

## **Project Description/Narrative**

### Project Description:

The project is about providing space and facilities for CSF, Christian Student Fellowship, a non-denominational campus ministry to continue to service the students that attend the University of Kentucky. The parcel for CSF is directly across the street from the UK Campus in Lexington, KY. It is adjacent to large segments of campus housing. The site context is pedestrian, with a fairly urban campus setting.

The design process for delivering this project has required considerable flexibility, typical parameters, including program, scope, budget, and schedule have been moving targets, primarily because monies are dependent upon fundraising efforts and donation support. Typical student center type spaces have been provided but they have been tweaked to support the ministry of this organization. The large 500 seat gathering spot is a full-service sanctuary, with 100% AV integration. Simultaneously we also provided, quiet spaces for reflection, meditation and prayer. Social spaces for interaction. Spaces to prepare, serve and enjoy meals. There are spaces to study and to work. In this building you can be seen, and you can also get away, you can step outside and have conversation with a friend or a colleague. At this building, because of the organization that runs it, lives will be impacted, and friendships will be fostered, life will happen.

## **AIA's Framework for Design Excellence**

### Design for Equitable Communities:

In a large part the community of the University of Kentucky is the community of CSF as it seeks to service the students attending UK. 90% of campus housing is within ¼ mile of CSF. So, it is very much within walking distance. The services provided at CSF are essential to life. In that the organization that is CSF really attempts to meet the needs of this community, whether it be providing a warm meal, supporting students as they go through college, a place to feel safe, a place to socialize and a place for spiritual connection.

As we approached the form of this building, it was clear that it needed to be 3 stories, given the amount of program and the limit of the site, at the same time we didn't want the form to feel imposing at the street level, early on we determined having one level below ground would be helpful. Furthermore, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> story, or the 2<sup>nd</sup> level above ground, we have a large assembly space, which is considered the sanctuary, and it needed a lot of height, for AV equipment, lighting, etc. as best we could we tucked that space to plan south and we pulled in the sides of the sanctuary, to have the building not appear so tall at the street. Additionally, we used second floor terraces and covered outdoors space to transition from enclosed building to street level public spaces. We feel this was quite successful in creating a human-scaled building, that seems approachable to the persons walking by.

### Design for Wellness:

The UKCSF Student Center provides a place where students, can be active, whether it be at the basement basketball court, or playing a video games with friends in the HQ space, meanwhile we paid careful attention to occupant comfort with regard to acoustics, making sure unwanted sounds between spaces are mitigated. We have made places for occupants to step outside and get fresh air, with the terraces on level two and outdoor covered patios at grade level. We have provided generous amounts of glazing at the north side of the building for visual connection to the exterior. The building is organized in a clear and convenient way for occupant navigation. We have designed the HVAC system to minimize unwanted odors from the kitchen, while ensuring thermal comfort throughout. We have provided operable windows at the basketball court area to assist in ventilation. We have carefully selected finish materials throughout that cue the occupants and their bodies to natural elements.

