HGA

MASS TIMBER EXPERTISE

Westwood Hills Nature Center | Zero Energy Certified | St. Louis Park, Minnesota
Cover: The Trailhead at Theodore Wirth Park | Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Ravine Landing Trailhead | Cottage Grove, Minnesota

ABOUT OUR FIRM

At HGA we have the unique opportunity to leave a positive impact on the world; not only with beautiful, functional buildings, but also with responsible, sustainable development. We believe that enduring, impactful design can only hold that distinction if it fulfills its responsibility to our clients and to the environment.

AN INTEGRATED, HOLISTIC APPROACH

With 70 years of experience working as an interdisciplinary design firm, we have developed an integrated, holistic approach to our work. Collaboration happens early and often, resulting in innovation throughout the design process. Our architects, engineers, interior designers, planners, and researchers have built a network of expertise and a culture of knowledge-sharing to address the increasing complexities faced by our clients.

We start every project by listening carefully to our clients, building a vision for sustainability that embodies our clients' values. That vision is realized through ideas that reflect our desire to understand and optimize all aspects of a project's performance: human experience, technical rigor, cultural significance, and systems efficiency.

AN INSPIRED FUTURE

Our growing portfolio of sustainable projects ranges from citywide master plans to complex new construction to small renovations. We have expertise in early design modeling and simulation, environmental analysis, and energy and compliance modeling, and our design teams have deep experience with certification programs like LEED, WELL, and the Living Building Challenge. Our clients, colleagues, and resources—fueled by our curiosity and commitments—are inspiring our future.

Human experience is at the core of any successful design solution. Our aim is to create spaces that are embraced by the owners, users, operators, and community members they impact. A beloved building—one so treasured it lasts for generations—is beautiful and truly sustainable.

ARCHITECTURE

COMMISSIONING

DIGITAL PRACTICE

ENGINEERING

INTERIOR DESIGN

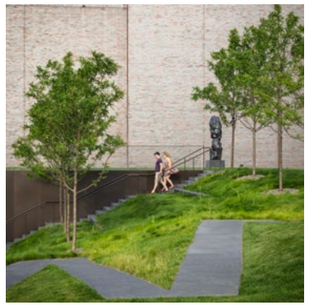
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LIGHTING DESIGN

PLANNING

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

TECHNOLOGY



199
LEED PROJECTS
CERTIFIED
& IN PROGRESS

1ST
FULLY CERTIFIED
LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE
RENOVATION PROJECT
WORLDWIDE

17
WELL ACCREDITED PROFESSIONALS
ON STAFF

5
NET ZERO ENERGY PROJECTS
CERTIFIED
& IN PROGRESS

5
WELL PROJECTS
CERTIFIED
& IN PROGRESS

1,156
PROJECTS
REPORTED TO
ARCHITECTURE 2030

72
LEED GOLD
CERTIFIED
PROJECTS

211
LEED ACCREDITED PROFESSIONALS
ON STAFF

OUR FUTURE

There has never been a more important time to take responsibility for our actions. The world is experiencing unprecedented rates of change in climate, energy supply, technology, and business—all of which impact the human experience. As designers of the built environment, we have a unique and inspiring opportunity to shape a positive future. We are committed to designing for change.

SE2050 COMMITTING TO ZERO

To us, good design and sustainability are intertwined and inextricably linked. Our projects become beloved parts of their communities, support the health and wellbeing of their inhabitants, and reach the highest levels of building performance.

As a signatory of the SE 2050 initiative, we are committed to meeting our clients' goals as well as challenging our industry. This means developing the expertise and research to push beyond net zero energy to net positive energy; from a neutral effect on health, safety, and resources, to a positive one. As the need and desire for sustainable environments grow, so does the focus on high-performance buildings with sound data that we can share back with clients and our design teams.

The climate crisis is urgent. Architecture 2030 reports that just three materials used frequently in structural and architectural systems—concrete, steel and aluminum—account for 23% of annual global carbon emissions. We have a responsibility to seek lower carbon alternatives to these materials and work to lower the embodied carbon impact of our projects.

We pledge to continue reducing our operational carbon while also focusing on eliminating embodied carbon from structural materials common to our practice. Implementing design strategies like lengthening building life-span, designing for circularity, and optimizing material quantities on projects, will be crucial in our efforts to help mitigate the negative impacts of global warming.

