

**2006
HONOR AWARD**



Photo by J. K. Lawrence Photography of Bozeman, Montana

Chisdak Surgery Center

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The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects is pleased to announce Place Architecture is the recipient of the 2006 Excellence in Design Honor Award. Place Architecture will now be able to compete at the Regional level in 2007.

The design intent for this surgery center, located in an office park in Bozeman, was to create a soft, soothing environment for patients and employees. The facility also needed to have a strong connection to the exterior environment. This attitude was to be carried through all of the technical systems of the building as well with the intent of minimizing the sterile qualities of a medical facility, reducing stress on the patients, allowing for quicker recovery rates and creating an environment more pleasant for the staff to work in.

The building was also designed to blur the line between the very technical aspects of a medical facility with the softness and comfort of a residential project. The intent was also to draw upon the regional vernacular forms and fuse it with contemporary ideas to create a building of timeless qualities that speaks of the past while looking forward to the future and tying to the place in which we live.

Materiality was very important to the final design solution. Materials were chosen to create a variety of textures and shadows, to present a sense of permanence but be balanced with a sense of approachability. Materials were also chosen to create a strong dialogue between the interior and exterior. The palette consists of: stone, stucco, cedar shingles, exposed timbers, steel rails and aluminum storefront window systems.

Because of its location and to facilitate the need for ease of patients locating the facility, it was a requirement that the building has a strong visual appearance but still fit in with the overall fabric in its neighborhood.

The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects is located in Billings, Montana. For more information, visit www.aia-mt.org or call 406-259-7300.