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## 2013 10th BIENNIAL DESIGN AWARDS

#### Greetings:

Welcome to Berkeley Design Advocates' 10th Biennial Design Awards. The 2012-13 Awards recognize those projects that were occupied between November 2010 and December 2012. We use this opportunity to highlight the best in design in our city, both to recognize the best architectural efforts and also to encourage our colleagues to strive for excellence in their designs.

What a difference a year makes. BDA continuously plans for these awards – once we finish with one program, we immediately debrief on how the program went, what to do better, and how to begin outreach for the next awards. In early 2011, as we were discussing these awards, we realized that we could easily have no projects to recognize in 2013. The economy was so bad that projects were not being built, and bright architects, skilled designers and talented craftsmen were struggling to hang on financially.

But then last year, things got better. A few small projects here, a few deeppocketed individuals there, and of course, the University projects were in full swing. And then, people finally decided they needed shelter and work spaces and public facilities

Not a moment too soon. And, as in many crisis, people rise to the challenge. From almost no work to recognize just 18 months ago, this year's Awards feature some of the most creative and inspiring designs that BDA has ever acknowledged. It is a testament to the architects, the craftsmen and especially the owners that they had the faith to continue and the courage to aim not just to the functional, but to the great.

Tonight we are recognizing nine great designs, located throughout the city. Four are public projects (three at the University, one with the city) one is sponsored by a non-profit corporation, and the balance are privately sponsored and funded efforts. As a community of design professionals, we are grateful that these project sponsors had the vision to move projects forward and make Berkeley a better and more beautiful community.

Thank you for your interest in Berkeley and in supporting the creativity and sensitivity of Berkeley's design community. We are pleased that you joined us tonight to honor these gems that enrich Berkeley and its residents.

Anthony Bruzzone, BDA President BDA Steering Committee









#### **UCB CAL MEMORIAL STADIUM & SIMPSON ATHLETIC CENTER**

The renovation of John Galen Howard's 1923 California Memorial Stadium, and the addition of the press box, elegantly resolves a number of significant challenges including a seismic upgrade of a historic structure straddling the Hayward Fault; improving accessibility while protecting the stadium's historic character, and adding new seating and service areas within the stadium's walls. The new press box and VIP club space perches above the stadium. The slender space-frame trusses and the glassy cantilevered roof are as structurally assertive the stadium itself, but distinctly contemporary. From within, the press box and VIP space's deliberate horizontality and architectural restraint emphasize their spectacular views east and west of the playing field, hills, the campus and the bay. Reorganized circulation and new concession areas provide regular ticket holders as well as VIPs access to views.

The Simpson Athletic Center takes advantage of topography to complement rather than compete with the Beaux Arts Stadium. This landform building buries a startling 142,000 square feet of very complex program space underground, in deference to both the oak landscape below and to the historic stadium above. The visible portions are clad in limestone which becomes progressively less rough and rustic in its application to the retaining walls on Piedmont Avenue, to the cladding of the athletic center, to the smooth stone at the plaza above. The roof of the athletic center transforms a former asphalt service road into a generous civic space that gives fans the elbow room to linger and enjoy the stadium's glorious setting.

Project Team:

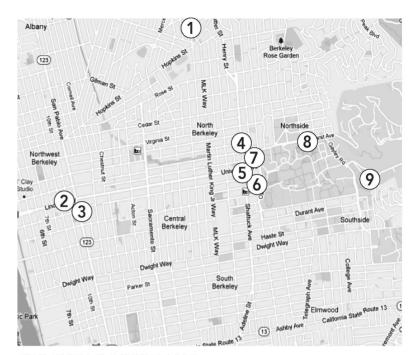
Owners: University of California

Architect: HNTB Architecture and Studios Architecture

Structural Engineering: Forell-Elsesser

MEP: WSPF&K Engineers Lighting: HLB Lighting Design Historic Preservation: Frederick Knapp Civil Engineer: Bellecci & Associates Landscape Architect: Olin Partnership

Builder / Contractor: Hunt Construction for the Simpson Center, and Webcor for Cal Memorial Stadium



