THE JIMMY CARTER PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

Atlanta, Georgia



Jova/Daniels/Busby, Architects

EDAW, Landscape Architects

JOVA
DANIELS
BUSBY

Architects
Planners
Interior Designers

909 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
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5 March 1982

President Jimmy Carter
Richard Russell Office Building
75 Spring Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. President:

We are honored to present our design concepts for The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum. We are, quite frankly, thrilled at the prospect of working with you on a project of such real significance. This Library will surely be the hallmark of my career and an unparalleled design opportunity for our firm.

In response to your request, we have studied the Library requirements and the Great Park site. We believe that the concept we have developed is meaningful and exciting. We are also mindful that the concept is only a first step in the design process. We expect to work with you and your representatives to evolve the concept into reality.

On the following pages, we present a narrative description of our philosophical objectives for your building and of the design. We have also enclosed brochures highlighting the accomplishments of our firms. At an appropriate time we will be pleased to discuss in detail our working approach for the realization of your Library.

Again, thank you for the privilege of making this presentation.

Sincerely yours,

Henri V. Jova

Henri V. Jova, FAIA

vp

Henri V. Jova, FAIA
Stanley L. Daniels, FAIA
John A. Busby, Jr., FAIA
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Design Concept

A Presidential Library and Museum offers a rare and distinctive design opportunity. Such a building must be considered from many aspects. It is the repository of a significant portion of our Nation's history and a representation of the life and philosophy of an American President. As such, it should reflect his goals and accomplishments. Hopefully, beyond bricks and mortar, the building itself will manifest the spirit of the man and the Nation.

This has been the mission of each Presidential Library that has been erected. The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum must embody these objectives and more, for the Carter Library will also be the keystone of the Great Park; and a major landmark for the City of Atlanta, the State of Georgia and the Southeast.

In developing our design concepts for the Carter Library, we have attempted to consider the many facets of this exceptional design opportunity. Our philosophical musings began with an examination of the Carter Presidency and the Carter

family history. As Chief of State, Jimmy Carter pursued numerous solutions to foreign and domestic problems. After considering the many facets of the Carter term, we have identified five major thrusts:

- world peace
- human rights
- environment
- energy conservation
- accessible goverment

We suggest that these should be embodied in the architectural and landscape message conveyed by the Carter Library complex. Concurrently, we feel that the Library and its landscape should address certain operational and symbolic concerns, balancing:

- accessibility and monumentality;
- the informal, natural environment and the structured, built environment;
- the visitor experience and the research and operational needs;
- future opportunities and a reflection of past accomplishments;
- President and Mrs. Carter's personalism and The Presidency.

Finally, we have taken as a fundamental concept in our design of the Library and gardens the creation of a living environment. Jimmy Carter has returned to his home state as a young President, and as was the case with Harry Truman's Library in Independence and Thomas Jefferson's Library and home in Charlottesville, the Carter Library will be a base of operations for a new era of accomplishments.

SITE CONCEPTS

The Library, as the keystone for the Great Park, must be addressed in its context. The site selected by President Carter is the hilltop crowning the Great Park site; its crest holding a commanding and historic position in the city-scape. The house which once stood on this site served as General Sherman's headquarters during the Battle of Atlanta. More than one hundred years later, the prominence of this site overlooking the downtown Atlanta skyline, and the view of the site itself from downtown Atlanta, are no less imposing.

Today, we consider the sensitive "reoccupation"

of the site to be an extraordinary opportunity to further enrich its history and to create an environment which will complement both the adjacent residential community and the Metro Atlanta area. In developing site concepts for the Carter Library, we have placed great emphasis on the Library within its best context - a richly developed informal landscape surrounding a building which is sensitive to its residential neighbors. The Library and gardens sit atop and complete the soft rise of the Great Park's central knoll.

Building and landscape become one.

ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPTS AND DESIGN

In conceiving of the Carter Library building, we have considered the elements of graciousness characteristic of southern architecture, as well as those aspects of open and accessible government which are embodied in the village green and town square. We have also relied heavily on the concept of shaping a building in response to its surroundings - to work with its site, its terrain and its climate.

