This building is both a gateway and a connector. It horizontally connects the adjacent buildings providing a “street” on the second floor that links different departments of the School of Engineering through walks and stairs. A luminous and variegated hand-glazed green ceramic brick was specifically developed to clad the exterior façades, in contrast to its red-brick context and with a nod to the campus ivy tradition. A narrow atrium vertically unifies the building with the ground floor entrance and features a vibrant yellow ceramic tile referencing nearby Gingko trees.

The laboratories are open, flexible and filled with natural light from north-facing windows. A cast-in-place concrete fire stair was designed with triple-height spaces and views of the exterior courtyard. The siting of Skirkanich creates a central court, which is divided into a primary court and a small “secret garden.” The larger, multileveled courtyard serves as a public plaza and passageway: a place for discourse and impromptu meetings. The garden, intimate and walled, is a quiet space for contemplation: a place to sit, read, and dream of new answers.

SKIRKANICH HALL
2006

Skirkanich Hall is home to the Bioengineering Department, accommodating research and teaching laboratories, offices, and a below grade auditorium.

The laboratories are open, flexible and filled with natural light from north-facing windows. A cast-in-place concrete fire stair was designed with triple-height spaces and views of the exterior courtyard. The siting of Skirkanich creates a central court, which is divided into a primary court and a small “secret garden.” The larger, multileveled courtyard serves as a public plaza and passageway: a place for discourse and impromptu meetings. The garden, intimate and walled, is a quiet space for contemplation: a place to sit, read, and dream of new answers.
Rafael Viñoly Architects created the master plan for the complex and acted as the design architect for most phases of construction. The Perelman Center’s prominent, central atrium and public plaza created the central organizing element for all phases of development.

The buildings that compose and surround the Perelman Center include: the Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine’s ambulatory care and Abramson Cancer Center; Roberts Proton Therapy Center; Smilow Center for Translational Research; the Jordan Medical Education Center; and the South Tower clinical expansion space.

Bordering the west edge of the site, above the Roberts Proton Center stands the state-of-the-art Smilow medical research labs, auditorium and common interaction spaces. In the adjacent South Tower, the Jordan Medical Education Center, with its highly technical classrooms, completes the innovative goal to intrinsically link medical education and medical practice, both philosophically and physically. To achieve this, the design called for relocating the Perelman School of Medicine’s core academic facilities, to create the nation’s first medical education space fully integrated into an active translational clinical and research complex.

**PERELMAN CENTER FOR ADVANCED MEDICINE**

2008–2016

On the site of the former Philadelphia Civic Center, