 50%, and double the sequestration from baseline expectations while still providing high quality design." + The tool requests user input on three design parameters: the quantity of materials tht are sources of carbon emissions, such as pavement; the quantity of materials that are carbon sinks, such as plants; and anticipated carbon-emitting maintenance, like mowing or fertilizing. + The app uses data from the Athena Impact Estimator for Buildings and the U.S. Forest Service to calculate a Climate Positive score, indicating when the project's carbon sinks will offset its embodied and operating carbon footprint. The current carbon neutrality goal, calculated from 20 case studies integrating feasible interventions, is five years for parks and campuses, and 20 years for plazas and streetscapes. + As of April, Pathfinder had logged 858 projects from 621 contributors in 46 countries. A forthcoming version will factor in preliminary site disturbances, such as tree removal, demolition, and earthmoving. Conrad also has plans to improve the app's user experience, expand the material and plant database, and integrate life-cycle analysis data more seamlessly. + To increase Pathfinder's effectiveness and reach, Conrad convened an international advisory panel of industry and academic partners. Her own team of immediate collaborators spans five countries and multiple disciplines. + Conrad hopes that Pathfinder will help promote holistic carbon accounting across architecture and landscape. "I'm really looking forward to collaborating with more architects," she says. "We need to be working together."



This feels like a tool that gets designers engaged with material choices and material impacts very early in the design process.

-Juror K.P. Reddy



SITIVE DESIGN TOOLKIT

USE AS SUBSTITUTE FOR **PATHWAYS** CONCRETE, STONE, CONCRETE UNIT WOOD BOARDWALK/DECKING DECOMPOSED GRANITE CONCRETE, STONE, CONCRETE UNIT PAVERS ASPHALT CONCRETE, STONE, CONCRETE UNIT CHIP SEAL CONCRETE, STONE, CONCRETE UNIT CONCRETE (TYP. W/ PORTLAND CEMENT), CONCRETE UNIT PAVERS CO2 SEQUESTERING CONCRETE CONCRETE WITH CEMENT SUBSTITUTIONS CONCRETE (TYP. W/ PORTLAND CEMENT), CONCRETE UNIT PAVERS MATERIALS RECYCLED-CONTENT UNIT CONCRETE UNIT PAVERS ENGINEERED WOOD FIBER RUBBER SURFACING 2 CARBON WIELDED WIRE FABRIC (WWF) DERAD TEXTILE- REINFORCED CONCRETE (TRC) HOPE PIPE, CAST, IRON EMBODIED NATURAL DRAINAGE SWALES AND BIORETENTION AREAS LIGHTWEIGHT FILL FOAM, CELLULAR CONCRETE ш C EDU RECYCLED MATERIALS FROM THE SITE -CONCRETE CONCRETE ASPHAIT

InVert Self-Shading Windows

TBM Designs

Bimetal Piece-Cold

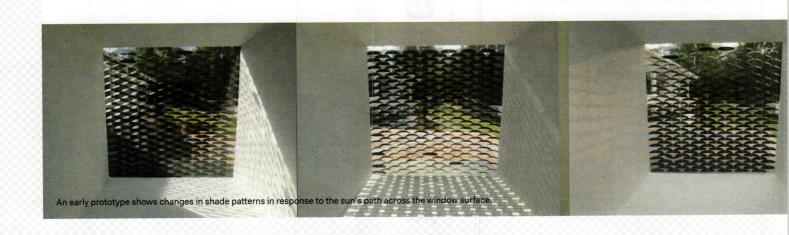


Bimetal Piece-Hot



Attempts to mitigate solar heat gain and glare through glass curtain walls often involve electrified systems such as automatic blinds, active fritting, or tinting controlled by sensors and software. However, Doris Sung, Assoc. AIA, co-founder of New York- and Los Angeles-based TBM Designs and associate professor at the University of Southern California has an elegant, new solution that relies on nothing but the mechanical properties innate to its materials. InVert Self-Shading Windows is Sung's latest exploration into thermobimetals, the subject of her two previous ARCHITECT R+D Award-winning projects: an active façade and a self-assembling structure. + Thermobimetals consist of two different alloys laminated together. Because the two metals expand at different rates, the laminated sheet curls in different directions when heated or cooled, predictably and repeatedly, and with no degradation. Designed to be sealed within the cavity of an insulated glass unit, the InVert system consists of an array of bimetal pieces mounted on a stainless-steel network grid. When sunlight hits the window, the individual bimetal pieces warm and begin to curl, flipping into a new orientation

that blocks the direct light. + After experimenting with 50-plus shapes and sizes for the pieces, Sung and her team settled upon a 0.0027-inch-thick notched ellipse that resembles a pair of butterfly wings. "The shape and size of the pieces are based on the performance of the material to curl and behave the way we want it to, and the performance of the system to block the right amount of sun," Sung says. The angle of the V-shaped opening in which each piece sits controls the degree to which the piece can invert, allowing custom tuning for different climates and exposures. + TBM's InVert system also preserves the color spectrum of incoming daylight, which researchers have linked to occupant wellness. It offers a visible light transmission level between 60% and 70%, and a solar heat gain coefficient of 0.37 when used with low-iron glass; use with coated glazing would bring the SHGC under 0.25. + Following a successful field test of two prototypes, Sung intends to manufacture the windows for the commercial market. The bimetal sheets, which were laser-cut for the prototype, will be die-stamped and shipped to a local IGU fabricator for new or retrofit curtain wall and storefront installations.

