









BUILDING ELEVATIONS





SOUTH ELEVATION





(4) NATURAL STONE PANELS

8 GUARD RAIL







October 11 , 2012



NORTH ELEVATION

11 East Madison Street Tel 312.456.0123 Suite 300 Fax 312.456.0124 Chicago IL 60602 USA

Gensler

REINSURANCE GROUP OF AMERICA HEADQUARTERS, INC. Architectural Design Statement

Gensler

Designed by the global design firm, Gensler, the global headquarters for Reinsurance Group of America, Inc. will be an interactive and connective workplace that will accommodate the needs for flexibility and growth appropriate to a Fortune 500 company. Set on a natural site in Chesterfield, MO, the linked two-building campus will provide office and amenity programs that will enable appropriate solutions for RGA's different working styles and needs for future development. The proposed development comprises two 5-story office work bars linked by a two story lobby\amenity space totaling 405,000 square feet of GFA. The offices line a buried two-story parking structure with a landscaped and parkable top deck.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SITE DESIGN

- **Site Relationships:** The project is set on a 17.2 acre site across from the Dierberg's building to the northwest and City Hall to the northeast. Located directly across Swingley Ridge Rd from City Hall, the buildings gesture towards the corner of Swingley Ridge Rd and Chesterfield Parkway with the intent of creating visibility and a sense of place at that node.
- Circulation System and Access: The site is accessed primarily by two entrances off of • Swingley Ridge Road. Traveling westbound along Swingley Ridge Road, the first entrance consists of a formal landscaped arrival plaza that provides clear and easily understood access and circulation for visitors, staff, service, and emergency vehicles. The second employee and service vehicle entrance ramps down and provides access to both levels of parking and the loading dock and service parking. An additional right-in/right-out entrance provides an access road connecting Chesterfield Parkway and the first level of buried parking.
- **Topography:** The buildings are integrated into the landscape in a sensitive manner that minimizes the impact of the development on local ecosystems. The site has a total elevation change of 70' from the highest point on the site and the lowest with the downward slope moving from east to west. The building footprint is separated from the I-40/64 on ramp by a berm which blocks some of the highway noise from the site.
- **Retaining Walls:** The buildings work with the natural slope of the landscape to minimize the need for screening and retaining walls. Instead, by burying part of the program, the site walls enclose programmed space with architectural materials of stone and glass.
- **Storage:** There is no permanent on-site storage of goods or equipment for sale or service.
- **Utilities:** All utilities will be buried underground.
- **Parking:** The parking and loading dock areas are located in an attached 3 level parking structure containing 1,312 spaces and consisting of 2 levels of below-grade employee parking, a double height loading area, and a landscaped top deck for guest and employee parking.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING DESIGN

- Scale: The scale of the 5-story buildings is compatible with the scale of the context created by the 3-story City Hall and by the 4-story Dierbergs Markets buildings. The building sets back at the ground level to create a walkway appropriate to human scale.
- **Design:** The parti of the building is one that expresses a notion of the global expertise of RGA meeting its experience in local markets. The highly efficient and technologically advanced work bars represent the global expertise, and the local material clad and ecologically sensitive amenity bar represents the local experience. A dramatic 40' cantilever is created by the interface of the global and the local. By nesting the amenity bar in the hillside the western face of the amenity bar is exposed as grade slopes down to the site's lowest point. The work bars, with its entry point set even with the top of the parking deck, cantilevers out and over the amenity bar.
- **Materials & Colors:** The materiality of the project is dictated by the desire of the project to be highly sustainable while providing expansive views and exposure to natural light. The glass of the work bars is high performance insulated glass arrayed in an A-B pattern that alternates between gray tinted vision glass and gray tinted fritted glass. The cladding of the amenity bar is locally sourced stone with warm tones to emphasize the notion that the amenity bar is a stone plinth on which the work bars rest.
- Landscape Design & Screening: The arrangement of the buildings on the site provides a main entrance off of Swingley Ridge Road consisting of a formal landscaped arrival plaza and a "backyard" of regional landscape woodland, prairie and agrarian typologies. A path network provides employees access out and around the campus in a safe and convenient way. Cafe and fitness program in the amenity bar provide people with places to connect, interact, dine and work in indoor and outdoor locations.
- **Lighting:** Site lighting will provide illumination to the walkways and guest parking and is deployed in a sensitive manner that assures security and safe travel while not contributing to light pollution. Building lighting is included that will accentuate building features such as the cantilevers and general walkway areas.
- Facades & Exterior Elements: The buildings are arranged in a manner that takes advantage of solar orientation, maximizes views of the surrounding landscape and provides safe pedestrian movement between program elements. The work bars are oriented in such a way that the longest building faces have a favorable southern exposure and the shortest faces have the less favorable eastern/western exposures and features an environmentally responsive envelope consisting of high-performance glazing. The lower level amenity bar elevations integrate passive shading strategies into the design to reduce solar radiation.

The result is a forward-looking development that expresses strength and global expertise by utilizing clean, minimal detailing and honest expressions of program, form and material to create an architectural language of simplicity, economy and efficiency.



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CHESTERFIELD PARKWAY WEST LOW



CLAYCO THE AT & SCIENCE OF MULTING 2199/broches Basiess Center Dr. St. Lovis, MO 63114 Tel 314 429 5100 Fax 314 429 5137

Gensler

11 East Madison Street Suite 200 Chicago, IL 60602 United States

Tel 312,456,0123 Fax 312,456,0124



201 17th Street NW Suffe 1200 Allanta, GA 30363 Tel: 678.553.5200 Fax: 678.553.5270

STOCK 5 RESOURTS Consulting Engineers, Inc. Consulting Engineers, Inc.

173 West Jackson Boyleard Suite 1400 Choopa & 6054 Fai 312 372,1720 Fai 312 372,1720

FORUM

2199 Innerteit Business Center Dr St. Louis, MD 63114 Tel: 314,429,5100 Fax: 314,429,3137



609 East Locksood Avanus Suite 201 St. Louis, MD 63119 Tel: 314 961 6650 Fax: 314 961,7640









RGA

Architectural Detail
SECTION THROUGH COOLING TOWER AREA WELL



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October 23 , 2012





ENTRY PORTAL RENDERING



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