Our structural engineers are committed to adapting and improving current practices according to the requirements of the SE 2050 initiative Commitment. We believe that these requirements and the positive impact they generate for the planet are achievable through the strategies outlined here in our plan. At HGA, assessing what works and identifying opportunities for improvement has always been an integral part of our design process. We understand the gravity of our individual responsibility as designers yet recognize that the task of reducing embodied carbon must be a collective effort across several industries. In committing to the SE 2050 Challenge, we hope to lead by example—encouraging these other industries to follow suit—by generating demand for materials and construction practices that serve this greater goal, creating a better future for all.

Our decades of sustainable design experience serve our clients on new construction and renovation projects; with LEED, Living Building Challenge, and WELL certification; resilient design planning and implementation; infrastructure optimization; and sustainable partnerships. Our approach is inspired by the unique aspirations of each client, infused with our collective insight, and implemented as part of a holistic vision for a project's impact.

The Trailhead at Theodore Wirth Park | Minneapolis, Minnesota

OUR APPROACH TO MASS TIMBER DESIGN

We believe in integrating sustainable design into all our projects to lower operational costs, consider long-term durability, create healthy learning and working environments, and minimize impact on the environment. Our process includes early modeling to understand how envelope and systems decisions can impact carbon emissions. In addition to the aesthetic and architectural design advantages that wood products offer, mass timber buildings also offer accelerated construction schedules, superior sustainability characteristics, and an improved environment for occupants.

MASS TIMBER AT HGA

HGA's structural engineers have developed methods and design tools to efficiently and effectively evaluate mass timber structures. Early in the design process, they lead the team in studying all facets of the design to determine if mass timber is the best solution for the project's needs. Using in-house, custom design tools to optimize mass timber structures, they study its feasibility on a project-by-project basis. This evaluation includes a careful assessment of the project goals, and evaluating whether mass timber can meet the program's performance, code and aesthetic requirements.

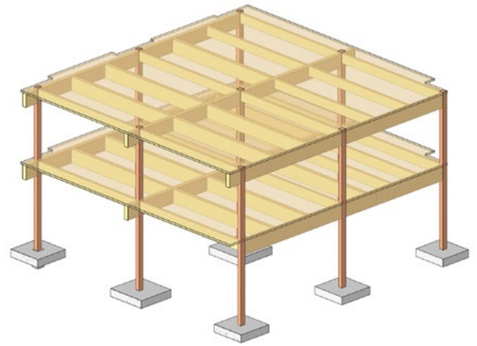
Our engineers work directly with the owner to address sustainability objectives and utilize life cycle analysis tools to help the team understand how mass timber can help to lower their building's carbon footprint. Together as a team, we force rank multiple structural solutions seeking consensus with all stakeholders to ensure the final structural system(s) selected not only meet performance and sustainability goals but is the correct fit for our client.

INTEGRATED, IN-HOUSE TEAM

Mass timber buildings blur the lines between structure and finish. Similarly, a well-executed timber building requires a design team that can operate seamlessly across disciplines. HGA's integrated team is instrumental to the success of its mass timber designs. By engaging our structural engineers early in the design process, HGA is able to quickly determine if mass timber is a viable solution, and also strategize how to execute that vision successfully.

HGA's Structural Engineering Services:

- Early structural system comparisons and bay studies
- Design of mass timber members and connections
- Design of mass timber lateral systems, including projects located in seismic regions
- Design of hybrid steel and mass timber structures
- Life cycle assessment and embodied carbon comparison for each system



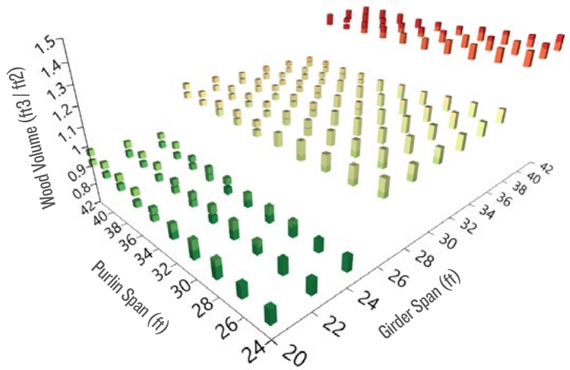


Figure 1 & 2. HGA's mass timber optimization tool used on the University of Arkansas I3R project

Bowdoin College | Gibbons Center for Arctic Studies & Barry Mills Hall | Brunswick, Maine

MASS TIMBER BENEFITS

- Reduced construction time
- Good response to humidity control
- Inherent fire resistance
- Improved interior air quality
- Positive impacts on forest health
- Reduced embodied carbon
- Reduced carbon emissions

