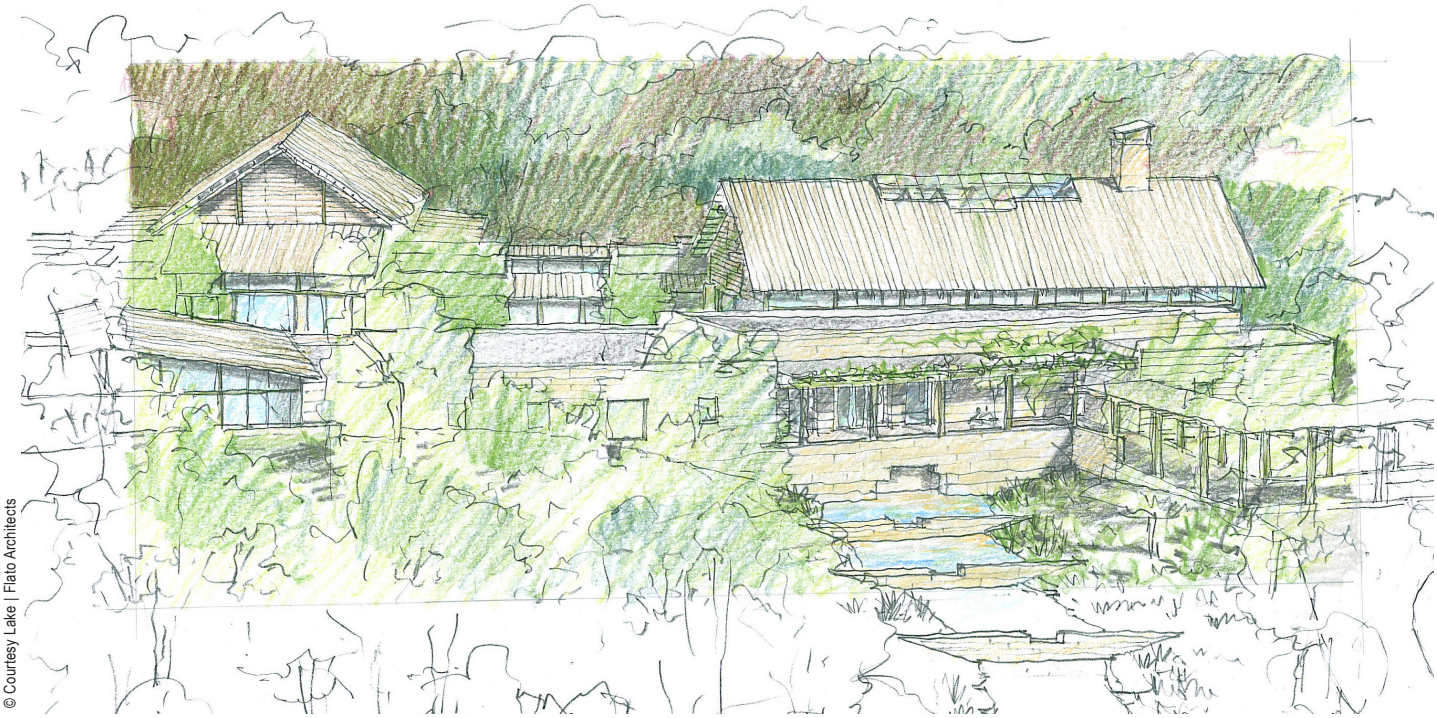
THE PRINDLE INSTITUTE *for Ethics*

A place for inquiry and discourse about critical issues of our time

DEPAUW UNIVERSITY

The mission of The Janet Prindle Institute for Ethics demands that the facility actively foster discourse regarding its relationship to the natural environment. To this end, the Design Team has carefully considered the building's environmental and experiential impact on the immediate site and the surrounding DePauw University Nature Park. Additionally, the facility's designers ensured that energy and natural resources were sensitively managed during construction. As a result, The Prindle Institute for Ethics is able to conserve energy and natural resources while respecting its environmental context and connecting visitors to the Nature Park.



SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS AND SYSTEMS

Regionally Quarried Limestone
Locally quarried stone reduces the amount of energy required for transportation. Energy is also conserved by forgoing traditional stone finishing practices and utilizing a natural split face. Limestone can be found throughout the exterior as well as in the Reading Room, Lobby, and Great Room.

Fly Ash Concrete
Fly Ash, a waste by-product from power plants, reduces reliance on raw materials as well as increases the performance and quality of the concrete.

Water-Based Wood Sealers and Stains
Water-based stains and sealers on the interior and exterior wood and concrete reduce the amount of toxic volatile organic compounds released into the surrounding atmosphere, lowering the risk of toxic gas exposure to the workers as well as the building's occupants.

Low VOC Paints
Paints were selected for their low rates of emission of volatile organic compounds.

Structural Insulated Panels
SIPs are pre-manufactured structural wall panels which are custom built at the factory. This results in a dramatic reduction of on-site construction waste, which helps divert construction materials from the landfill. They also seal tightly together creating a very thermally efficient building envelope which reduces energy loss through the walls.

Glass and Glazing
Thermally efficient, insulated glass set in thermally broken aluminum frames saves energy by minimizing heat loss through both the glass and window frame.

Solar Orientation
The configuration of the building maximizes south-facing glass and promotes passive solar heat gain in the winter. During the summer, deep overhangs block the higher angled sun, minimizing heat gain and lowering cooling costs.

Day Lighting
Abundant well protected glazing and clerestories maximize indirect day lighting and minimize reliance on architectural lighting, lowering energy use. Photo sensors and motion sensors further lower energy use by activating architectural lighting only when it is needed.

Light-Colored, Flat Roofs
Light-colored, flat roofs reduce the absorption of solar heat, minimizing cooling costs in the summer, and reduce radiation of building heat, minimizing heating costs in the winter. The roofing membrane is not a petrochemical derivative and is consequently more environmentally friendly.

Recycled Content Steel
The building's steel structure is composed of 95% recycled material. This greatly reduces the amount of raw natural resources required for manufacturing.

Glue Laminate Beams
Glu-Lam beams are an engineered wood product which is composed of several layers of wood members laminated together. This process greatly increases the strength of the wood, reducing the amount of raw material used as well as reducing the beam's overall weight. Smaller, lighter beams have the added benefit of reducing the amount of energy necessary for transportation.