# PROJECT LOCATION MAP



- BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NORTH BRANCH
   1170 THE ALAMEDA
- 2. PREMIER CRU FINE WINES 1011 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
- 3. RETAIL INFILL BUILDING 2117 SAN PABLO AVENUE
- 4. AMISTAD HOUSE
  2050 DELAWARE AVENUE
- 5. COMAL BERKELEY 2020 SHATTUCK AVENUE
- 6. ENNOR BUILDING 2130 CENTER STREET
- 7. ENERGY BIOSCIENCE BUILDING
  UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY
- 8. UCB STADIUM & SAHPC
  UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY
- 9. BLUM HALL
  UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY





## NORTH BRANCH BERKELEY LIBRARY

The North Branch Library project modernized the aging infrastructure of the beloved 1936 library, bringing it into compliance with current codes, and created much-needed additional public and staff space, while keeping historic features intact. It is now seismically strengthened, fully accessible, technologically up-to-date, and LEED Silver certified.

The main entrance to the original 5,700 SF single-story library is now fully accessible with a landscaped plaza. A new 3,900 SF two-story addition houses staff work areas, a Community room and support spaces. Its materials and details complement those of the original building.

In the rotunda, new casework is based on historic photos; its chandelier was recreated using current lamp technology. Lighting in the historic spaces was replaced with efficient fixtures that also highlight the decorative ceilings. The cooling strategy uses natural ventilation most of the year, including the rotunda's circular clerestory windows, which operate automatically when required. The project meets Bay Friendly Landscaping Guidelines.

Project Team:

Owners: City of Berkeley

Architects: Architectural Resources Group - Naomi Miroglio, Cathleen Malmstrom, Adria Oswald;

Tom Elliot Fisch - Doug Tom, Breck Polley

Structural Engineering: Tuan and Robinson

MEP: Timmons Design Engineers

Civil Engineers: Oberkamper and Associates Landscape Architect: PGA Design Inc. Lighting: Alice Prussin Associates Graphic Design: Urbain Design

Builder / Contractor: BHM Construction Inc.











## **BLUM HALL UC BERKELEY**

Richard C. Blum Hall at UC Berkeley is comprised of the renovation of John Galen Howard's Naval Architecture Building and a new three-story addition set perpendicular to Hearst Avenue. The renovation of the 1914 Naval Architecture Building, which included seismic, life safety and ADA upgrades, gives new life to a treasured campus landmark.

The addition protects and amplifies the historic integrity of the original building with a separate but complimentary gable-roofed, cedar clad form that infuses craftsman references with a contemporary sensibility. The elegant panelized cedar rain screen system; the acknowledgement of solar orientation in punched windows on the north facade facing Hearst and the deep shaded openings on the south; the crispness of the completely glazed top floor and central circulation; these elements suggested to the BDA jury that the expression of the addition will, like that of the original building, endure beyond this particular point in time.

Project Team:

Owners: University of California

Architect: Gensler

Preservation Architect: Knapp & VerPlank Preservation Architects

Structural Engineer: Forell Elsesser

Civil Engineer: BKF MEP: Creative Concepts

Landscape Architects: Suzman Cole Design Associates

Lighting Design: Horton Lees Brogden Steam System Design: Bellecci & Associates Builder / Contractor: Hathaway Dinwiddie









## PREMIER CRU FINE WINE

The careful renovation of this building for a wine importing and retail business provided an important investment in an unfocused stretch of University Avenue. The building itself is a simple box with an angled setback at the entrance. Elegant new façade elements, however, convey a message about urban design and the significant role that architecture can play in improving public space. The setback area at the entrance is fitted out in carefully detailed mahogany-colored (Parklex) wood panels. The designers described them as expressive of the quality and delight of the products inside. These panels and a small display window, beautifully curated, lead people into the building or, simply, provide a rich and gracious view to passersby.

Inside the space is wide open with high ceilings, thoughtfully arranged merchandise and striking wall-hung tapestries. The space is calm, without clutter: details, as materials, are simple and elegant. The interior palette of mahogany, bamboo and glass emphasizes, as at the entry, the quality of the products for sale (and/or tasting) and the care with which they have been selected.



