

PROJECT STATEMENT

THE BEACON

The beacon is a light set in a high and prominent position as a symbol, guide or celebration. This project is all of those things.

SILICON VALLEY

Silicon Valley provided the interaction of people that changed the world with advanced communication and reshaped the way we live. Spanning the rivers is a metaphor for the confluence of ideas that came forth.

THE MEGASTRUCTURE

This project symbolizes a timeless form of two arms meeting over 200 feet above two rivers and holding a beacon of shielded light as a symbol of illuminated thinking in all directions. It is an interactive structure rather than a static monument and is designed to be used from the inside and traversed throughout.

The exterior skin is metal and fritted glass that glows as it ascends. Both the beacon and the structural arms will have programmable multi-colored lighting interwoven from the base to the top. Solar panels are interspersed throughout.

Between the arms and suspended over the rivers is the Interactive Museum of Architecture and Design. The electronic instruments invented in Silicon Valley changed the way architecture was designed, presented, built and transmitted. This venue can visually illustrate the progress of huts to skyscrapers in a history of architecture, landscape architecture, urban design, and graphics which upended thousands of years of hand drawing.

Current displays include Bay Area designers of every discipline to showcase their projects and exhibitions from typefaces to cell phones show the design progression of what we use today.

WITHIN THE STRUCTURE

The structure holds an elevator to both museum levels as well as a tramway and stairs to the top, where a platform provides vistas to the valley that connected the world.

The structural frame provides access from both sides of the rivers to the museum, plaza and beacon levels. Interspersed in the megastructure are cafes at two museum levels and an upper plaza for performances and viewing on the museum roof. The project represents a focal point to gather, learn, and be stimulated by historic and current design for people of all ages. Spaces exist for museum offices, lectures, symposiums and interactive design projects.

THE BASE

Each side of the structure's base rises from an entry plaza that includes seating, landscaping, parklets, sculptures and parking for the physically challenged. Rotating art exhibits in the parklets and plazas features local artists.