

THE WIGWAMS OF SCIENCE - NEW ICON OF SILICON VALLEY CALIFORNIA ARENA GREEN VEST

The confluence of two rivers in Silicon Valley connects and gives the possibility of the urban structure. The project is focused on the function of public space. As architects, we are responsible to respond parallel to the constantly changing needs of people living in the dynamic world. The goal is to create necessary tools for the users and also giving them the space of the natural environment to achieve wellbeing. The highest priority nowadays should always be focused on a valuable space for the local and worldwide community.

„The Wigwams Of Science” is a proposed project of the „Urban Confluence Silicon Valley International Design Competition”. The aim of the presented solution is creating the unique, outstanding, and characteristic symbol of the human thought, based on the Silicon Valley - the world’s epicenter of innovation.

The main idea is based on the composition of seven objects, which reminds an American’s Natives village. Each of the buildings is a modern interpretation of a wigwam - cone-shaped tent, traditionally made of animal skins upon wooden poles. The main inspiration of the form provides a tribute to the Native American people who lived here in harmony with nature many years ago.

The central point of the complex is the biggest „wigwam” The Great Hall which contains spaces for seasonal exhibitions, gastronomy, souvenir shop, storages and technical rooms. Following six „wigwams” are represented for the classification for branches of scholarly and technical fields: 1. Natural sciences, 2.Engineering and technology, 3.Medical and health sciences, 4.Agricultural sciences, 5.Social sciences 6.Humanities and contain thematic exhibitions.

The Great Hall is 200ft high, a new urban dominant form in the whole neighborhood. The observation deck is located on the top of the building. The top of the “wigwam” provides the function of the lantern. On one hand, it allows us to admire the beautiful view of the surrounding valley and on the other hand, is the color-changing light point on the night sky. The other tops of the “wigwams” have the same function and altogether with The Great Hall can create a night lighting spectacle visible from the amphitheater and the neighborhood.

The others “wigwams” are half of the height of the main building – 100ft. Every “wigwam” is connected by hanging glass footbridge between buildings to disperse people to the other expositions.

The project assumes hidden photovoltaic panels in rhombus shape, mostly located on the south and west side of the cone facade. The glued laminated timber construction and double skin facade wherein air flows between the two surfaces act as insulation against winds, sound, and extreme temperatures.

Natural materials and power sources used in the sustainable architecture of wigwam are mostly self-sufficient, additionally makes this project more sensitive to human contentment.