Owner: Premier Cru, John Fox

Architect: David Trachtenberg, Isaiah Stackhouse, Robert Nishimori, Neven Krickovic

Custom Casework: Thomas Warner Wine Cellar Company

General Contractor: Kaufman Construction











### **ENERGY BIOSCIENCES INSTITUTE (EBI)**

This handsome new five story LEED Gold building for the Energy Biosciences Institute won a Berkeley Design Award for its deft response to a varied urban context, its elegant and airy interactive zones, and seamless integration with a public walkway and stair-stepping terrace. Occupying much of the block bounded by Oxford Street, Hearst Avenue, and Berkeley Way, EBI responds to each orientation in a different way: as a vertical monolith punctured with projecting window bays on the north, as a more open geometry of razor-edge thin bands of insulated glass and solar shades on the east, south, and part of the west.

The design beckons pedestrians from each direction and leads them across a serene landscaped plaza to the soaring entry hall where the dramatic orange diagonal of the main stair acts as the visual and physical draw. Every element of the complex seems carefully wrought, from the elegant sunshades down to the inventive lantern/seats on the plaza.

#### Project Team:

Owner: University of California

Architect: SmithGroup JJR - Suzanne Napier, Wil Caine, Barbara Abecassis, Johnny Wong

Structural Engineer: Rutherford and Chekene

MEP: Gayner Engineers

Civil Engineer: Creegan and D'Angelo

Daylighting and Lighting Design: Loisos & Ubbelohde

Communications and Security: Teecom
Cost Estimating: Cumming Corporation
Labratory Consultant: Research Facilities Design
Acoustics: Colin Gordan and Associates

Landscape Architect: Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture

Contractor: Rudolph & Sletten













# 2117 SAN PABLO AVENUE - INFILL RETAIL

This project was designed to fill a hole in the urban fabric along San Pablo. It is, as its submission described, a simple measured composition of stone, brick, wood, glass and steel. The project provides an elegant and thoughtful addition to a lively and diverse commercial area. Although at first glance, the project seems unrelated to its context, on further examination, color, texture, massing all relate to surrounding buildings emphasizing the importance of subtle connections in creating special urban places. Unusually, for this area, the distinction between inside and outside, between the public realm of the sidewalk and the interior of the building, is ambiguous—but, with warm materials, lovely and welcoming. The same stone wall and entrance awning occupy both interior and exterior space. Public and private are thus separated only by large, transparent plate glass and the setback beneath the metal screen--itself set back from the building wall and open above.

The design was shaped by the need to light the interior, to avoid the tunnel effect of a light front with dark recesses further back. The architects introduced a ribbon of south-facing clerestory windows to provide light deep into the space. The jurors did not see the interior; but photographs suggest that this goal was achieved with the same elegance of proportion and careful juxtaposition of materials as is evident in the façade.

Project Team:

Owners: John Gordan, Janis Mitchell, Bruce Gordan Architect: Kahn Design Associates - Charles Kahn, Viet Truong Structural Engineering: Kevin Donahue Structural Engineer

Geo-tech: Amso Consulting Engineers

Builder / Contractor: Holland and Harley Construction Inc.









#### 2130 CENTER STREET - ENNOR BUILDING RENOVATION

Panoramic Interests, headed by Patrick Kennedy, worked with Kahn Design Associates and wonderfully restored this historic building back to its former glory and more. Panoramic purchased the building in 2007 after the Act 1 & 2 had been shuttered for several years. All of the 1970's façade and the plastic marquis were replaced with brick work and clerestory windows that match the original design. A new matching column elegantly sets off retail restaurants (Ipuku and Ben & Jerry's) from the office entrance; copper awnings and beautiful mahogany doors contribute to the overall design excellence.

Once inside the office entrance the visitor is welcomed by sculptural Artemide light constellation, and a stunning staircase of rich woods, graceful metal, and translucent panels, build with exquisite craftsmanship. As Kennedy stated, the entrance is very important to him, and once inside he wanted to delight the visitor. He added, staircases are often overlooked architectural elements. Within the building, the architects cleverly added a third floor without changing the front façade, and added a basement of hip lower rent units for small companies and startups.

This building is the best of both worlds, and loving restoration that brings new form and function to a historic building and delights the visitor and workers in their everyday experience.

Project Team:

Owner: Panoramic Interests, 1916 Oxford Street, Berkeley

Architect: Kahn Design Associates

Engineering Consultants: NABI Construction & Engineering, K6 Associates, Structural Engineers

Contractor: Yerba Buena Builders











## **AMISTAD HOUSE**

Modest changes can achieve meaningful results and are important to recognize. That was the Berkeley Design Awards Jury's conclusion about the renovation of this 66-unit affordable housing building.