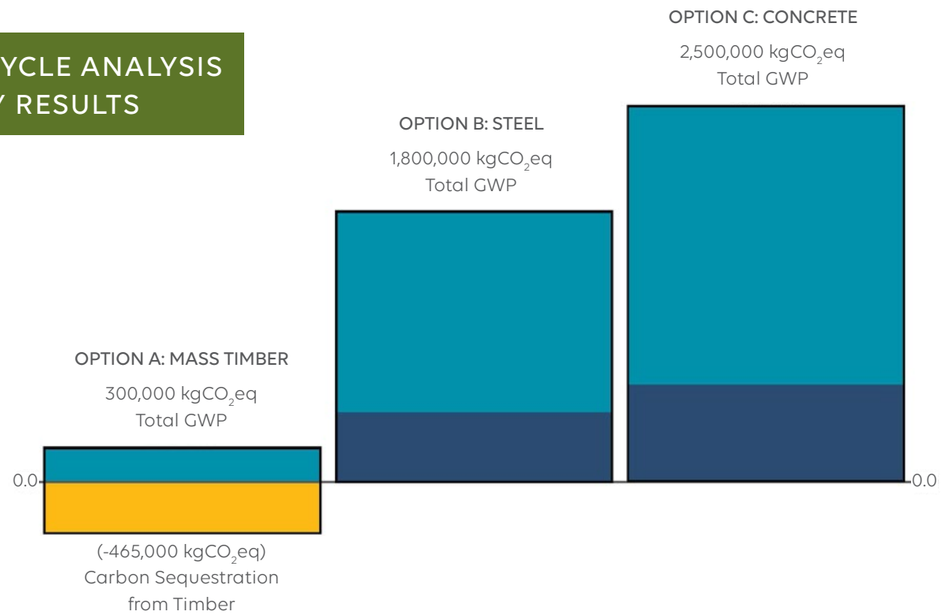
OUR PROCESS

In order to design mass timber as an economical, viable solution, HGA's structural engineers work closely with other design team members to optimize the structural system. Early in design, HGA employs parametric design routines to zero in on the most efficient structural bay size for the project needs. This iterative process ensures that our team finds the best balance between project cost and programing requirements.

An additional component to our process is Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA). LCA is used to quantify the embodied carbon of a product, system, or entire building. Our structural engineers leverage it for evaluating different structural systems in order to make informed decisions regarding carbon emissions.

For example, many projects will utilize LCA early in a project as bay studies are being generated for different structural system options such as mass timber, structural steel and cast-in-place concrete. Our engineers feel this is the most meaningful way to present our findings to all stakeholders, so an informed decision regarding sustainable design can be addressed and considered as early as possible. This approach helps minimize later changes that can be disruptive to the design process and project costs.

LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS STUDY RESULTS



CASE STUDIES

Dakota County | Whitetail Woods Regional Park & Pine Forest Camper Cabins | Farmington, Minnesota

CELL SIGNALING TECHNOLOGY, INC.

CELL SIGNALING TECHNOLOGY AT THE OLD QUARRY

MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA, MASSACHUSETTS

A VISIONARY NET ZERO READY BIOTECHNOLOGY CAMPUS

With construction activity on the 19-acre former quarry site imminent, this research and innovation campus development will be home to Cell Signaling Technology (CST), a life sciences discovery technology company and leading provider of custom antibodies.

A highly sustainable 127,000 SF cutting edge research facility comprises Phase One of the visionary development of an environmentally degraded former granite quarry. Phase Two will provide a similar size facility and further restoration of the site.

HGA developed a Comprehensive Plan that envisions an innovative campus to attract top tier talent and embody CST's commitment to prioritizing the environment and well-being of their employees, clients, and community. Campus and building designs leverage unique site features by emphasizing connections between architecture and the surrounding natural landscape. The laboratories will support CST scientists in their research and development of antibodies related to research in immunology, neurodegeneration, and epigenetics, fostering innovation at the forefront of cellular technologies.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 127,000 SF

Completion: (Estimated) 2028

HGA Services: Architecture, Interior Design, Structural Engineering, Building Performance Group, Sustainability, Lighting Design.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

An overarching project goal is to deliver a net zero ready research campus development that maximizes renewable energy sources while substantially reducing fossil fuel use. Heating, cooling, and hot water for the building will be sourced from geothermal well fields. Additional energy conservation and embodied carbon reduction measures include maximizing onsite solar PV, battery storage, shared fume hood strategies, and low carbon concrete, and a two story mass timber enterance.

