

1.0 INTRODUCTION

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The purpose of this Pre Design Phase Report is to document a comprehensive data collection process in preparation for beginning the design of new and replanned facilities for All Saints Church in Pasadena. Richard Meier & Partners recognize the fact that considerable time and resources have been invested by the church in preparing the groundwork in anticipation of the design process.

Rather than restate what is well documented in the Programs and Facility Findings of the Space Committee prepared by All Saints Church in 2002 and the Program Summary prepared by Altoon + Porter in 2003, this report is designed to confirm and then build upon documentation that already exists. It is a working document that will continue to evolve and be updated through the preliminary design and final design phases.

A significant component of this report is the Design Program. Where available, existing program data has been confirmed and developed through an interview process with the All Saints Church Executive Staff. The objective of this process is to establish the technical, functional, and spatial requirements to meet each department's needs. The documentation includes area requirements, blocking matrices, adjacency requirements, and performance criteria. The spatial requirements are also documented in a reference graphic that accounts for each programmed space in relative scale.

As a compliment to the program data, this report also features a summary of contextual influences that may impact the design. The history of Pasadena records the ongoing appreciation for the mild climate, the commercial and cultural value of the city's civic core and the recreational and inspirational value afforded by the Arroyo and the San Gabriel Mountains. The report also records relevant cultural resources near the church site and within the city. These resources offer clues to an architectural vocabulary that is timeless and responsive to the unique Southern California environment.

The design team is committed to a sustainable architecture that takes advantage of the exceptional Pasadena climate. The data collection and design objectives relative to a sustainable approach are identified in the report.

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose and goals for building new space for All Saints Church are well documented.

"All Saints Church has a beautiful and effective space for worship. Our people have no lack of vision about being out in the world in transformative ministry. However, the All Saints community has run out of space for meeting, community-building, teaching, serving the greater community, children, youth and families ministries and equipping people to be transformative agents for reconciliation, justice and peace in the city and the world. We are woefully lacking in space for community building and ministry training. To meet the space needs of this dynamic and growing community of faith, we now envision a new building to augment the ministry space in Regas House and the Rectory.

The new ministry building will work in dialogue with our beautiful church to provide members and visitors an opportunity to have the balance in their lives that Jesus illustrated by moving between his ministry base, village, synagogue, and the world."¹

1.2 PROJECT GOALS

The project goals have been established as follows:

- To support the Vision Statement of All Saints Church.
- To expand the physical plant to meet both current needs and future growth.
- To utilize technology in new ways to support the church's mission.
- To support new collaborations in outreach programs and bring people and organizations together.
- To support regular gathering of the community.
- To enhance the spirituality of the campus.
- To create a sanctuary for youth.
- To create a new kind of worship space to attract new people to the All Saints community.
- To provide a better workplace to improve the staff work environment.
- To provide a sustainable design that minimizes the depletion of natural resources.

1.3 BUILDING IMAGERY AND AESTHETICS

In addition to the goals articulated above, this facility must provide a civic presence and contribute to the architecture of the community. The architecture and its civic quality will evolve through the design process in response to the building program and Pasadena's unique history, scale, geography and climate.

The building's design vocabulary must evoke a spirit that is inviting, spiritual and functional from the exterior to the interior public spaces, including meeting rooms, worship space and staff space. The architectural style and form must be distinguished and reflect the dignity, enterprise, vigor and mission of All Saints Church.

The built form of the new buildings must establish continuity with the landmark church and campus buildings. The new buildings should contribute to the street's civic and ceremonial character, further consolidating the city's urban legibility and representing the spirit of the age on which it is constructed. To this end, the architecture should be expressed through appropriately modern design, materials and construction methods – projecting the image of a vital, stable and forward-looking institution.

¹ Excerpted from remarks by Edwin Bacon on Sunday, April 10, 2005

1.4 URBAN RESPONSE

Starting with the first city street system laid out in 1873 for the Indiana Colony, urban planning that acknowledges a mild climate and the importance and beauty of the landscape, the Arroyo and the San Gabriel Mountains has had a major influence on the evolution of Pasadena's character. The first community plan on 4,000 acres was situated against the eastern edge of the Arroyo with the major north/south streets aligned to retain the existing oak trees in a park like setting.

In 1885, All Saints Church selected a site for their first church in an orange grove in the north eastern quadrant of this new city. As the city's growth moved toward the church's site with the construction of resort hotels and commercial enterprises, this area evolved into the landmark Civic District that we know today. This district, conceived in the boom years of the 1920's, is the civic, cultural and architectural heart of Pasadena. Within a short walking distance from the church are City Hall, the Public Library and the Civic Auditorium. These are all buildings built during the City Beautiful Movement and are all landmarks designed with innovative materials by the most respected architects of the time. The church is also near a major retail and office center, a hotel, a regional transportation hub and a growing and vibrant downtown residential community.

The architecture and planning of the new All Saints project needs to be responsive to these opportunities and continue the legacy of quality envisioned by past generations. Any new buildings on the All Saints campus must respond to the pedestrian patterns, building scale and rhythm of landscape and open space that characterize this important area. Included in this report are some of the preliminary investigations that will continue to evolve and inform the design process.