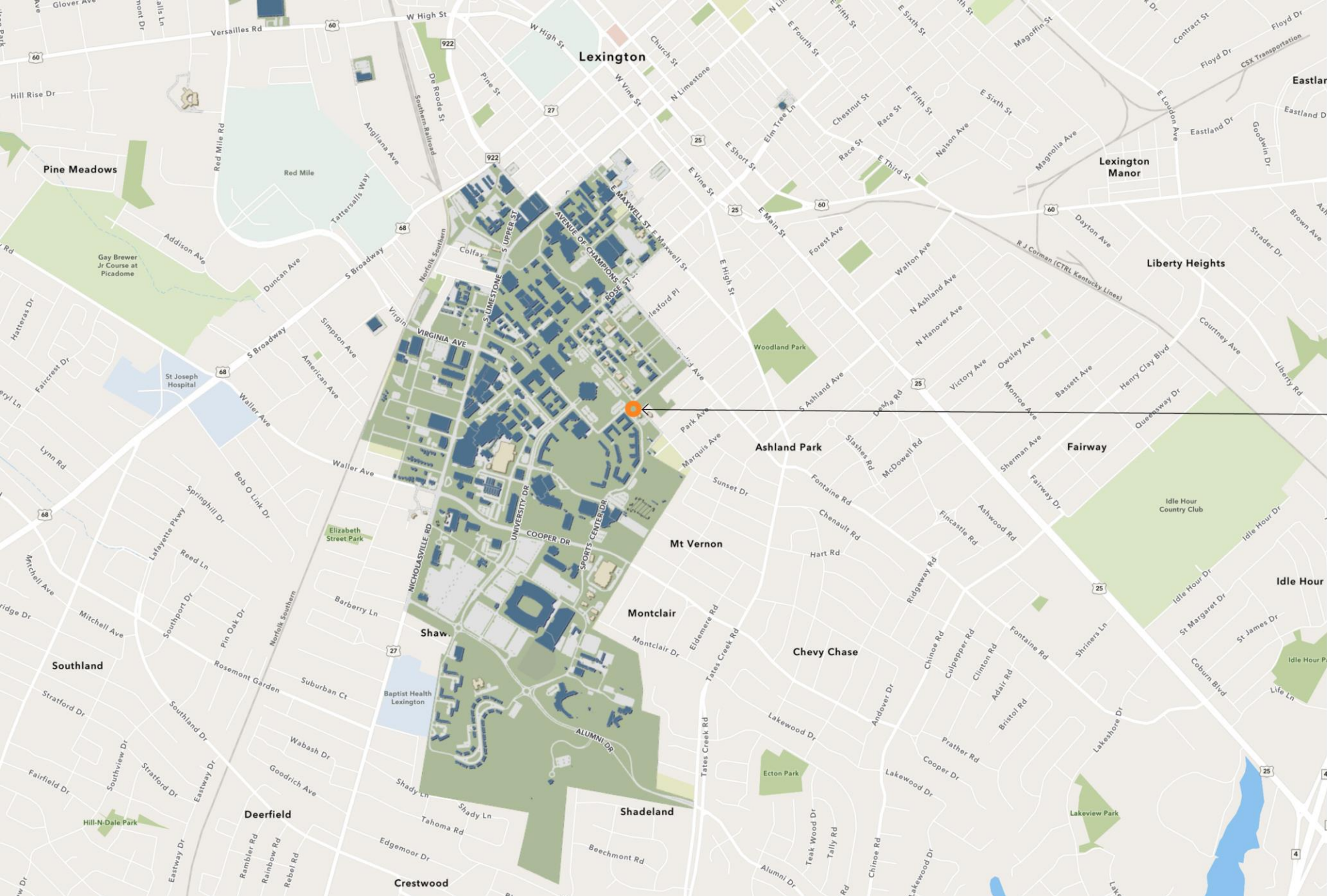
### Design for Change:

At the heart of this building while we met the programmatic needs for this client, we have provided two large open spaces, those being, a sanctuary space at level 2 and a basketball court at the basement level. I could see at some point in the future, the grade level floor could easily be extended to split the basketball court vertically and add more SF on the grade level floor. Additionally large opens spaces, like the sanctuary space can always be reconfigured or rethought. Furthermore, the building has a large amount of egress capacity as so much space is devoted to assembly type occupancies, and egress capacity is usually helpful in providing future flexibility. Will it stand the test of time with regard to climate change and being resilient in that capacity, I feel as though, that is hard to know. I do believe it is well sighted with respect to water and some flooding, inherently it is in good position with regard to other areas of campus, but time will tell as we all continue to endure the changing climatic conditions.

## **AIA Rochester Community Impact Award**

### **Community Impact Award summary (500 words or less):**

This building is for an organization that is focused on its community, they say on their own website *“CSF isn’t a place. CSF isn’t a program. CSF is everywhere on campus”* and they believe it, and while they don’t feel constrained by a building given their work, we attempted to give CSF a home base for their continued community impact. In visiting with this client, I have heard so many stories about how while attending a function at CSF, two people met each other and now, low and behold those folks made a life together, they have a family and kids of their own. Within this organization, people are impacted, and lives are changed, here a person will decide to take a different direction in life, and while happens every day all across our world, we believe the occupants of this building are going to remember the concert they saw here. They are going to remember the pancake breakfast that they had with their old college dormitory roommate. Someone is going to remember how invigorated they felt because they shared a connection with another person. Those years of young adults are formative for so many of us, we hopefully have created a space for life to happen, and for the building to fall into the background of those grace these spaces.



Project Location



RENDERING - Corner of Woodland Ave & Columbia Ave





RENDERING - Corner of Woodland Ave & Sports Center Drive

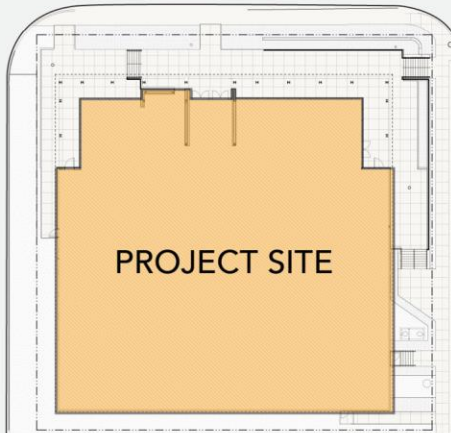
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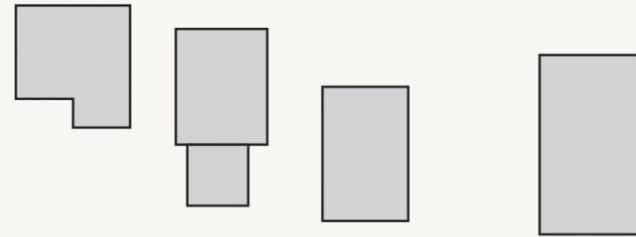
WOODLAND AVE