The additions give the building both a stronger identity and a more welcoming entrance, where before there was only a shingled anonymity. A new steel trellis cleverly incorporating the name of the complex – AMISTAD – defines the front door while a new monument made from Cor-ten steel and engraved with the name and address of the complex forms one corner of the fence along the sidewalk. Both structures subtly enhance the building façade. Inside, the new common areas are carefully upgraded with rolling barn doors, contemporary fixtures, inventive flooring, and an understated and soothing color palette. This is a fine example of memorable modesty.

Project Team

Owner: Satelite Affordable Housing Associates Architect: Anne Phillips Achitecture Structural Engineer: Ingrahm DeJesse Associates Landscape Architect: Anne Phillips Architecture Lighting Designer: Illuminosa, Lighting Design Contractor: FineLine Construction











#### **COMAL RESTAURANT - INTERIOR**

The interior of Comal is a joyous symphony of line, space, technology and materials, designed and built in a sustainable and authentic manner. First the walls were stripped down the original concrete board forms, and then accented with repurposed lathe reclaimed from the plaster walls. Rich wood flooring was uncovered from layers of linoleum, with distress marks adding to the authentic charm of the interior. Underneath the turquoise sofit, and the fabric artwork over the bar, lurks Tectum sound absorbing panels. Sound is kind of a specialty for John Paluska having spent many years in the music industry. Additionally, Comal installed a innovative Meyers constellation sound washing system that damps and adjusts reverb making for a pleasant talking environment regardless of crowd size. Lighting is also noteworthy bathing the space in warm colors. The architect designed large circular light fixtures that were built by Berkeley based Metro Lighting, and turquoise pendant light over the bar were designed and blown by Lee Milter of Photosynthesis of Berkeley also.

The massing of this large interior space is visually pleasing. The architect designed a large soffit that wraps around the kitchen, drawing the eye into the heart of the kitchen, and then around the side to back of the building, shielding the bathrooms and storage areas. The enormous indoor-outdoor eating area seats another 50-75 dinners under an elegant steel framed canopy with a rustic but elegant backyard patio deck, with fire pit, charming wood stool, and picnic tables, and planter and bamboo border, all designed by brother landscape designer, Robert Trachtenberg. There is a wonderful connection though use of materials and spaces as one moves from the inside, to tented outside, to the patio area.

#### Project Team:

Owners: John Gordan - Landlord, John Paluska - Tenant

Core and Shell Architect: David Trachtenberg, Neven Krickovic, Robert Nishimori Interior Architect: Morris Abueg Architects - Keith Morris and Marites Abueg Structural Engineer: Ingraham DeJessie & Associates - Steve DeJessie Landscape Architect: Garden Architecture - Robert Trachtenberg

Builder & Contractor: Northern Sun Associates









#### **COMAL RESTAURANT - EXTERIOR**

Working with building owner John Gordon, and business owner John Paluska, Trachtenberg Associates transformed two worn non-descript retail facades, into one elegant hip historically evocative innovate design that lights up Comal and this section of Shattuck Avenue.

John Paluska says he wanted something that was modern but warm and that fit with the historic downtown. The front is sheethed in Corten Steel that is developing a rich rust patina, and framed by beautiful steel windows and doors beautifully fabricated by Ferros Metals in Richmond. The storefront and clerestory windows match the lines and elevation of the neighboring property fitting boldly and harmoniously into to this block of Shattuck Avenue.

The steel windows have a lightness and permanence that is not achieved with aluminum. They also echo original steel windows that were rehabbed and installed in the back of the restaurant. John Paluska points out that almost all steel windows get "value engineered" out and replaced with bulkier and cheaper aluminum. John Gordon however was committed to quality on this project. To top off the project, Trachenberg added an elegant frame of riverstone around the base of facades, helping with drainage and elegant setting the façade floating above the sidewalk.

Project Team:

Owners: John Gordan - Landlord, John Paluska - Tenant

Core and Shell Architect: David Trachtenberg, Neven Krickovic, Robert Nishimori Interior Architect: Morris Abueg Architects, Keith Morris and Marites Abueg Structural Engineer: Ingraham DeJessie & Associates, Steve DeJessie

Steel Fabrications: Ferrous Metals

Builder & Contractor: Holland and Harley Construction





