



SKY LIGHT

BETWEEN EARTH AND SKY

The hotbed of Silicon Valley is geographically and culturally expansive, boundless, and divergent. Its spirit of innovation is seeded with 'blue sky thinking'. By tapping into the Valley's unprecedented way of doing things differently, SKY LIGHT rethinks the notion of today's architectural icon. As opposed to the singularity of a tower, SKY LIGHT is based on multiplicity, horizontality and place-making. It frames the horizon, the sky, the park and the confluence. It presents a collective environment for urban activity and creates civic identity to Silicon Valley and equally to the world beyond.

Adhering to the competition guidelines, SKY LIGHT rises from the ground with its pillars on both allowable parcels that are located on either side of Arena Green. To unify the entire park, a wooden lattice drapes gracefully between the two sets of columns. The lattice acts as a filter or lens between ourselves, earth and sky.

SKY LIGHT is constructed primarily of timber, a carbon neutral and renewable building material. Photovoltaics, covering the top of the lattice, harvest approximately 1,545,000kWh per/yr. The result is a net zero design approach.

A NEW URBAN ROOM

Functioning as a flexible shared outdoor room, SKY LIGHT turns every day park and community activities into a dynamic multi-layered experience. The park is now activated in its entirety. Plug-in community activities or commerce, such as concerts or farmers markets, can be organized within the pillar forest or the open fields. Family or friends can meet at the ring above the confluence or take a run at the upper ring. SKY LIGHT becomes a vibrant meeting space both for visitors, as well as the community. Guadalupe Park trail freely meanders through SKY LIGHT's open voids; natural light and weather heighten the perceived sense of captured atmospheres.

In the evening, SKY LIGHT emits a warm lantern-like glow, creating an inviting and safe environment for various activities or simply enjoyment of the night time views. It captures daylight's natural energy and forms an all-encompassing new nighttime sky with downward illumination.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

At 150 feet tall on its eastern and western sides, SKY LIGHT is nearly four times the size of the adjacent SAP Arena and frames an impressive 14 acres of land within its boundaries. To experience SKY LIGHT, to walk under it, over it, take in the sunset at its observation deck, is to be immersed in its sublime vastness.