BOWDOIN COLLEGE

GIBBONS CENTER FOR ARCTIC STUDIES & BARRY MILLS HALL

BRUNSWICK, MAINE

A CATALYST FOR RESEARCH & DIALOGUE

Located on the eastern edge of the Bowdoin College campus, the Gibbons Center for Arctic Studies and Mills Hall are positioned as campus-wide resources to promote interdisciplinary collaboration.

The 46,000 SF two-building project includes a new home for the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum and a state-of-the-art academic and event building, reinforcing the college's commitment to arctic research and environmental sustainability.

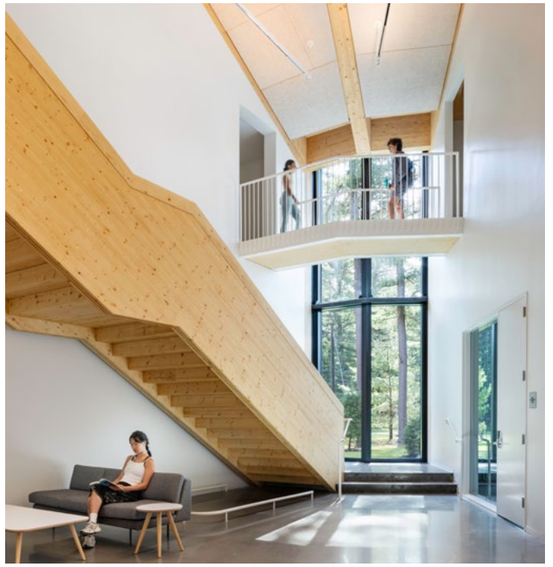
The low-carbon, energy-efficient design reflects Bowdoin's environmental commitment as a global leader in arctic research. The use of a mass timber structural system—the first commercially scaled project to do so in the state of Maine—reduces the embodied carbon footprint of the structure by approximately 75 percent when compared to a traditional steel structure. The all-electric building systems promote a low net operational carbon footprint and power the building through a fossil-fuel free approach.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 45,900 SF New Construction

Completion: January 2023

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Cost Estimating, Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, MEP, Structural), Interior Design, LEED Certification Administration.



SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Minimizing the Center's carbon footprint was an important driver in the building's design and program's messaging. HGA's structural team focused on reducing the structural system's embodied carbon by performing analysis to compare both a mass timber structure to a traditional steel structure. This analysis was performed early in schematic design when structural systems are typical selected. Results concluded the global warming potential for the mass timber option was approximately one-fifth of that structural steel option (18,200 $kgCO_2eq$ vs. 92,500 $kgCO_2eq$).

VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA

A HOME FOR ARTS & COMMUNICATIONS

The Center for the Arts at VCSU is the new home for the music and visual arts departments. The building promotes interdisciplinary collaboration and efficient use of space by sharing across departments while anchoring an edge of campus. The light-filled lobby with wood structure creates a warm welcome for students and community alike. The building is designed to mediate the scale of the residential neighborhood with that of the three-story building while complementing the architecture of the adjacent student union.

The new gateway facility includes a 350-seat flexible performance hall, an 80-seat recital hall/choral rehearsal space, band rehearsal space, faculty studios, and classrooms, including piano studio, education classroom, and recording studio. Art studios include ceramics, wood shop/sculpture, flex, painting/drawing, and printmaking.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 68,000 SF

Completion: April 2022

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Cost Estimating, Civil Engineering, MEP Engineering, Structural Engineering, FF&E, Interior Design, Landscape, Lighting Design, Predesign, Programming, Space Planning.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Natural daylight, expansive glazing, and a warm, wood-structured lobby work in harmony to maximize energy efficiency and elevate indoor environmental quality. Through the use of mass timber, the Center for the Arts lobby achieves a gracious, flexible gathering space with a reduced embodied carbon structure. Exposed structural wood elements not only demonstrate high-performance design but also underscore HGA's commitment to environmental stewardship. Purposefully situated on the site to respond to its flood plain context, the building's location and elevation enhance resilience against regional flood risks—demonstrating thoughtful planning that prioritizes long-term durability and safety alongside sustainability and architectural excellence.

MACALESTER COLLEGE

RESIDENCE HALL & WELCOME CENTER

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

A NEW SUSTAINABLE RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE

One of the first projects to come out of Macalester's recently completed Comprehensive Campus Plan, the new Residence Hall and Welcome Center will include 224 beds to expand the capacity of modern residential life on campus.

