



BEARDEN PLACE

A Housing Competition in the "Artists' Core"

Minneapolis, MN

"...the impulse of Bearden's work - creating collages from the disparate elements of the African-American community - speaks directly to what we are trying to do in North Minneapolis. This community, as far back as the 1880s, welcomed newcomers from anywhere, any culture, into the broad and accepting panoply that was, and still is, our most salient and salutary characteristic. For those members of our current community whose efforts are directed, right now, toward creating a sense of African-American legacy, the choice of Romare Bearden could not be more appropriate. Bearden Place would be around for a long time as something important people could point to and say "That's when the change began in our community."

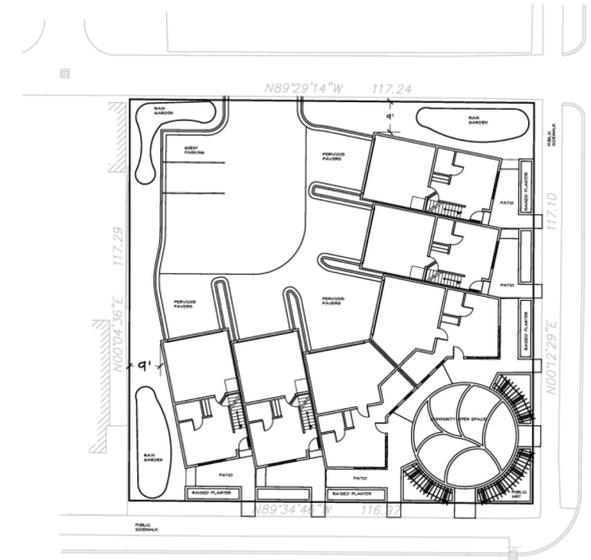
Comments from Members of the Community

DESIGN INTENT

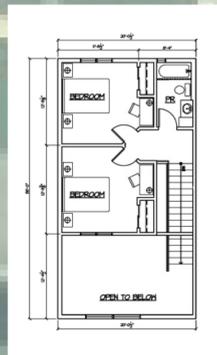
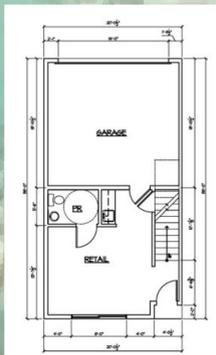
The most challenging aspect of Bearden Place will be the serious attempt to achieve the goals to promote innovative sustainable building technologies and practices that will meet a minimum MN GreenStar Bronze Level Certification for new construction. Their document, Minnesota GreenStar New Homes Checklist has been completed and included with our submission.

The project site was chosen for its high visibility and accessibility, and offered a highly suitable location for new commercial development in a neighborhood that is predominantly residential yet striving for economic development. The project supports the neighborhood by including improved walk-ability, economic development that takes advantage of the strategic positioning of Plymouth Avenue North as a vibrant connector, sensitive infill development and the creation of interesting urban spaces. The site's proximity to Wirth Park makes it an attractive home for people interested in golf, cross country skiing, nature walks and who are looking for artistic stimulation by straddling the urban/natural boundary and the tension created in that "in-between" space.

The project is proposed to be six live-work units, which will provide more daytime uses in this location and the opportunity for ideal housing/jobs balance. The project increases the density from the existing pair of two story single family residences that used to occupy the site, and was chosen because it is close to existing public bus routes. The new project will include ample bicycle parking for employees and visitors. In general, the developer will discourage driving, but recognizes the need for a few parking spaces on the site for visitor and resident's vehicles.

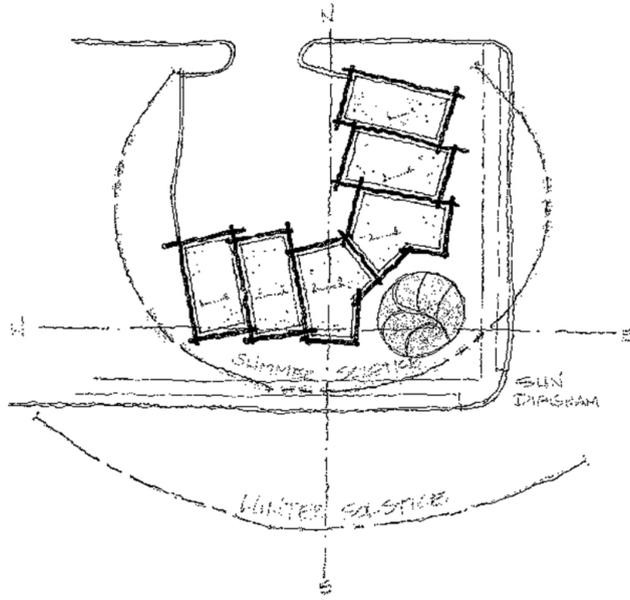


UNIT TYPE 1



Building Form, Orientation and Overall Design:

- Position building for balanced daylight and maximum solar gain from south and west-facing facades. Use very efficient windows.
- Create narrow floor plates to facilitate natural ventilation, achieve required daylight, and reduce buildup of internal heat in core areas.
- Roof area to accommodate future solar panels and/or building integrated photovoltaic panels.
- Locate building to encourage physical exercise and reduce energy demands.
- Provide flexibility as future technology develops.
- Increase vertical and horizontal insulation to minimize seasonal heat gain and heat loss.
- Use passive ventilation as primary source of cooling and to regulate healthy air.
- Take advantage of sunlight and skylight to illuminate indoor environments at a level that is appropriate for programmatic and visual comfort.
- Incorporate shading devices to control solar load on the building and limit interior glare.
- Reduce electric light use relative to the presence of daylight to minimize power consumption and interior heat gains.
- Employ the most efficient electric lighting systems that meet legitimate needs.



UNIT TYPE 2