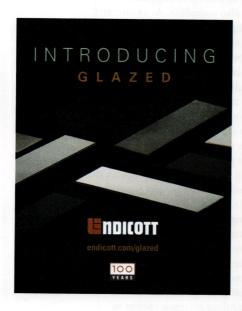




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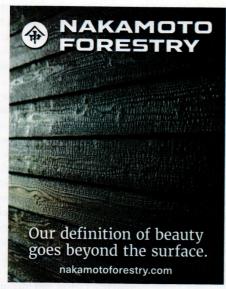














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Editorial: Time to Stand Up

TEXT BY KATIE GERFEN

In the pre-dawn hours of June 5—less than two weeks into the civil unrest following the brutal killing of George Floyd at the hand of Minneapolis police officers—artists, volunteers, and city employees directed by Washington, D.C., mayor Muriel Bowser emblazoned "Black Lives Matter" in vivid yellow letters on a two-block stretch just north of the White House. Within 24 hours, the protest site had been visited by thousands, many taking photos with street signs proclaiming the stretch's rechristening as Black Lives Matter Plaza, others decrying that a mural is no replacement for action in a centuries-long struggle for equality. The next evening, community organizers added "Defund the Police" in the same bold yellow.

The mural was quickly replicated around the country, in Charlotte, N.C., Oakland, Calif., Seattle, New York, and Montpelier, Vt., among other places. These murals' backdrop, as it is of all protests nationwide, is the built environment. And the cries to dismantle systemic racism can no longer, and should no longer, be ignored by our country or our profession.

Architecture itself faces a long-overdue reckoning. Black people make up 13% of the U.S. population, but only 2% of licensed architects in the U.S. The number of Black female architects (like Tiffany Brown, ASSOC. AIA, who shares her vision for a more equitable profession on page 13) has more than doubled since ARCHITECT'S March 2007 feature on the 0.2% of the industry they then represented; there are still fewer than 500 nationwide.

Systemic racism and inequity in architecture are not limited to demographics. They are found in competitions that make token gestures at diversity and in project selection committees that require exclusionary prior experience—all of which affect the project pipeline for firms owned by people of color. In his conversation with ARCHITECT columnist Blaine Brownell, FAIA, (page 49), architect James Garrett Jr., AIA, identifies some ways that discriminatory practices can

be challenged. But the problem cannot be solved unless the industry, as a whole, stands up in support.

The design media is also complicit. At ARCHITECT, we endeavor to shine a light on gender and racial inequity in the industry, and to offer a platform to those who have ideas for improvement. But our other coverage has not included nearly enough Black voices, and has even, at times, unwittingly erased them. We have made mistakes, and will likely make more as we learn and grow. We can and will do better.

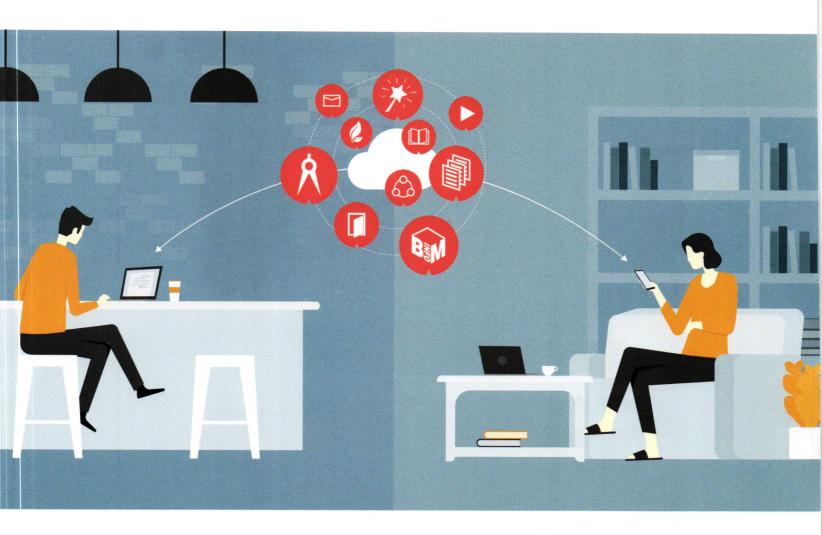
As the new editor-in-chief, I pledge to increase the representation of the work of Black architects and architects of color in our pages, and to cover that work at all stages of the design process to ensure that we do not perpetuate the inequities of the project pipeline. We will feature measurably more voices of color through interviews, hiring more writers of color, and commissioning even more op-eds from voices of color (a renewed call for opinion pieces is on page 12), so that we can amplify voices that aren't heard enough.

As an industry, we must stand up to take part in this movement for change, to listen, and to ally ourselves to help. Dismantling systemic racism in architecture is not the responsibility of people of color. The hard work must be done by those of us who have, unwittingly or not, benefitted from or perpetuated it. The built environment must be equitable for all, and the only way to achieve that is to stand up for a more equitable profession. Together. Now.



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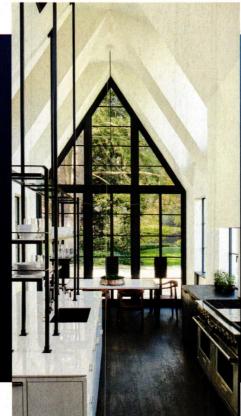
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