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News

4240 ARCHITECTURE CELEBRATES THIRD ANNIVERSARY; OFFICES IN CHICAGO AND DENVER SHOW STRONG GROWTH

Good things come in threes: at the start of its third year, 4240 Architecture has projects on three continents, and its three core markets remain robust. Plus, its innovative use of materials have won recognition in recent competitions.



*Renovation of 200 Fillmore Street
Denver, Colorado*

Chicago [IL], April 7, 2006 – 4240 Architecture kicks off its fourth year this May 1st. Thomas R. Brauer, principal-in-charge of 4240’s Chicago office, reports happily that, “If the year goes as planned, we will have a rich variety of projects all across the United States and overseas – where we’re designing a resort near Paris and a private club in Shanghai.” Domestic projects in process or on the boards range from the new New Mexico Department of Transportation building in Santa Fe, to a new spa at Hidden Orchard in La Porte, Indiana, to the Peace Lutheran Church in Lombard, Illinois.



*Private club
Shanghai, China*

With offices in two locations – Chicago and Denver – 4240 Architecture builds on the strengths of an established design partnership that spans three decades. In 2003, the firm’s offices in Chicago (42 degrees latitude) and Denver (located at 40 degrees latitude) combined forces to form “4240”. [Please visit www.4240architecture.com.]

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“The prospects for the firm remain excellent,” adds Brauer. “Our three core disciplines -- corporate interiors, high-end housing, and hospitality – are robust, which allows us to branch out geographically and into a range of project types.”

Poetry gets a home; part of Denver improves.

In Chicago, 4240 recently completed a number of high-profile office designs, including a new headquarters for the Poetry Foundation, *Poetry* magazine, and a 30,000-volume collection of poetry; and new space for the Spencer Foundation, which promotes educational research. Chicago also completed a major renovation of Western Development Group’s office building at 200 Fillmore Street in Denver, raising its profile within the upscale mixed-use neighborhood of Cherry Creek.

A tradition of designing exceptional residential projects.

4240 is also putting the finishing touches on a design for the City House condominiums located in Denver’s Central Platte Valley. Two- and three-story units are anchored by a 900-square-foot atrium; the project will break ground in October. Also underway are the Mill Quarter Condominiums, a mixed-use complex in Bend, Oregon, that combines 40 residential condos with seven office condos.

And for the future, something very different.

No design firm worth its salt can resist a design competition. In 4240’s case, using new building materials has won accolades. A design competition for Pittsburgh’s West End Bridge brought the firm an honorable mention for its use

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of Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer – a material that is both beautiful and structurally sound but never before used in a footbridge. 4240 won another honorable mention in a design competition for an exhibit that celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Airstream Travel Trailer and the U. S. Interstate Highway System. The exhibit highlights the emergence of an experimental aggregate called “Plasphalt,” that reuses unrecyclable plastic to create a sustainable alternative for 21st-century road surfaces.

One of 4240’s founding principals and a Chicago native, Brauer managed the Chicago office of Urban Design Group, now the Chicago office of 4240 Architecture. Robert Benson is Chicago’s design lead, Geoffrey S. Brooksher is technical lead, and Andrea Wood is head of hospitality interiors firmwide.

In just three years, the firm has grown into an 80-person team of professionals that are equally fluent in designing for urban settings, high-mountain properties, and just about everything in between – for clients such as St. Joe Towns and Resorts, East West Properties, Vail Resorts Development Company, Forest City Enterprises, Hammes Company, and Hamilton Partners. The other principals of 4240 Architecture are Peter H. Dominick, Jr., Robert Emmet Fitzgerald, and E. Randal Johnson.

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