

## PRESS RELEASE

### AIA BALTIMORE - DESIGN AWARD 2007

Maryland Architects Beck, Powell and Parsons Win American Institute of Architects AIA Baltimore Design Award

Beck, Powell and Parsons, a Baltimore, Maryland architecture firm, have won an American Institute of Architects design award for an Artist Studio and Guest House project. The winning structure was energy efficient, utilized curved surfaces, and used natural light to a maximum extent, making it a proud addition to the firm's extensive green portfolio.

Beck, Powell and Parsons, a Baltimore architecture firm, have won an American Institute of Architects AIA Baltimore design award for an Artist Studio and Guest House project. The owners desired a painting studio and display area along with a living/guest space which would also include a small meditation room. The winning structure had the following guidelines: to be energy efficient, to use natural light to a maximum extent, and to utilize curved surfaces if practical.

The Baltimore architect on the project, Mark Beck, has over 45 years of experience in the field, specializing in design, site and master planning, feasibility studies, planning reports, and environmental criteria. He also has expertise in economic analysis and value management. This wide knowledge base was used in choosing a site on a hillside away from surrounding developed areas, allowing the back of the structure to be sunk into the ground, reducing the visual exposure from adjoining areas.

Winning aspects of the design included a curved rear wall for increased structural rigidity, a continuous skylight allowing for changing filtered light patterns throughout the day, and structural beams that penetrate the outer wall, creating shadow patterns and future opportunities for adding a trellis and additional garden area behind the structure, if desired. The

building is heated by natural light and a geothermal heat pump. Low E Solar glass in the windows and skylights cuts out UV radiation while reducing solar gain.

"I thoroughly enjoyed working with a wonderful client on this interesting Baltimore area project," said Baltimore architect Mark Beck. The energy efficient nature of the project goals allowed the Maryland architects to apply the principles of green and sustainable design, which they have been working with since the early 1970s.

Mr. Beck added, "Energy efficient design is finally seeing renewed interest. Our green portfolio is strong and we look forward continuing our historical efforts to design green."

To learn more about Maryland architects Beck, Powell and Parsons, or to view their green portfolio, visit [BeckPowell.com](http://BeckPowell.com). The firm would also like to acknowledge Ilex Construction for their fine craftsmanship and close coordination with the architect. Ilex can be reached on the web at [IlexConstruction.com](http://IlexConstruction.com).

About Beck, Powell and Parsons:

Beck, Powell and Parsons is a mid-size, award winning design firm that has served the Baltimore metropolitan community for over 40 years. The firm offers solid design capabilities and experience for projects ranging from small renovations to large new facilities. Fees are competitive and the firm brings to the table a friendly, creative, and highly responsive group. With 85-90% of work being repeat business, the firm has a proven client satisfaction record.

AIA BALTIMORE

## DESIGN AWARD

The Baltimore Chapter of The American Institute of Architects  
Presents this Award for Excellence in Design.

### Painting Studio and Guest House

Monkton, Maryland

#### Beck, Powell & Parsons, Inc.

Architect

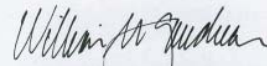
#### Anonymous

Owner

#### Ilex Construction and Development – John Hummer and Kent Darrel

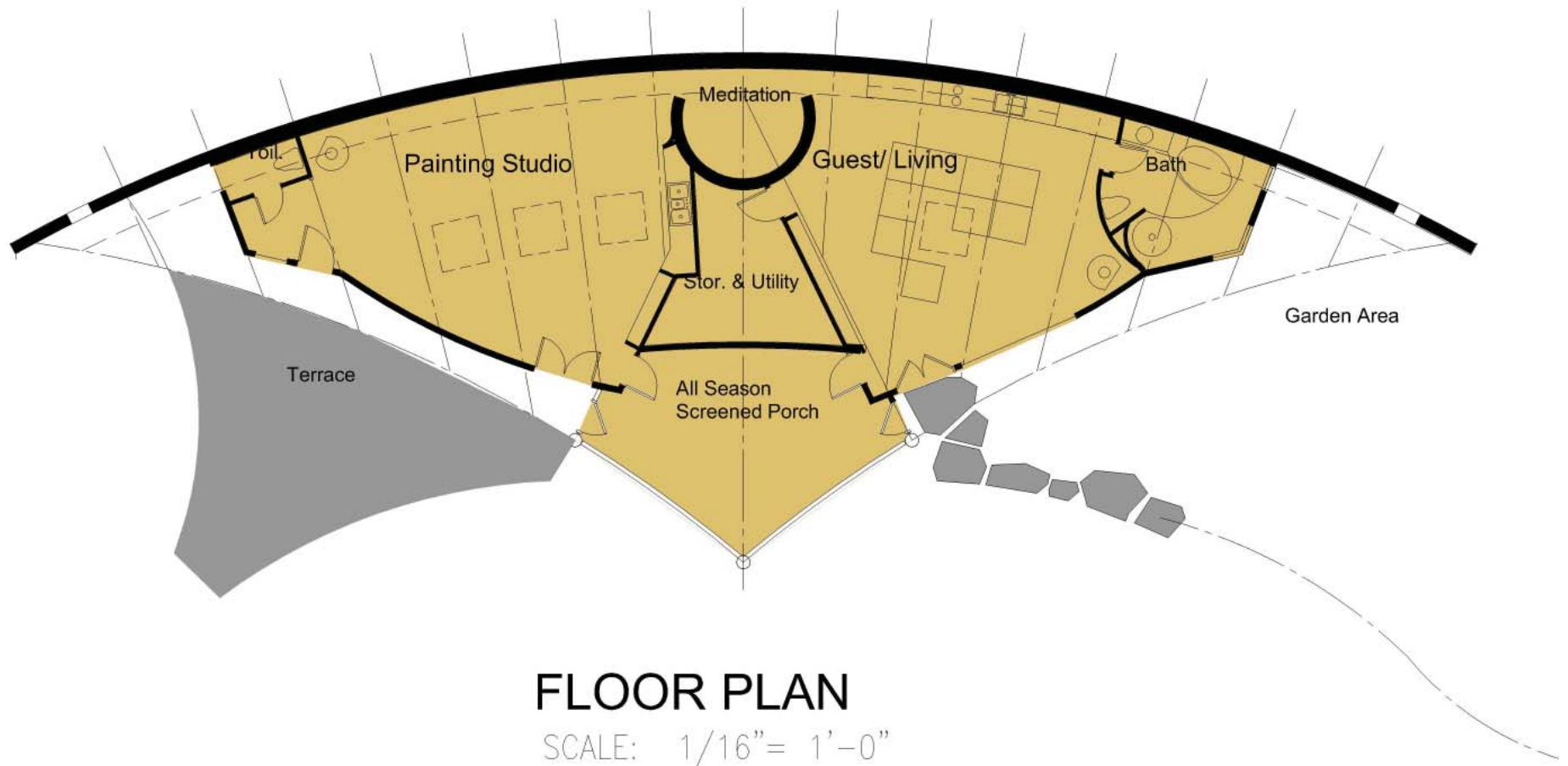
Contractor

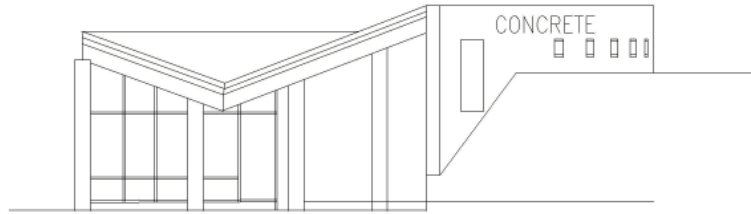
"This quiet, serene, and peaceful building creates a sense of seclusion. It is a beautiful, poetic expression of a single structure in a natural setting that speaks to solitude. The architects have achieved the design objectives of the simple program with a clean and clear design, using a nicely-executed, curved retaining wall."



William A. L. Gaudreau, AIA  
President  
October 2007

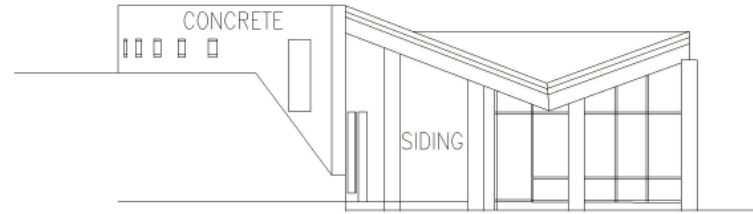






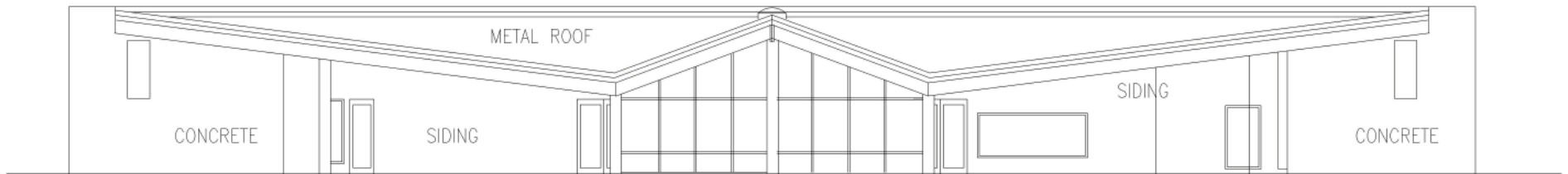
**End Elevation**

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



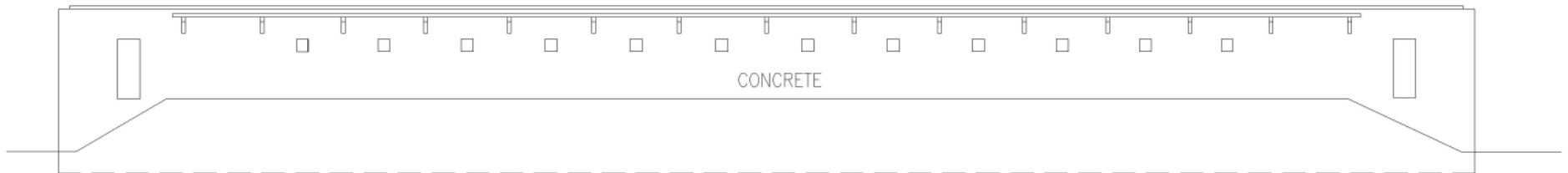
**End Elevation**

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



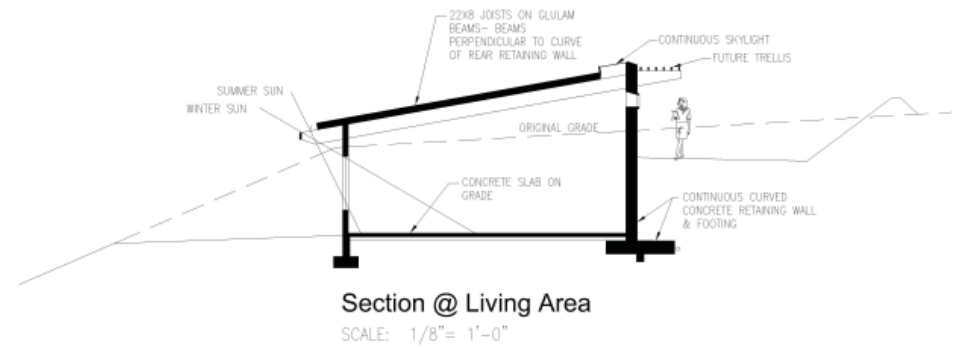
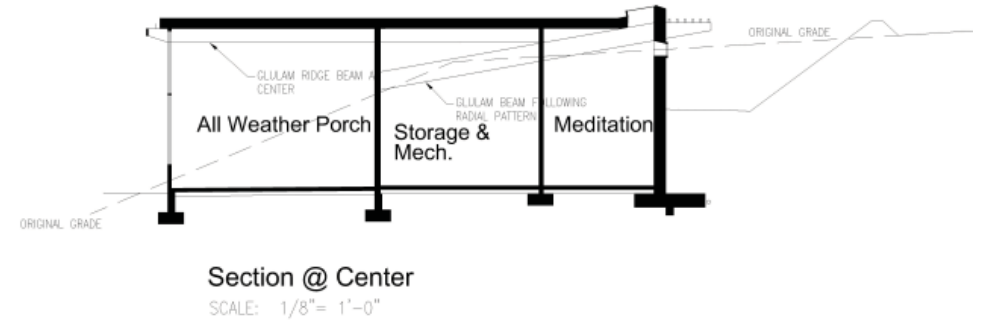
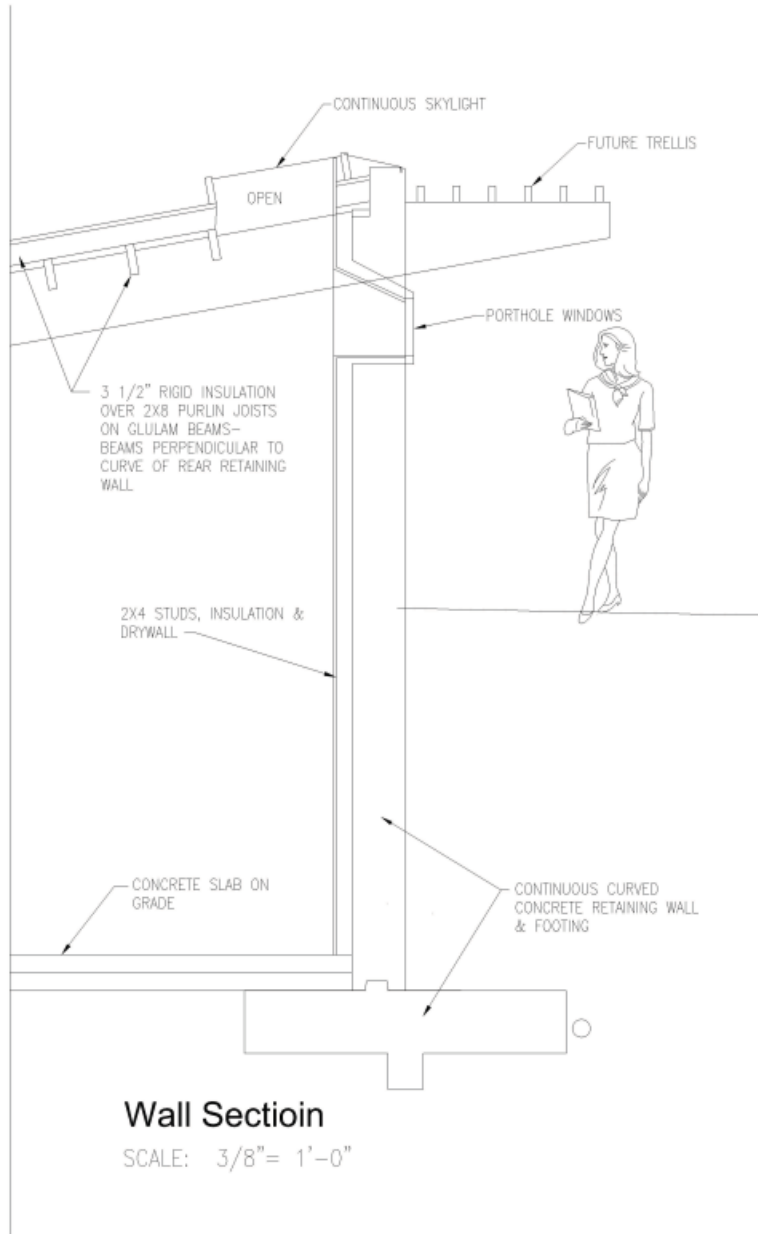
**Front Elevation**

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"



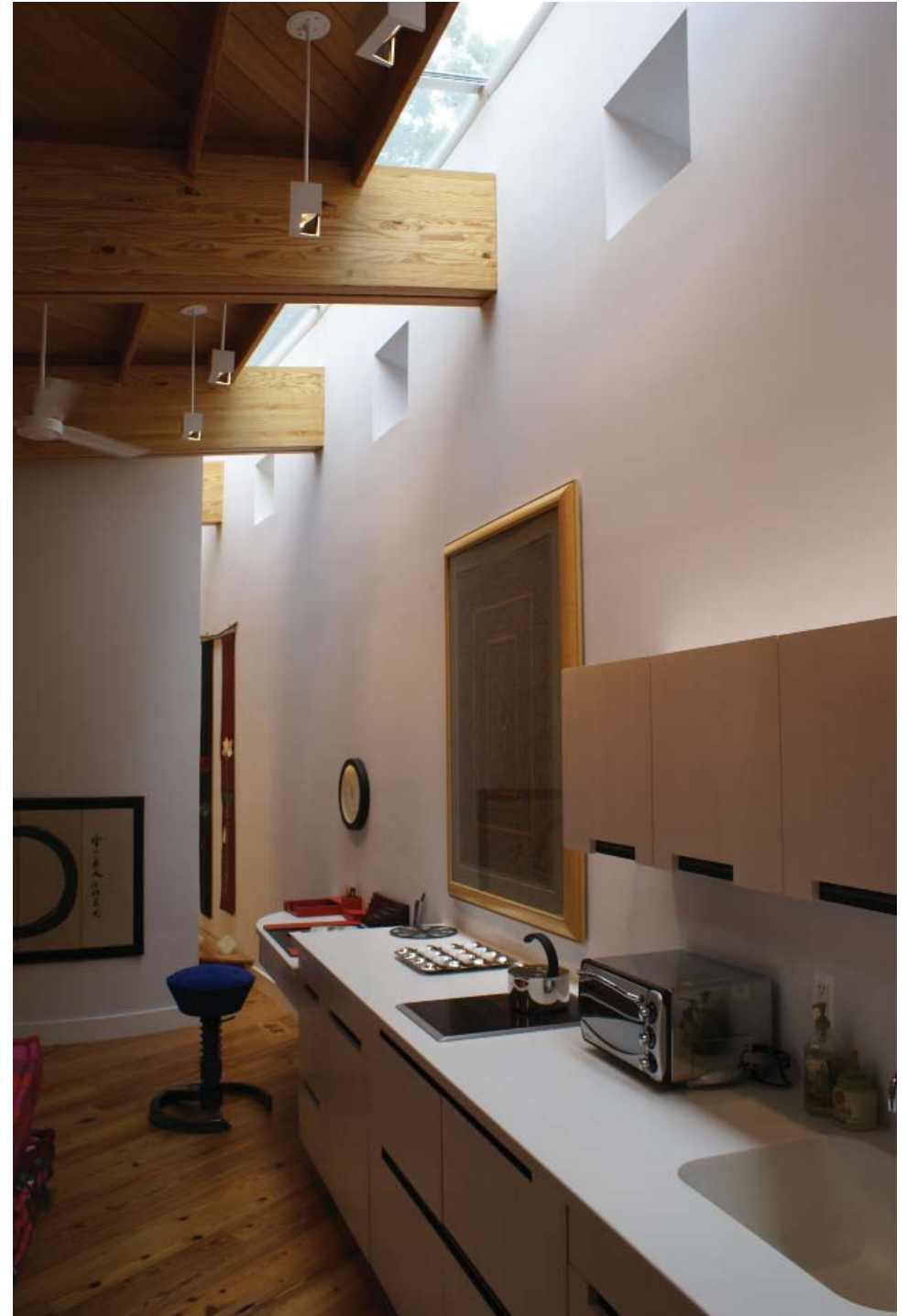
**Rear Elevation**

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"





1. LIVING ROOM- View of rear curved retaining wall showing kitchenette & storage. Other walls are also curved. Continuous skylight is lighting rear wall.



2. LIVING ROOM- View of rear wall showing skylight above. Also shows kitchenette & view into meditation space.



3. BATH- View of shower with granite slab base.



4. BATH- Invisible trim on glass allows wall to continue to outside. Butted glass window shown. Carved granite sink shown.



5. MEDITATION ROOM- Shows specialty lighting and effect of curving wall.



6. EXTERIOR TRELLIS- Location is outside the bathroom. Shows shadow pattern created by the members on the curved concrete retaining wall.



7. PATIO AREA- Location is outside of the painting studio. Granite slab table is used for watercoloring. Shows pattern of glulam beams in overhang.



8. APPROACH PATH- Shows partial view of South elevation, granite sculpture & stepping stones. All season porch is on left behind sculpture. Wall of living area is on right.



9. LIVING ROOM- View of southerly exterior wall showing desired light penetration in the winter time. Exterior overhang protects in the summer time.



10. EXTERIOR- View of West end of structure standing on cart path. Curved retaining wall is on the left, exterior wall of painting studio is on the right.



11. EXTERIOR- View of curved retaining wall with beam projections showing.



12. PAINTING STUDIO- Shows paintings displayed on curved retaining wall enhanced by soft overhead light from continuous skylight.