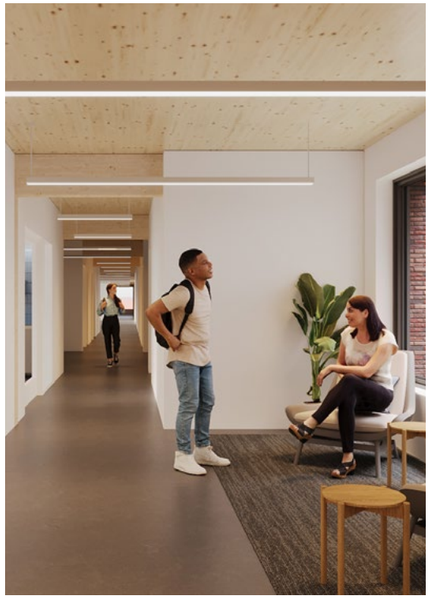
The new residence hall establishes a new front door to the college, underscoring Macalester's distinction as a liberal arts college located in a vibrant city, committed to community engagement, global citizenship and social justice. As the largest capital project to come out of the 2023 Comprehensive Campus Plan, the new 5-story building creates a new welcoming front door for campus visitors on a unique, tight urban site along St. Paul's Grand Avenue. Four stories of pod-style residential living units are designed to extend the ability for students to live on campus as upper-level students. Communal kitchens and student lounge spaces are situated to foster student community while providing single and double-room occupancy bedrooms to provide independence and autonomy.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 117,022 SF

Completion: (estimated) Summer 2027

HGA Services: Architecture, Interior Design, Structural Engineering, Civil Engineering.



SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Sustainability is a key driver for the project including an investment in geothermal wells that will provide sustainable energy to heat and cool the building. Site programming includes development of a signature green space to be outfitted with native plants that help articulate the College's Indigenous Land Action Statement. The structural system of the building combines mass-timber CLT planks with stick-built wood framing to reduce the building's overall embodied carbon contribution.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

INSTITUTE FOR INTEGRATIVE &
INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (I3R)

FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

A SUSTAINABLE HUB FOR INNOVATION & DISCOVERY

The Institute for Integrative & Innovative Research (I3R) was founded on a dual mandate to advance research excellence and impact economic development. The building will serve as a hub with connected spokes to other locations that broaden the institute's reach and impact. The flexible 144,000 SF state-of-the-art research facility fosters interdisciplinary collaboration and translational efforts to solve the grand challenges of today - protecting human health; understanding the food, energy, water nexus; exploring the universe at all scales.

The new building can accommodate up to 30 faculty members and their research teams but also offers space for collaboration with industry partners. Several new shared core facilities including a Calorimeter, an MRI, a Maker Space and Visualization Lab.

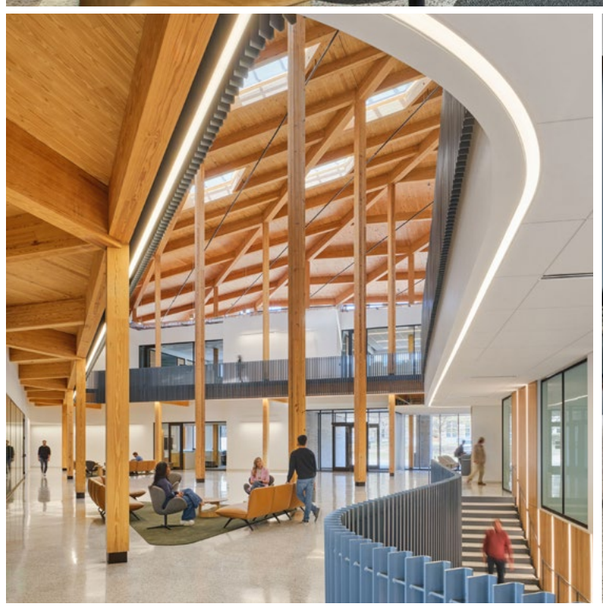
Structurally, the building is conceived as a vibration sensitive steel laboratory bar hugged by a mass timber pavilion. Both structural materials hold significance for the region and the introduction of timber provides an ideal backdrop for welcoming the community. At the center of the building is the striking architecturally exposed mass timber pavilion, constructed of southern yellow pine glulam and CLT, and designed to meet a 1-hour fire resistance floor rating.