Although it is commonly felt that we do not live in an age of monuments, certain buildings do have the ability to inspire - to instill in the visitor a feeling of pride and respect for national ideals. One of the key challenges in the design of the Carter Library is to inspire this kind of patriotic spirit while also respecting the residential scale of the surrounding neighborhood.

In contrast, the approach facade and the courtyard offer a scale and formality appropriate to a major building. The courtyard and entrance evoke many historical and social subtleties. The colonnaded courtyard is reminiscent of town squares, where people gather and the public business is discussed. Likewise, there are reminders of ancient forums on the courthouse steps; and even the cool and inviting classic southern porch. The shade of the colonnade, the richness of light and shadow across the building facade, and the water source meandering across the plaza offer a friendly face to the visitor. The plaza - a symbolic "courthouse square" - is approached by a broad entry bridge which forms

the final step in the transition from natural terrain to the refinement of the preserve.

Around the courtyard are placed the diverse elements of the Carter Library and Museum complex: the Museum and public spaces, the resource area and staff facilities, and the President's office enclave.

There are three major entries to the building, separating the various types of users. The principal public entrance, through the courtyard, leads to the public lobby of the building. The lobby is the initial orientation point for visitors. It is dominated by a curved granite wall incised with significant quotations from the President's major speeches, and is highlighted by a skylight which gives dramatic clarity to the space.

The curved wall which directs visitors toward the gallery is punctuated by a bas relief sculpture, highlighting various aspects of the Carter Presidency. Visitors then proceed past a glazed atrium to the orientation auditoria, where they view a short orientation film before following a

ramp to the lower level exhibition spaces chronicling the life, times and achievements of President Jimmy Carter.

After completing their tour of the exhibition area, visitors exit by a ramp through the glazed atrium, a verdant natural setting of regional flora shaded by full-sized trees, a waterfall splashing among ferns and boulders - all recalling President Carter's deep concern for nature. The exit route then leads through the bookstore area and on to the outside. The north wing also includes two seminar rooms, a multi-purpose space, and a quiet meditation space which may also be used for seminars.

As the departing visitor crosses the courtyard, his experience is highlighted by a sculpture of the President seen against a panorama of the Atlanta skyline.

Two separate entrances on the outside of the building provide access for scholars and staff respectively. The research entrance provides access for accredited scholars, leading them to an orientation room and researchers' reading

room, a contemplative space overlooking a quiet pool in a landscaped setting. The staff entrance provides access to the various operating offices and facilities of the Library. A separate protected approach is provided with a secure entrance for President and Mrs. Carter.

The Presidential Suite, located on the third floor, includes an office for the President, a formal reception area, a conference room, an office suite for Mrs. Carter, and offices for aides and staff. Here, traditional detailing and furnishings allude to the classic architecture of the White House. A loft space above the President's office affords a private work and meditation retreat for President and Mrs. Carter. The loft space commands a view of the downtown Atlanta skyline stretching from the State Capitol to the major buildings along the Peachtree ridge, a view which is also seen from the courtyard by visitors leaving the Museum and which is especially dramatic when seen at sunset over the meadow and pond.

Across the garden, northeast of the Library, a site has been reserved for the Institute and its related facilities.

SITE/LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Our design concept features a landscape developed to reinforce and enrich the experience of the Library. From the courtyard, landscape forms create a visual frame encompassing views of the Sourthern Bell tower, the Richard Russell Federal Building and the State Capitol area. Within this cone of vision, broad planes of lawn, mature specimen trees and a two-acre pond complement and reflect the stately serenity of the Library and its gardens.

The landscape is proposed as a spectrum of site features and plantings progressing from natural materials, meadow wildflowers and recreational amenities to the more ordered landscape central to the Library. Just as the landscape of Camp David provides the appropriate counterpart to the White House gardens, so the naturalized environment of the Great Park complements the humanized landscape of the courtyard and Library. Meadow and pond meet perimeter canopy trees in a rich variety of native Georgian plantings typical of the "ecologic edge" condition. Trails for jogging and walking skirt this "edge" throughout the

site to create a park alive with activity and beauty.

