

Glenstone

Architectural Fact Sheet: Glenstone Expansion

Glenstone Overview

Located on 230 acres in Potomac, Maryland, near Washington, DC, Glenstone is a museum of modern and contemporary art that offers visitors a seamlessly integrated experience of works from its collection, architecture and landscape. Its first exhibition building, known as The Gallery, was designed by Charles Gwathmey of Gwathmey Siegel & Associates Architects and opened to the public in 2006. The natural setting, designed by PWP Landscape Architecture, incorporates major works of outdoor sculpture within rolling meadows and unspoiled woodlands. Admission to Glenstone is always free. Visits are scheduled, to ensure that guests can have an unhurried, intimate engagement with the artworks and environment.

Project Description

To provide access to a larger portion of its collection and enhance its service to the public, Glenstone is undertaking a major expansion of its museum facilities and landscape. The centerpiece is a new 204,000-square-foot building called The Pavilions, designed by Thomas Phifer of Thomas Phifer and Partners. Embedded into a rise in the landscape to give the impression of discrete buildings rising out of the earth, as in a traditional hill town, The Pavilions is organized as a ring of gallery rooms surrounding a large central water court. Rooms of varying size and configuration feature single-artist installations, as well as more frequently rotating selections of works from the collection. The building significantly expands Glenstone's indoor exhibition space, from 9,000 to 59,000 square feet, and also provides increased office space and support facilities. A revised master plan by PWP Landscape Architecture more than doubles the area of restored woodlands, meadows and streams accessible to the public, from approximately 100 to 230 acres. The expansion also provides a new public entrance and arrival building, two free-standing cafés and a center that highlights environmentally sustainable practices at Glenstone.

Glenstone Principals

Emily Wei Rales, Co-Founder and Director
Mitchell Rales, Co-Founder

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Expansion Architect	Thomas Phifer and Partners
Landscape Architect	PWP Landscape Architecture
General Contractor	HITT Contracting Inc.
Groundbreaking	June 24, 2013
Expected Completion	Late 2018

Setting The new landscape design integrates walking paths, bridges and restored meadows and woodlands. When the expansion is complete, more than 6,000 trees of 43 native species will have been planted across the grounds, bringing the total installed at Glenstone to 8,000, and approximately 33 acres of existing pasture land will have been developed into sustainable meadows with a range of indigenous flora. The Pavilions' water court will be richly planted with water lilies, irises and rushes, creating a floating landscape that changes throughout the seasons. The landscape will be accented throughout the site with dry-stone walls sourced from a nearby quarry.

Arrival Sequence Visitors will leave their cars in a parking grove and be greeted at the nearby Arrival Hall, where they can orient themselves for their visit. Their short walk to The Pavilions will proceed over a timber bridge and into an expansive meadow, where outdoor sculpture will be visible in the distance. As the path curves, visitors will glimpse the new building through honey locusts, oaks and tulip trees, until the route straightens to offer a full view of The Pavilions' entrance.

Building The Pavilions will first appear as a cluster of simple masonry forms, varying in size and embedded in a rise in the land. After proceeding into the entrance room, which features the installation of a commissioned artwork, visitors will descend to the ring of rooms at gallery level, each housed in a discrete structure but connected by the glass-walled passage that faces onto the water court. The galleries include three rooms of varying sizes and proportions for regularly changing exhibitions and seven rooms that at the time of opening will feature single-artist installations. Artworks will also be installed along the glass curtain wall facing the water court. Additionally, one room without art faces outward to offer a framed view of the landscape, providing a quiet space where visitors can rest, think and recharge.

Light Natural lighting is fundamental to the construction and design of The Pavilions. Most rooms have large clerestories or oculi to provide balanced natural light from above. One room is open to the sky. The play of light and shadow varies throughout the day; and as the seasons change, the light fluctuates, revealing subtle qualities in the artworks and providing a more natural, nuanced viewing experience.

