



Cutting-edge Wood Design in North America Recognized

Wood Design & Building and the 2009 Wood Design Awards unveil award winning projects

For Immediate Release

Ottawa, ON, January 6, 2010 – *Wood Design & Building* magazine is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2009 Wood Design Awards. The Wood Design Awards program is the only North American-wide program that inspires wood building innovation by recognizing achievements in wood architecture annually. Not only is wood beautiful, durable, and cost-effective, it is also the greenest, most sustainable building material. The judging was held at the Canadian Wood Council office in Ottawa on December 18, 2009.

Sixteen projects were selected from the 130 total entries to the awards program by our esteemed jury in the following categories: Honor, Merit and Citation. The selection of the sixteen winning projects was challenging for the jury, as all of the projects displayed innovative uses of wood as a building material. These projects push the boundaries of conventional wood building practices and highlight the special qualities, versatility and sheer beauty of wood as a building material.

The jury selected projects from a wide range of categories, including, residential, institutional, commercial and recreational buildings. The esteemed panel of jurors consisted of:

- **Silvio Baldassarra**, Vice President of NORR Ltd. Architects and Engineers www.norrlimited.com
- **Keith Boswell**, Technical Director of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP www.som.com
- **Wendy Evans Joseph**, Partner of Wendy Evans Joseph Architecture, www.wejarchitecture.com

The 2009 Wood Design Awards Winning Projects (please see complete descriptions further below):

Honor Awards

Chapel of the Sky, Granite, CO, AndersonMasonDale Architects

Creskide House, Woodside, CA, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

Prefab Cottage for Two Families, Muskoka, ON, KOHN SHNIER architects

Richmond Olympic Oval, Richmond, BC, Cannon Design Architecture Inc.

Merit Awards

Koerner Hall, Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, ON, Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects

Louwer House, Long Island, NY, Leroy Street Studio

Spiral House, Old Greenwich, CT, Joeb Moore + Partners Architects LLC

Tillamook Forest Interpretive Complex, Tillamook, OR, The Miller|Hull Partnership

Citations Awards

Camouflage House, Green Lake, WI, Johnsen Schmalig Architects

Hill House, Lower Kingsburg, NS, Mackay Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd.

Integral House, Toronto, ON, Shim-Sutcliffe Architects Inc.

Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge, Burnaby, BC, Busby Perkins + Will Architects Co.

Kroon Hall, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT, Centerbrook Architects and Planners LLP, and Hopkins Architects

Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve Interpretive Center, Moose, WY, Carney Architects

Special Awards - Presented by the Canadian Wood Council

Combs Point Residence, Ovid, NY, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), Transformation AGO, Toronto, ON, Gehry International Inc.

About *Wood Design & Building* magazine and the Canadian Wood Council

The Wood Design Awards and *Wood Design & Building* magazine are produced by the Canadian Wood Council. For more than 10 years, Wood Design & Building magazine has been the only magazine exclusively dedicated to wood use in architecture and construction. It is a valuable resource for architects, engineers and builders. Each issue is packed with technical and inspirational content. It showcases leading architectural design in wood from North America and overseas while demonstrating the significance of good design and construction. www.wooddesignandbuilding.com
www.wooddesignawards.com

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Wood Design Awards 2009

Honor Awards

Chapel of the Sky, Granite, CO, AndersonMasonDale Architects

The final addition to an Arkansas River settlement of buildings, this chapel was designed as a place for meditation and reflection on life, nature and the surrounding environment. Wood was chosen to fit the context of the settlement's tradition. Spruce logs enabled simplified building construction that required no additional finish material on the inside or outside of the walls. The chapel is perched on legs as a reminder that it is a privileged visitor within the landscape, and treads lightly to minimize its impact.

Creekside House, Woodside, CA, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

Creekside sits in a gentle meadow hemmed by dense forests of old growth cathedral redwoods, great western oaks, 500-year-old Douglas fir and aromatic bays that border two creeks that never meet. A fully glazed living and dining pavilion blends into the extended pastoral landscape. A delicate roof extends out in a plane of Douglas fir and engages the surroundings. Weathered cedar boxes of lesser height house kitchen and sleeping spaces and provide a shift from the pavilion's dramatic exposure.

Prefab Cottage for Two Families, Muskoka, ON, KOHN SHNIER architects

This year-round cottage, to be shared by two related families, was imbedded along the ridge to allow all three floors access to grade. A prefab structure was used to reduce site impact and increase efficiency of construction time and materials. Seven separate units were stacked on top of one another. A long, narrow wooden causeway touches the forest floor very lightly and threads its way between the trees to arrive at the public upper floor. The interior of the project is conceived holistically, as a piece of fine millwork.

Richmond Olympic Oval, Richmond, BC, Cannon Design Architecture Inc.

This 2010 Olympic Games venue and legacy community facility – and its great wood roof – is destined to be one of the most memorable architectural images of the games. While the program-mandated spanning of the 100m clear width of the building was the most demanding parameter of the building design, the use of wood to achieve this structural feat was driven by cultural and sustainability criteria. Wood was used to connect with the first nations' building aesthetic and showcase the province's resources on a world stage. The design poetic of 'flight, flow and fusion' resulted in a roof shape that evokes the dynamism of flight through its resemblance to Heron wings.

Merit Awards

Koerner Hall, Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto, ON, Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects

This unique 1,135 seat concert hall was designed to both showcase the talents of the students of the Royal Conservatory of Music at the TELUS Centre for Performance and Learning, and to attract performers from around the world. Elegant wood elements provide seamless integration of superb acoustics, warmth of atmosphere, and beauty. Koerner Hall's signature icon is a floating veil; a series of flowing oak strings begin behind the chorus as a vertical backdrop to the stage, and then are shaped and twisted to flow under the acoustic canopy where they act to disperse sound.