The visitor experience begins well before entering the Library. Driving east from Atlanta, the parkway establishes a quiet pace; a natural rhythm. The first indication of the Carter Library is a flag waving in the distance. As quietly as it surfaces, it disappears.

The visitor experiences the breadth of the landscape as classical and pastoral.

It is an easy walk from the parking lot to the library, never more than four minutes. A nature trail running to the Library's edge is traced by the pond on the left and woods on the right.

The arrival walk leads to the Library courtyard, reminiscent of town meeting spaces where the President met with and listened to the people. The courtyard focuses on the spring source of the pond. The stream reflects the changes in landscape as it moves from a naturalized creek in the park to an architectural rivulet tracing its way under the formal plantings of the courtyard.

Entry to the Library is off axis to the right of the spring source.

Exiting the Library or looking out from the President's office, visitors see the Atlanta skyline through the trees. The Library is sited on the "true" crest, as opposed to the "military" crest, of the hill to avoid the intrusion of an industrial site at the bottom of the hill.

From downtown Atlanta and the President's office, the view to the Library provides the "constant gratification" that Jefferson called his view of the University of Virginia Lawn and Rotunda from Monticello. It is an invitation from the country to share in its time and solitude.

Walking away from the Library and the thoughtful figure of the President, visitors see rivulets of water flowing down to become the pond. There is a parkland, with room for picnics, conversation, meditation, and the simple joy of green space.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

With energy conservation primary to our design considerations, our concept incorporates combined uses of passive and potentially active solar devices to achieve an optimum level of energy efficiency. Elements particular to our design include:

- Berming of the earth over the lower levels of the building to reduce the sun's impact on wall surfaces; resulting in an overall reduction of heat gain.

- Below-grade placement of spaces with heavy heating loads to take advantage of the cooling effects of the earth.

- Sloped roofs on north, east and south building facades to reduce the effect of the sun's direct energy. Roof orientation to provide heat gain delay so that the overall facility does not reach peak cooling requirements until late afternoon, well after peak operational hours.

- Waste heat recovery - active use of rejected heat from cooling equipment and lights - used for heating domestic hot water, as well as for humidity control and perimeter winter heating.

- Large pond and smaller pools of water acting as heat sinks, providing dispersal areas for rejected heat.

- High interior spaces used in conjunction with clerestory vents, allowing heated air to rise above occupied areas.

- Passive and active solar applications of skylights and atriums to stratify air so that only occupied spaces are conditioned. Ducting design so that heated air from these spaces can be transferred to perimeters requiring heat.

- Above-ceiling plenums to provide air flow or static spaces to assist in monitoring temperatures below.

- Task and low incandescent lighting levels to reduce overall energy usage.

- Design of mechanical systems for future adaptation to solar collectors for domestic hot water or space heating.

SUMMARY

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, as conceived by the Jova/Daniels/Busby Team, was designed to emphasize - in its form and function - the spirit and the accomplishments of the Carter Presidency. The major themes of peace, human rights, environment, energy conservation and accessible government have been the guideposts of our design development - and the building that we propose incorporates features which either directly demonstrate these emphases or which illustrate them graphically in various art forms. The pastoral quality of the park, the humanized landscape of the gardens, and the architectural form of the building - all are designed to reinforce the central theme.

Just as it was the privilege and the duty of great men like Thomas Jefferson, Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman and Jimmy Carter to serve as Presidents of the United States, so, too, it is our challenge and responsibility as designers to provide a living library for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Team Qualifications

JOVA/DANIELS/BUSBY, INCORPORATED
Architects, Planners, Interior Designers

Jova/Daniels/Busby was formed in 1966 by Henri Jova, Stanley Daniels and John Busby as a diversified design firm capable of handling projects of varied size and scope. Since then, the firm has completed projects ranging in size from $50,000 to $100 million which have received wide recognition for their design excellence, including 21 design awards and some 75 project publications.

