SUBMISSION CATEGORY: New Construction - Project Cost Greater than $1 Million
PROJECT TYPE: Corporate Headquarters Facility
PROJECT ADDRESS: 11301 N. Meridian Street, Carmel, IN 46032
DATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION: January 2017
Liberty Fund was founded in 1960 by Pierre F. Goodrich, an Indianapolis lawyer and businessman, to the end that some hopeful contribution may be made to the preservation, restoration, and development of individual liberty through investigation, research, and educational activity. A prominent wooded 8-acre site along US-31 in Carmel was selected for Liberty Fund’s new 50 person headquarters. The 61,000 square foot headquarters is to be their home for the next half-century and its design is intended to reflect the timelessness of the organization’s mission.

The building’s plan articulates the investigation, research and educational functions of the mission organized in an angled quadrangle around a central courtyard. Daylight and natural views permeate almost all areas of the building. The plan allows more of the site to remain open for walking paths, landscaping, and sustainable water management strategies such as bioretention and rain gardens. The natural infrastructure also creates views of the building within a pastoral framework emphasizing the human-nature relationship.

The glass-clad research library on the west is the focal point of the facility. Thirty provocative stainless steel sun screens protect the library’s collection and provide physical expression of the Liberty Fund mission. Each screen represents a century of human history and is etched with the names and events important to liberty in each century. The legibility of each screen changes with the sun throughout the day and the seasons. As the sun sets and the interior lighting takes prominence, the library and its vast collection becomes evident.

Custom fabricated tree-like columns made of engineered glued laminated timber are prominent inside the library and building entrance and convey a sense of integration with nature. The tree columns create an open clerestory that allows the roof to float above the library.

The south wing focuses on the educational aspects of the mission. It includes the Goodrich Room, a state-of-the-art Socratic discussion space. Acoustics in the space allow for comfortable discussion at a conversational level without amplification. Wall and mechanical assemblies were designed for acoustic isolation from the traffic noise of US-31. Dining, exercise and employee break areas are also in this wing.

The north wing of the building houses the Fellows and supports their investigation and publishing work.

Designed to LEED silver standards, the building is a place for investigation and research in which human creativity and nature support each other. Materials and assemblies that reflect respect for the natural and intellectual legacy that were central to Pierre Goodrich’s business and educational endeavors were implemented including: rain gardens, geothermal heating and cooling, LED lighting, wood and metal sun screens, reflective roofing, glazing and fenestration, insulation assemblies, locally sourced durable materials, and native plants.

The Liberty Fund building is a rare opportunity in contemporary architecture: a structure intended to integrate ideas of permanence and timelessness while reflecting the ideals and legacy of great achievements in humanity.
FIRST FLOOR OVERALL PLAN

1. Vestibule
2. Entry
3. Corridor
4. Courtyard
5. Restrooms
6. Staff Break Area
7. Dining
8. Break Out
9. Goodrich Room
10. Kitchen
11. Storage
12. Package Delivery/Pick-Up
13. Mechanical
14. Exercise
15. Conference
16. Copy/Collate
17. Reference Library
18. Archive
19. Office
20. Lounge
21. Main Stair
22. File Room
23. Electrical
24. Outdoor Utility
LIBERTY FUND CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

VIEW FROM EAST
The library and its distinctive skin were designed around the conceptual notion of knowledge being both informative and transformative.
“TREE” COLUMN DETAIL
The Goodrich Room was designed as a state-of-the-art Socratic discussion space.