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FEATURED PROJECT:

Lab Work

Selser Schaefer Architects Completes Tallgrass Prairie Research Station



Selser Schaefer Architects recently completed a 6,500-square-foot research station for the Nature Conservancy's Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, located in Osage County just north of Pawhuska. The research station features three state-of-the-art labs for chemists, botanists, and biologists to better examine the native minerals, flora, and fauna in their ongoing effort to recreate a functioning ecosystem. Recent research has included remediation and restoration of grasslands damaged by crude oil spills, the impact of bison and cattle grazing on native grasses, and the role of fire in the ecosystem.

A large part of the new center is dedicated to public education, and includes two classrooms for visiting students and teachers. The University of Tulsa, Oklahoma State University, the University of Arkansas and Kansas State University have ongoing research projects at the preserve.

The research station is the centerpiece of a three-phase plan to enhance the study of the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve's ecology. Phase One also includes the remodeling of an existing structure to serve as a dormitory for visiting scientists and a maintenance building for field equipment. Phase Two of the project will involve the expansion of the research station to add a dormitory with kitchen and dining facilities. Phase Three includes the construction of individual lodging units for visiting scientists who wish to spend an extended time on the preserve.

The exterior of the research station utilizes natural stone from the area. All exterior metal was painted to match the landscape, with a variety of greens and browns. The exterior also was made fire-resistant, as the Nature Conservancy periodically sets controlled fires around the preserve's 39,000 acres to remove dead vegetation, control encroaching woody vegetation, and increase the vigor and flowering of the native plant species.



IN DESIGN PROJECTS

1

NEW LIFE FOR AN OLD WAREHOUSE

Later this year, Wallace Engineering will be moving from its home of 15 years to a revitalized warehouse on the east edge of Tulsa's burgeoning Brady Warehouse District. After purchasing the warehouse, Tom Wallace, head of the 23-year-old structural and civil engineering firm, called upon Selser Schaefer Architects to create a unique space to relocate the company's 104 employees from its present downtown offices at 201 West Fifth.

Located on Brady Avenue between Detroit and Cincinnati, the building was constructed in the 1920s to serve as a grocery warehouse. When the renovation is complete, much of the building's original charm will be kept intact. Walls, columns and ceilings will be sandblasted to reveal the building's original industrial aesthetic, and great care will be taken to preserve the structure's steel windows. Those beyond repair will be replaced with aluminum-frame windows.

"Light" will be the overriding theme throughout the new Wallace office. Employees will have light-colored wood furniture, and each principal's office will feature glass walls. To introduce greater natural light, the building's brick wall will be replaced with a new glass wall that maintains the industrial aesthetic.

MEDICAL FACILITY TO REFLECT HISTORY OF SERVICE

Since 1921, Morton Health Care Center has had a distinguished history of service to Tulsa's minority and economically disadvantaged population. Selser Schaefer Architects was honored to design a new facility that will pay tribute to the organization's legacy of care and compassion.

The ground floor will have four waiting areas, an ambulatory care clinic with 42 examination and procedure rooms, and offices for 14 physicians. The clinic will be complemented by radiological, laboratory, optometry, dental, and social services. An after-hours clinic and education/conference center also will be offered.

When finished in the summer of 2006, the new clinic will total approximately 60,000 square feet, with room on the site to expand another 20,000.

The new Morton Health Care Center is a Vision 2025 project, which will provide up to \$14 million in sales-tax funds for the creation of the new facility.



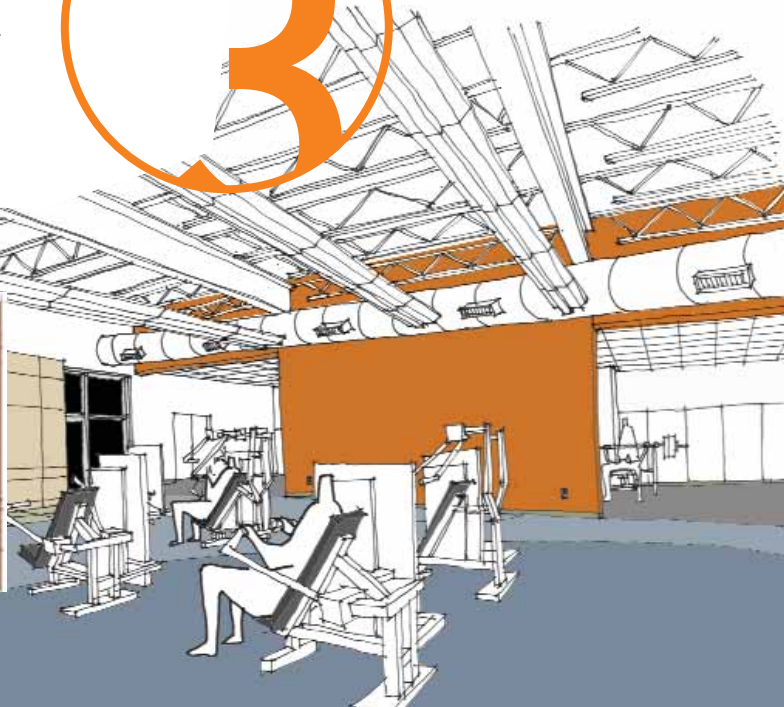
IT'S FUN TO BUILD THE NEW Y-M-C-A

The new Owasso Family is the first new YMCA to be built in the Tulsa area in 30 years, and it represents a true community effort, according to Project Manager Brian Thomas.

"The City of Owasso, the YMCA organization, and private sources worked together to make this happen," says Thomas. "Private funding alone amounted to around \$1 million. It has been a team effort all the way."

The 30,000-sq.-ft. facility will be located just south of 86th St. North and Highway 169, a major entry into Owasso. It will contain a variety of recreational areas, a double-court gymnasium, dry sauna, cardiovascular and weight training areas, lockers and shower rooms.

A unique feature will be the family recreational pool and spa, created by one of the country's most prominent pool designers. It will offer a current channel or "lazy river" which can be used for water aerobics, interactive water toys for children, and a spectacular, 115-foot-long winding slide, part of which runs outside the building.



SPECIAL EVENTS

TAKING STEPS TO FIGHT BREAST CANCER

On Saturday, October 16, 2004, hundreds of runners participated in Tulsa's annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, a 5K race that raises money for breast cancer research. A total of thirty Selser Schaefer Architects employees and family members participated in this worthy event. We were easy to spot—our bright green team shirts could be seen from a good kilometer away.

We looked pretty good in the overall standings, too, finishing a very respectable 6th out of 20 teams. Donny Carreño turned in the best individual time (25:19) of our employees, but a fun and rewarding time was had by all.



VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE

Our friends at Walsh Associates, one of Tulsa's premier graphic design firms, recently put the finishing touches on our new Web site, with the technical assistance of the Web gurus at Scizzortell. Check out our new look at www.selserschaefer.com.



NEW AND FAMILIAR FACES

Brad Jacobs - Architectural Intern

A graduate of the University of Arkansas in 2000, Brad had two years of solid experience before joining our staff.

Brian Simpson- Architectural Intern

Brian joined the team in July 2004, two months after graduating from Oklahoma State University with his bachelor's degree from OSU's renowned architectural school.

Terry Maytum - Project Architect

Another OSU School of Architecture grad, Terry has six years of experience, which includes an earlier tour of duty with Selser Schaefer Architects. Welcome back, Terry!