

Program Summary:

An accessible outdoor shooting range with specific arrangements for archery and paintball marksmanship at a summer camp for children with a variety of special needs.

Program Statement:

The value of this humble pavilion is far larger than its physical size or budget. It was designed as a barrier free space large enough to accommodate the multiple daily gatherings at a summer camp facility for children with a variety of special needs. The goal was not only to accommodate gathering of 100+ people with up to half of them in wheelchairs, but also to capture the transformative nature of the summer camp experience for children who rarely find such opportunities for, adventure and self discovery. This project serves its client as a catalyst that began an ongoing series of updates to this 1940s camp facility. In playing this role, the project was designed with the dual intent of providing the practical function of a new facility while also instantly merging with its surroundings to become inseparable from its site. The traditional summer camp experience is exceptionally transformative for this user group, and the design attempts to embody that experience in both practically and poetically. It frames the view of the camp's lake, the gabion wall blocks road noise from the adjacent highway while also circulating water from a nearby stagnant pond. Closed and typical from the outside, as you approach the pavilion acts as a threshold into the camp. Once inside, campers experience the openness, energy and excitement camp. Inspiration was drawn from the idea of the Wizard of Oz with the pavilion evoking the role of the tornado transporting the arriving campers from "Kansas" to "Oz".

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Building Area: (sf)
1700

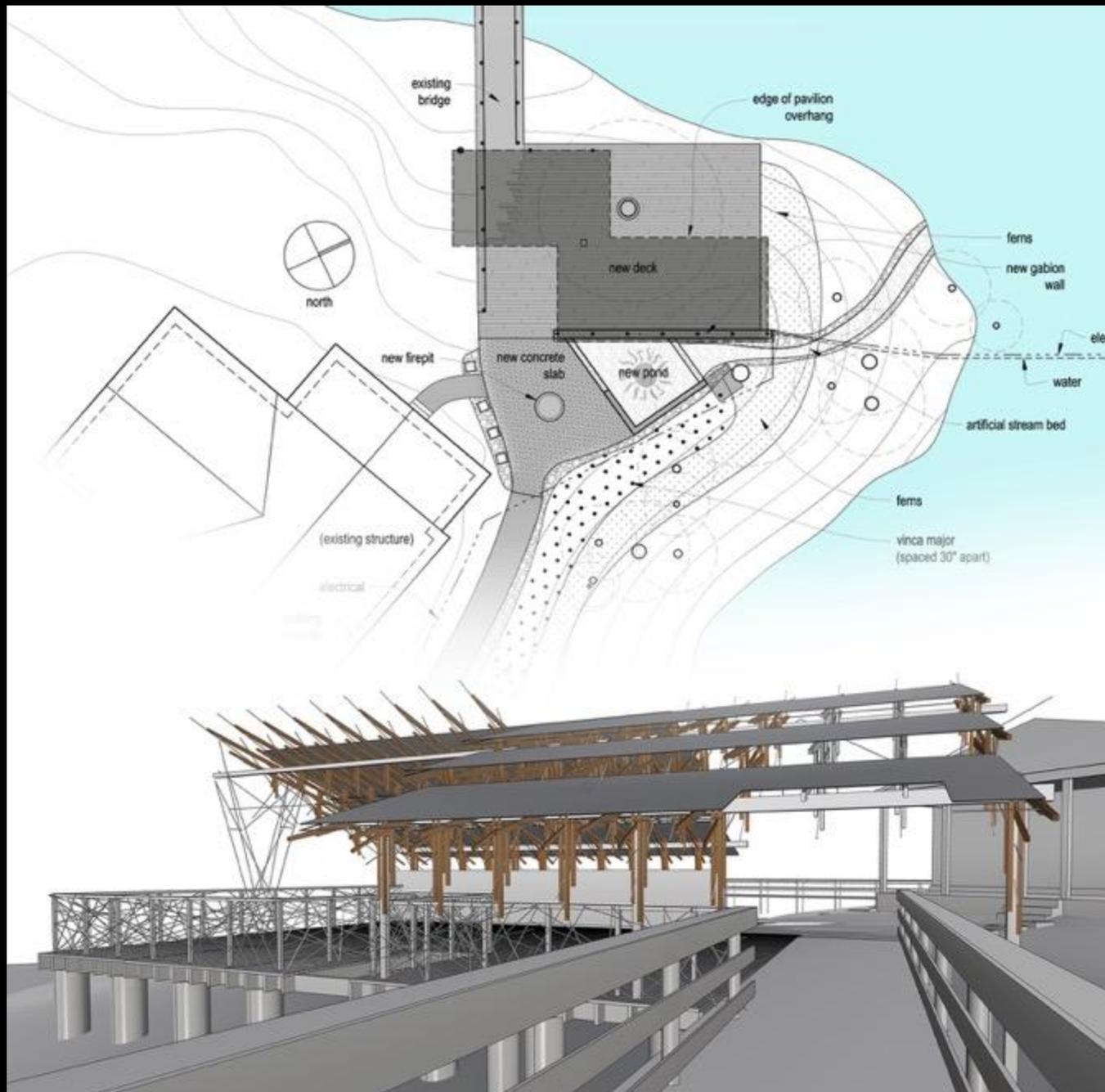
Cost per Square Foot:
\$17.65/sf

Construction Cost
\$30,000

Date of Completion:
5/23/14

A-155.01

Site plan and Digital Rendering
Showing the pavilion entry from
within the campgrounds



A-155.02

Entry from within the campgrounds.

The project was designed with the dual intent of providing the practical function of a new gathering space while also instantly merging with its surroundings and becoming inseparable from its site.



A-155.03

Entry into the pavilion from the Camp Lodge.

The project frames the view of the camp's lake, the gabion wall blocks road noise from the adjacent highway while the water feature along the front of the gabion wall circulates water from a nearby stagnant portion of the pond.



A-155.04

A view from near the camp's parking lot.



Closed and typical from the outside, as you approach the pavilion acts as a threshold into the camp. Once inside, campers experience the openness, energy and excitement camp.

A-155.05

A view framing the view of the camp's lake.

Inspiration was drawn from the idea of the Wizard of Oz with the pavilion evoking the role of the tornado transporting the arriving campers from "Kansas" to "Oz".



A-155.06

A view of the pavilion from within the camp

The expressive columns supporting the ridge truss, adopt the symmetry and branching forms of the surrounding flora.





A-155.07

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A-155.08

The steel rods that clad the guardrails mirror the extended random lines and reaching form of the Irises emerging from the pond below.



A-155.09

The gabion wall blocks road noise from the adjacent highway while the fountain along the front circulates water from a nearby stagnant portion of the pond.



A-155.10

Detail shot of the extensions and duplication the members of the custom fabricated steel and wood trusses.

The majority of the steel in the project was reclaimed from local Oil and Natural Gas drilling sites.



A-155.11

Details of the chaotic patterns that emerge on the ceiling of the pavilion as the sun sets.

Custom steel light fixtures that mimic the expressive steel details found in the trusses were fabricated specifically for this project.



A-155.12

From within the campground, the pavilion serves as a meeting hub and a beacon marking both the physical and poetic heart of the camp.

Project Name:
Larkin Gibbs Memorial Pavilion

Project Location:
Choudrant Louisiana

Owner/Client:
MedCamps of Louisiana

Architect(s) of Record:
Robert Brooks, Assoc. AIA
Studio Brooks + Emory
And
Louisiana Tech University School of Design
P.O. Box3147
Ruston, LA 71272

Project Team:
Robert Brooks, Brad Deal and the 2014
ARCH 335 class from Louisiana Tech

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Sarah Thomson
Saraya Saadat
Trenton Stevens
Steven White
Garret Price
Mitch Tatum
Veronica Ige
Matt Barkley
Logan Howard
Nick Wagner
Johnna Tooke

Landscape Architect:
N/A

Consultants:
N/A

General Contractor:
Robert Brooks, Brad Deal and the 2014 ARCH 335
class from Louisiana Tech University

Photographer(s):
Henry McCoy – Slides 3-7
Martin Meyers– Slides 10,11,13
Brad Deal – Slides 8,9,12

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Credit Slide

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