

Given California's warm climate the concept for the Observation Tower came when I was thinking – "What would people want on a hot summer day?" The answer came naturally – coolness. I imagined ice cubes falling down in a pyramid of ice.

I envisioned a light soaring structure semi-transparent and seismically stable. The final shape was a result of an intersection of two pyramids, one structural and one carrying social functions.

The tower is designed with an observation platform of 2000sf at +178' to provide a magnificent view of San Jose, a restaurant of 1200sf at +165' and a lounge with a small bar of 600sf at +154', accessible by two glass elevators from the ground allowing spectacular views along the way up or down.

In addition, I propose a café/lounge with a mezzanine on a ground level, with a total area of 1500sf as a place to cool down in shade if one does not want to go up.

To get down from an observation deck, one might want to take a spiraling stair, which offers plenty of opportunities along the way to look in and out from special balconies. The landings and platforms of the stair also provide an excellent opportunity for an exhibition space along the way.

The tower structure is made of structural steel members painted with a photovoltaic paint with a façade made of photovoltaic-carbon-fiber semi-transparent panels of icy colors, some panels are in a pyramid shape to resemble pieces of ice. The roof and the observation platform to be covered with photovoltaic panels/pavers. The open space on a façade not filled with panels is occupied with stainless steel cables inside of the ice-colored plastic housing. For an additional feeling of freshness, I propose to spray mist inside of the tower.

At night the tower is designed to glow at specified hours with cold hues of blue and green, achieved by pulsating kinetic LED lights strung along the cables and fitted inside of carbon-fiber panels. They are meant to be linked to a computer for various lighting algorithms. Three projectors on the roof are designed to project blinking blue-green light on special occasions, in such a way, as to complete the shape of the pyramid.

The tower is located northwest of the site, so as not to cast a shadow on the park. I envision more similar looking structures around the park for shade and other necessities.