Louver House, Long Island, NY, Leroy Street Studio

Sited on the edge of an open agricultural reserve, Louver House captures the qualities of traditional barn structures while developing a modern building responding to the site's dramatic views. A translucent teak wrapper of louvers and rain screen siding unifies the various internal and external spaces. In all five outdoor courts and garden spaces are unified under the single roof, giving the structure a double reading of complexity from up close, and simple monolithic harmony from afar.

Spiral House, Old Greenwich, CT, Joeb Moore + Partners Architects LLC

Situated along the Connecticut shoreline of Long Island Sounds, Spiral House works within the prescribed restrictions of the site (both social and environmental), employing atmospheric as well as geometric strategies to product a dynamic, experience-oriented dwelling. Western Red cedar (the primary exterior material) is used in a manner that reinterprets the traditional vernacular of New England shingle style board and batten techniques. Lattice cladding creates a moray effect that is ever-changing as the user moves through the space and the sun passes overhead.

Tillamook Forest Interpretive Complex, Tillamook, OR, The Miller | Hull Partnership

Conceptually, the timber-frame Tillamook Forest Complex building is a skid. Historically, a skid is a long level partially covered platform for moving and sawing timber. In this case the skid becomes the arrival point, the interpretive building and a 250-ft.-long bridge that spans the Wilson River connecting into campgrounds and trails. The cedar-clad lobby and interpretive areas are one-long continuous space. The Tillamook Forest Complex incorporated recycled materials in an effort to conserve natural resources.

Citation Awards

Camouflage House, Green Lake, WI, Johnsen Schmalig Architects

Nestled into a lake bluff hillside, Camouflage House's faint, low-slung silhouette virtually disappears in the surrounding vegetation. With its precisely detailed exterior wood skin and interior wood paneling, Camouflage House achieves an elegant clarity and rustic warmth that avoids bucolic sentimentality. Throughout the house, the superimposition of natural and man-made wood components – natural cedar, resin-based wood veneer panels, glulam posts and beams, exposed MDF paneling – illustrates the wide range of aesthetic and functional characteristics of wood.

Hill House, Lower Kingsburg, NS, Mackay Lyons Sweetapple Architects Ltd.

Hill House expresses the material cultural traditions of the Canadian Maritimes. It embraces a long tradition of light-timber framing and taut-skinned building envelopes, which results in an architecture that is ironically both massive and delicate. The program for this three-bedroom house consisted of a main house with studio, a barn and a courtyard in between. The house and barn pinwheel with each other along a central courtyard axis, responding to the traditional pattern of hilltop farms throughout the county.

Integral House, Toronto, ON, Shim-Sutcliffe Architects Inc.

Located at the edge of a Toronto ravine, Integral House is a place for architecture, music and performance. From the street, it reads as a two-storey building with a grounded wood base sitting on top of translucent gently shaped etched glass. The section of the house parallels the experience of descending the ravine slope. The wooden base is composed of solid walls clad in oak that dissolve into oak-clad fins. The wooden fins capture and frame views of the landscape and also amplify and enhance the acoustics in the performance space.

Citation Awards (continued)

Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge, Burnaby, BC, Busby Perkins + Will Architects Co.

Kingsway Pedestrian Bridge is a landmark structure connecting Metrotown with the growing commercial and residential areas to the north of Kingsway in Burnaby. Structural components of this bridge are a combination of wood and steel material. The striking double-curved glulam wood form hovers above the footbridge, blending an elegant design solution and with an inviting passage across a busy intersection.

Kroon Hall, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT, Centerbrook Architects and Planners LLP, and Hopkins Architects

The greenest building on campus and flagship of Yale's sustainable mission, the new School of Forestry & Environmental Studies – a narrow rectangle sited between two Neo-Gothic science building – creates a collegial gathering place for its community, previously scattered among nine different buildings. Given the school's focus and hopes for a sustainable building, wood was used extensively both inside and out. Red cedar louvers shade the East and West ends from harsh summer light, Douglas fir graces the interior walls of the exterior arcades, and red oak, much of it from the school's own forests, warms the interiors.

Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve Interpretive Center, Moose, WY, Carney Architects

The Laurance S. Rockefeller Preserve embodies the vision of its namesake to inspire appreciation for nature and to foster stewardship of the land. The very simple L-shaped concept with gabled forms and deep overhangs evolved into a "chapel to nature" in a clearing at the edge of the woods. To speak to both present and future generations, the timber-frame center reflects a timeless aesthetic, with wood, stone, and zinc paneling in natural tones chosen for their durability and connection to the site and region.

Special Awards - Presented by the Canadian Wood Council

Combs Point Residence, Ovid, NY, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

The residence at Combs Point is sited in a diverse natural world of glacial lake, deciduous and evergreen forest, valley and stream. It is both a center of activity and a quiet retreat for a family that treasures life on the lake. From the fanning delta at the lake's edge, a delicate necklace of wood clad buildings stretches through a forested glen that leads to the waterfall at its head. Upstream, the guesthouse and office-exercise structures inhabit the narrow valley meadow with its forested edges. They share simple massing and wood siding, discreetly revealing the composition of the wood roof structure.

Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), Transformation AGO, Toronto, ON, Gehry International Inc.

Demonstrating its versatility, beauty and strength, the strategic use of wood played a key role in the realization of many of the striking features of Toronto's transformed Art Gallery of Ontario. The strength of wood is most evident in its application as the supporting structure for the gallery's most prominent feature-the Dundas Façade. The beauty of wood is exhibited throughout the building as a finish material for walls, feature stairs, ramps and furniture. The vision and success achieved in transforming the AGO would not have been possible without the versatility and durability of wood.