Jova/Daniels/Busby's project management capability insures timely and expeditious execution of its work, and allows it to undertake projects of significant size and complexity. Representative projects include Atlanta's Colony Square and Birmingham's Progressive Farmer Company Headquarters Building, both multiple design award winners; corporate and regional headquarters facilities for IBM, Citicorp USA, The Robinson-Humphrey Company, Automatic Data Processing and MSA. In addition to the basic architectural services, the firm offers pre-planning consultation, programming and master planning, site evaluation and land use planning, and complete interior and graphic design services.

EDAW, INC.
Landscape Architects

EDAW, Inc., is a national planning and design firm practicing in the fields of landscape architecture, environmental planning and urban design. The firm maintains full-service offices in Atlanta, Georgia, Alexandria, Virginia, and eight additional major metropolitan areas. Since its establishment in 1939, EDAW has created widely recognized design solutions for projects ranging from urban parks to planning studies for redevelopment and new town facilities. Recent works include the Declaration of Independence Signers Memorial, Papal Mass on the Mall Facility, Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium, White House Grounds Inventory Book and Pennsylvania Avenue Streetscape, all in Washington, D.C. Projects currently underway in EDAW's Atlanta office include the Chastain Park Master Plan, Atlanta; Downtown Streetscape and Master Plan, Columbus; and Belvedere/Glenwood Hills/Glendale Corridor Park Master Plan, Dekalb County.

TEAM ORGANIZATION

Jova/Daniels/Busby has organized a comprehensive team of professionals to address all aspects of

the design of the Presidential Library and Museum. The team will be led by Henri Jova as Principal-In-Charge, and will incorporate all disciplines required for the successful completion of the project: architecture; site and landscape design; interior design; exhibition design; structural, civil, mechanical and electrical engineering; cost estimating and construction administration.

The project will operate under the direct supervision of a Project Director, supported by a team of professionals from Jova/Daniels/Busby. In addition, because the integration of site and building is crucial to the success of this project, we have augmented our in-house expertise by including on our design team EDAW, Inc., a nationally recognized landscape architecture firm.

Our strong interest in the Carter Library project, coupled with the flexible scheduling procedures of both firms, allows us to commit the close personal involvement of the senior principals of Jova/Daniels/Busby and EDAW, Inc. Key team members include:

- Henri V. Jova, FAIA, winner of the coveted Prix de Rome in Architecture; Design Principal for Jova/Daniels/Busby.

- Stanley L. Daniels, FAIA, President of Jova/Daniels/Busby; Principal-In-Charge of Atlanta's award-winning Colony Square Multi-Use Complex.

- Joseph E. Brown, ASLA, First Vice President of EDAW, Inc.; Principal-In-Charge of Washington's Georgetown Waterfront Master Plan and the Memorial to the Signers of the Declaration of Independence in Constitution Gardens.

- E. Michael Vergason, Senior Associate of EDAW, Inc.; winner of the Prix de Rome in Landscape Architecture; distinguished designer, teacher and critic.

- Federick E. Hart, native Georgian and nationally recognized sculptor whose works include the National Cathedral's West Facade sculpture and John Paul II's Papal Mass on the Mall.

As prime consultant for the Carter Library project, Jova/Daniels/Busby will have full responsibility for project administration.

We expect to work closely with President and Mrs. Carter and their representatives in the development of the detailed project requirements and in the execution of all the design phases which will follow.

In addition to our capabilities in performing the customary design and engineering services, including schematic design, design development, construction documents, and construction administration, we are experienced in assisting our clients with community-related concerns.

Cost control, quality control, coordination and scheduling are integral parts of our design service.

PROJECTED COSTS

The primary concentration of our efforts has been in the development of the design concept for the Carter Library. As a corollary to this work, we

have reviewed the potential construction costs with Hanscomb Associates, our cost consultants.

Based on a general evaluation of the conceptual design, current market conditions, and comparable buildings, we believe that the costs of constructing and outfitting The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum will range between $17,000,000 and $20,000,000 in current dollars. We are mindful, however, that this costing is somewhat premature since much refinement of both the program requrements and the design will be necessary before the project is realized.