SPORTS CENTER DRIVE



COLUMBIA AVE

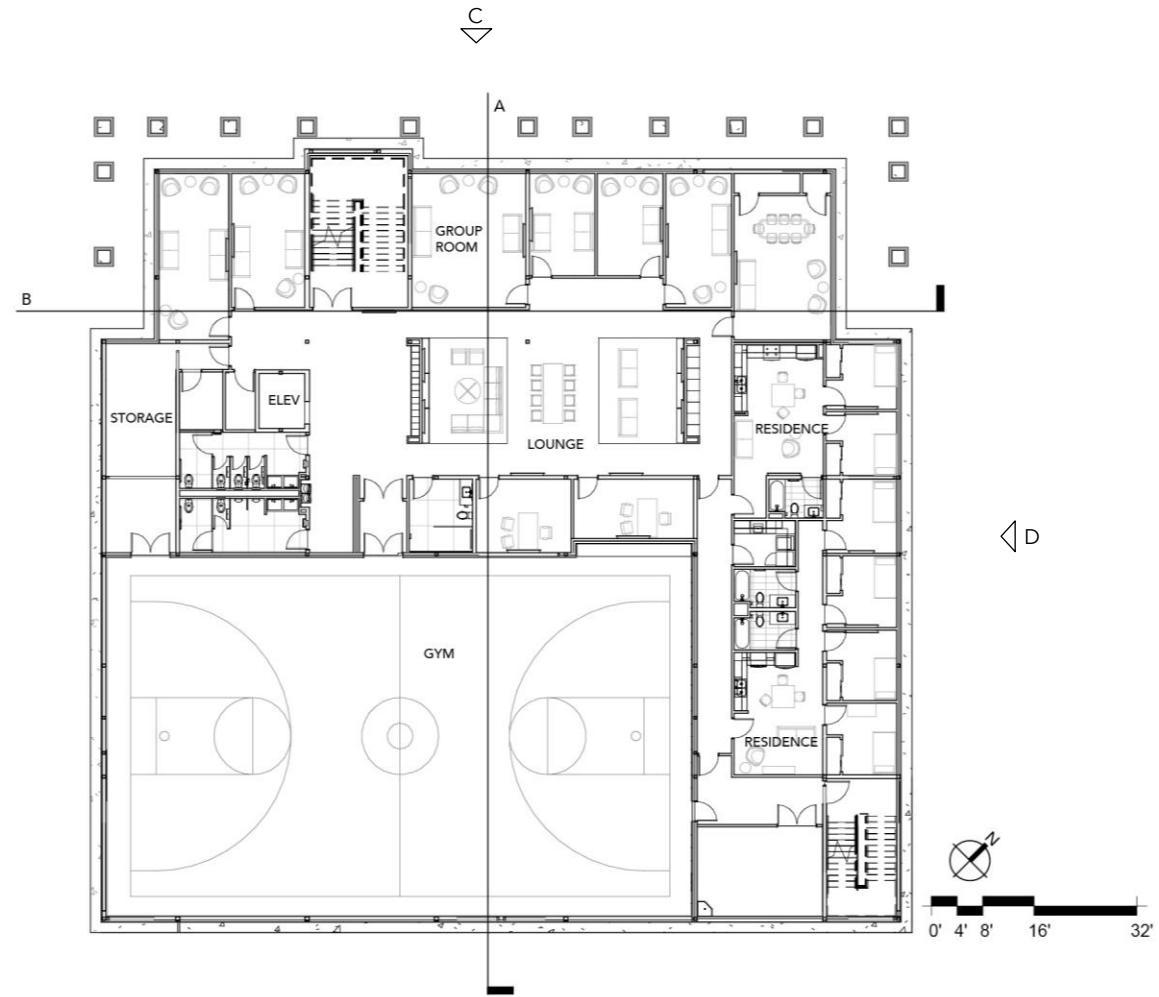


RESIDENCES

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WOODLAND AVENUE

SPORTS CENTER DRIVE

COLUMBIA AVENUE