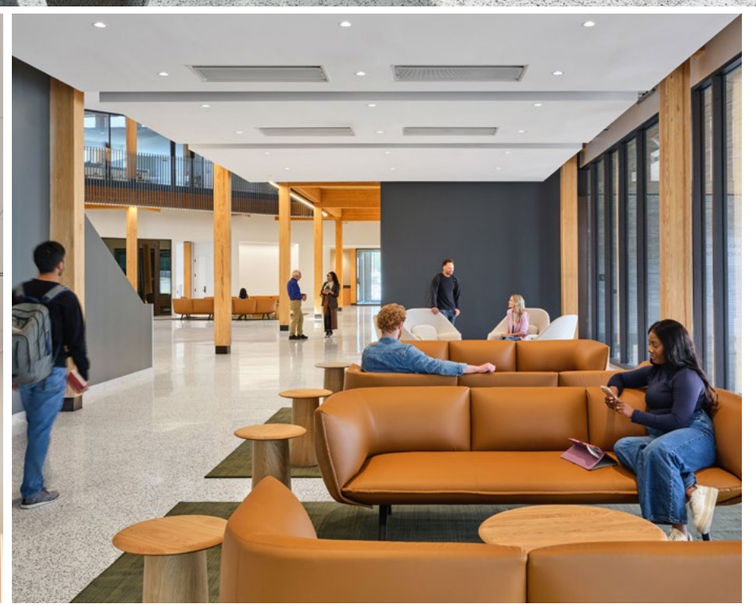
PROJECT DATA

Size: 144,000 SF

Completion: 2025

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Structural Engineering, Interior Design.





SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

I3R combines a highly efficient and flexible structural steel lab bar with a mass timber structured office and collaborative pavilion. Using a parametric design tool developed by our structural engineers, the design team optimized wood utilization, bay sizing, minimized structural costs, and conducted comprehensive life cycle assessments for multiple structural systems. This capability enabled rapid evaluation of mass timber's feasibility and performance within different project contexts.

THE BLAKE SCHOOL

EARLY LEARNING CENTER (ELC)

HOPKINS, MINNESOTA

A FRAMEWORK FOR EXPLORATION, DISCOVERY & CURIOSITY

Blake's new Early Learning Center aims to create a state-of-the-art teaching and learning facility that creates a sense of welcome, wonder, and joy for its students.

Nestled in the hillside of the school campus, the new ELC has three floors, one for each grade. Promoting collaboration and integration, the classrooms are organized in a pinwheel pattern and offer direct outdoor access, including to the nearby Blake Forest.

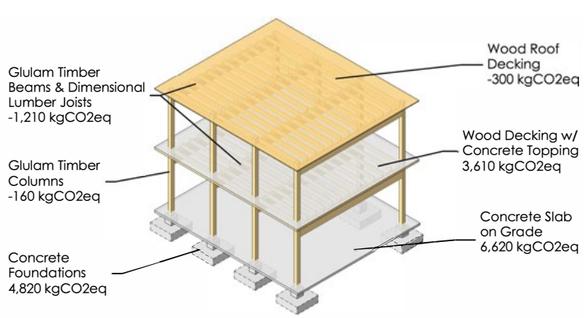
The heart of the building is a light-filled space designed to connect all three floors visually and physically. With the goal of LEED Gold, the all-electric building utilizes a geothermal system to heat and cool the building. Deeply rooted in nature, the ELC is a model of sustainable and healthy environment practices with the careful integration of natural daylighting, visible wood frame construction, an emphasis on natural materials and an efficient geothermal heat pump system. The building is the framework for a future of discovery, exploration and curiosity for the youngest learners at Blake.

PROJECT DATA

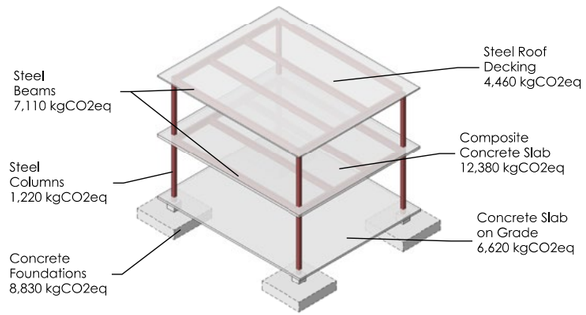
Size: 27,000 SF

Completion: August 2023

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Structural), Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, LEED Certification Administration, Lighting Design.



