

The Sail

Museum and Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

San José should have a Museum and Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation that is a landmark and an international attraction point. It should stand as a symbol of the creative thinking, the tenacity, vision, and values of Silicon Valley. In this way, the city can have a symbol that inspires future generations as they interact and visit this monument.

'The Sail' should both celebrate, and also help foster and perpetuate this unique place of innovative thinking. As such, the top of the landmark will host the facilities of the 'Museum for Entrepreneurship', where citizens and visitors can learn from the great many examples of innovative thinking that have changed the lives of billions of people across the world. Below, there are pleasant terraces for citizens to gather and dialogue, discuss, and receive open-air lectures. In the middle block, a series of facilities can be arranged where entrepreneurs could have spaces for production, collaboration, and build civic pride. This we have called the 'Center for Entrepreneurship', which has as mission the support and enhancement of the values of San José. In this way, the monument both celebrates and spurs economic development. Below, another set of terraces that allow gatherings is placed. In the smaller block, we have accommodated a cafe and restaurant where visitors can relax while enjoying pleasant views of the park.

The project incorporates net-zero energy strategies, through its large canopied terraces, solar energy collection, radiant heating and cooling through its mass and core, as well as its periphery net which allows one to manipulate a microclimate on the exterior terraces. In its assembly, through a core and slabs built of recycled steel and recycled concrete aggregate, the building intends to set an energy benchmark. Heat will be captured, redistributed in the core and slabs.

In all, the geometry of the monument raises above ground from a small footprint incrementally until a large and spectacular volume at the end. This intends to symbolize the tenacity in starting companies in garages, in small houses and warehouses, and taking them all the way to world relevance and inspiring grandiosity.

The monument in itself becomes an emblem of the process of innovation. In the evening, dramatic lighting makes a monumental presence to reflect the breathless sense of possibility which is a synonym of Silicon Valley and the city of San José.