Materials The Pavilions' design emphasizes materials that evoke a direct, elemental and timeless dialogue with the surrounding landscape. The exterior of

each room is made of stacked blocks of cast concrete, individually poured to measure six feet long, a foot high and a foot deep. Although no color-altering pigment was used, the pouring method and mixture of cement and sand were allowed to result in slight variations in the light gray color and in the texture. This finish deliberately contrasts with the smooth precision of the windows, which have been specially engineered using glass panels as large as nine feet x 30 feet, and are set flush into stainless steel mullions. The glass surfaces and concrete blocks form a seamless skin that bridges the building's indoor and outdoor spaces. White maple is used throughout the building for selected interior walls, ceilings and floors.

Continuation of the visit

From The Pavilions, visitors may continue on a short, wooded path to the Café. Like the Arrival Hall, the Café has an exterior of cedar, which is expected to weather to a soft gray that echoes the color of The Pavilions' exterior. Visitors will be able to proceed past the Café to the original museum building, The Gallery, which will continue to house temporary exhibitions of works from Glenstone's collection. Past The Gallery is an additional café space, The Patio, where visitors may enjoy coffee or a snack or refresh themselves before touring the landscape.

The Gallery (Original Building)

Architect	Charles Gwathmey, Gwathmey Siegel & Associates Architects
Size (figures are approximate)	30,000 square feet (gross) Gallery space: 9,000 square feet
Materials	Stone (for exterior walls, interior floors, and terrace), zinc (for exterior panels), teak, and glass

The Pavilions (New Building)

Architect	Thomas Phifer and Partners
Size (figures are approximate)	204,000 square feet for The Pavilions 240,000 square feet total for all expansion buildings Principal areas include Galleries: 50,000 square feet Offices: 12,000 square feet Water Court: 18,000 square feet
Materials	Stacked cast concrete blocks for exterior walls. Large glass windows in stainless steel frames. Poured-in-place architectural concrete ceilings and terrazzo floors. Plaster walls for art display. White maple used for the interior floors, walls and ceilings of selected spaces
Other Facilities	Arrival Hall and Café: White maple interior and cedar exterior cladding Environmental Center: pre-engineered steel buildings Patio: Zinc, granite, teak, stucco, Venetian plaster (interior), limestone (interior), Douglas fir (interior), glass

Project Team, Thomas Phifer and Partners Thomas Phifer, Gabriel Smith, Andrew Mazor, Michael Trudeau, Rebecca Garnett, Jon Benner, John Bassett, Bethany Mahre, Petra Pearsall, Greg Bonner

Project Team, PWP Landscape Architecture Peter Walker, Adam Greenspan, Collin Jones, Julie Canter, Conrad Lindgren, Steve Tycz, Lauren Hackney, Seth Rosewald-Bates

Consultants
Owner's Representative: MGAC
Structural Engineering: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, LLP
M/E/P/FP Engineering: Altieri Sebor Wieber LLC
M/E/P/FP Engineering, Patio: KTA Group, Inc
Natural Lighting Design: ARUP New York and London Offices
Security Consultant: Layne Consultants International
Specifications: Construction Specifications, Inc. Architectural Interiors: Stantec Architecture
Concrete Consultant: Reginold D. Hough Associates
Façade Design: R.A. Heintges & Associates
Code Review: PFP Engineering and Design, Inc.
Elevators: Hector Columbani Associates, LLC
Waterproofing: Henshell and Buccellato
Cost Estimator: Stuart-Lynn Company, Inc.
General Contractor, Environmental Center: Whitener and Jackson, Inc.
Landscape Architecture Consultant: RAFT
Civil Engineering: VIKA, Inc.
Sustainability: Buro Happold
Geotechnical Engineering: Schnabel Engineering DC
Stream Restoration Construction: Aquatic Resource Restoration Company
Food Services: JGL Food Service Consultants
Graphic Design: 2x4
Café Creative Direction: HFB STUDIO

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