Mass Timber Structure
Comprehensive Structure:13,380 kgCO2eq



Steel Baseline Structure
Comprehensive Structure: 40,620 kgCO2eq

Figure 3 & 4. The diagram above shows an embodied carbon comparison study based on LCA data.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Environmental stewardship is central to the teaching model at the ELC. During design, a mass timber structure was investigated against a steel structure to understand the social cost of the embodied carbon of each option. The mass timber structure offered roughly 1/3 of the embodied carbon of the steel option. However, due to high timber prices at the time of bidding, a fully mass timber option was not within the project budget. HGA proposed a hybrid structure, in which steel composite decking was supported by timber beams and columns. The hybrid structure maintained roughly half of the carbon savings while helping the project stay on budget.

CITY OF RICHFIELD

WOOD LAKE NATURE CENTER

RICHFIELD, MINNESOTA

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE

HGA is currently working with Wood Lake Nature Center (WLNC) naturalists, staff, and stakeholder groups in partnership with the City of Richfield to replace the outdated WLNC building and grounds.

As the city's first major building project in over 10 years, the new facility will better support the city's education, community, and conservation goals. The main challenge of this project is to protect the environmental integrity of the Wood Lake ecosystem while creating more community gathering spaces. With wetland buffers to the south and limited parking to the north, the team is maximizing use of the available space and embracing a progressive stormwater management design. Key considerations include sustainability, access, and equity in both the building and landscape.

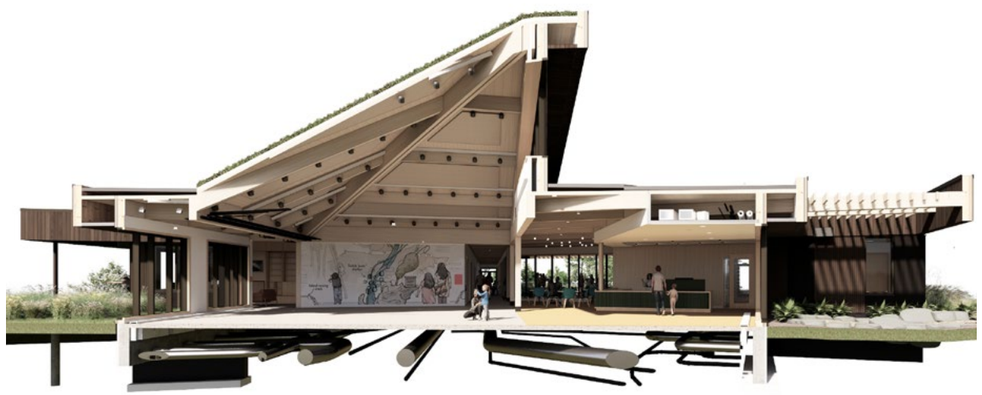
Understanding the deep connection people have to this beloved community resource, as well as the changing demographics of their growing city, HGA led a robust, authentic engagement with diverse participation across the community.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 15,000 SF

Completion: (estimated) Spring 2026

HGA Services: Architectural and Interior Design, Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Structural, Fire Protection, Technology), Community Engagement, Landscape Architecture, Lighting Design.



SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

The desire to use the building as a teaching tool and to have it be part of nature. Low-embodied carbon dowel laminated timber and glulam framing were selected to create an experience that blends the interior of the building with the surrounding nature; showing how buildings can be designed around a delicate ecosystem rather than on top of it. Additionally, predicted energy use intensity was designed to an 80% reduction below the baseline per SB2030 per the Minnesota B3 Guidelines, making Wood Lake Nature Center a light touch on its habitat and the planet.

COTTAGE GROVE RAVINE REGIONAL PARK

RAVINE LANDING TRAILHEAD

COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA

A FIRST FOR MASS TIMBER IN MINNESOTA

Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park is a 522-acre park located in the southern part of Washington County. The park features steep ravines and rolling hills, and hosts pristine opportunities for hiking, fishing, cross-country skiing, picnicking, and many other outdoor activities.

The new Ravine Landing Trailhead facility features a warming lobby, parks and recreation office, a rentable multipurpose space with kitchenette, equitable restrooms, park storage and a covered picnic area. The site design includes rerouting the park's ski trail to further activate the building as well as adding two exterior gathering spaces that orient park visitors to the trail. Careful coordination of disciplines allowed electrical work to be integrated with the roof to provide concealed conduit within the exposed structure. Lighting conduit is slotted into the top surface of the CLT, and all this was done in the shop prior to installation. The entire 6,000 SF roof was installed in just over one day and the entire mass timber structure was built in just one week.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 6,045 SF | 522 acre park

Completion: July 2021

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Structural), Landscape Architecture, Lighting Design.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

The new Ravine Landing Trailhead building features cross-laminated timber (CLT), and is the first installation of this mass timber product in the state of Minnesota. The wood framing sequesters carbon and promotes the client's sustainability goals. The innovative design takes advantage of the two-way spanning capabilities of CLT to form a thin cantilevered profile around the roof edge of the building without the supplemental members that would have been necessary with conventional wood decking.

CITY OF ST. LOUIS PARK

WESTWOOD HILLS NATURE CENTER

ST. LOUIS PARK, MINNESOTA

ZERO ENERGY, SUSTAINABLE NATURE CENTER

Westwood Hills Nature Center (WHNC) is a 160-acre nature park featuring prairie, forest and marsh areas, with trails and an educational center.

WHNC sought to replace their small, aging facility with a new building whose overarching purpose and vision is connecting people to nature. The new interpretive center provides expanded public exhibit space and flexible learning spaces for a variety of environmental education programs.

HGA's site design expands an existing specimen prairie, creates an outdoor classroom space on the site of the old building, and provides expanded parking for visitors to the new facility. The building forms an experiential and informational threshold to the site, reinforcing the connection to the surrounding landscape. Part of a City effort towards a sustainable future, WHNC serves as an exemplar for sustainability strategies. WHNC has achieved International Living Future Institute's (ILFI) Zero Energy Certification.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 13,563 GSF | 160-acre nature park

Completion: May 2020

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Cost Estimating, Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Structural), Interior Design, Lighting Design, Telecom & Security Design, Landscape Architecture, ZE Certification Administration.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

Designed as a conservation teaching tool in a 160-acre park, this Zero Energy Certified urban nature center incorporates passive and active strategies for energy efficiency including a high-performance envelope, advanced lighting, and effective use of proven heat pump technologies. An all-electric and fossil-fuel free building, operational data shows the building as energy net positive—meaning, annually, the center produces more energy than it consumes.

LOPPET FOUNDATION / MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD

THE TRAILHEAD AT THEODORE WIRTH PARK

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

FOSTERING A LOVE OF OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Designed by HGA for the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and the non-profit Loppet Foundation, the 14,200 square-foot mass timber recreational building creates "a shared passion for year-round outdoor adventure in the Minneapolis area, focusing on underserved youth and families."

The Trailhead uses mass timber framing to create an expressive architectural presence that serves the Loppet Foundation and Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board's programming needs while blending seamlessly with the wooded parkland site at the gateway to Nordic ski and mountain bike trails. The building replaces a former structure that only provided access to the Par 3 golf course. The expanded building now includes a restaurant, indoor and outdoor gathering spaces, an exercise/training room, ski and bike shop offering rental equipment, men's and women's locker rooms and restrooms, ticketing counter, golf course access, outdoor patio, and the offices for The Loppet Foundation. Since opening in 2018, the building has quickly become a community destination..

PROJECT DATA

Size: 14,000 SF

Completion: July 2018

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Structural), Lighting Design.

> "Simply put, the Trailhead is one of the most, if not the most, attractive physical amenities in the entire park system."
>
> — Brad Bourn, Board President
> Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board

DAKOTA COUNTY

WHITETAIL WOODS REGIONAL PARK
& PINE FOREST CAMPER CABINS

FARMINGTON, MINNESOTA

POPULAR DESTINATION WHERE NATURE LEADS THE WAY

As the first new regional park developed in Dakota County in over 20 years, Whitetail Woods has quickly become a flagship of the Minnesota's park system and a regional destination.

HGA worked with Dakota County, topic area experts, and stakeholder groups to envision innovative park programs that address the changing needs of Dakota County. The result is a variety of all-season uses including trails, architecturally-designed camper cabins, open air structures, landscape amphitheater and natural playscapes where throughout the park visitors are presented with immersive experiences across a diverse landscape. The social and activity center of the park, The Commons, is nestled in an opening overlooking Empire Lake. It acts as the trail head for over seven miles of hiking and skiing trails while integrating restorative landscape features into a variety of play and exploration elements designed to engage visitors of all ages.

PROJECT DATA

Size: 456 Acres

Completion: July 2014

HGA Services: Architectural Design, Engineering (Civil, Electrical, Structural), Landscape Architecture, Lighting Design.

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

HGA's Pine Forest Camper Cabins riff on the idea of a tree house. Built on concrete piers to minimize environmental impact, the 227 SF cabins feature red cedar glulam chassis, cedar and pine framing, and red cedar cladding. Two full-size bunks, dining and sitting areas accommodate four individuals, with a sleeper sofa and folding seating accommodating up to two more. Floor-to-ceiling glass doors frame views of the forest.

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Discover more at **hga.com**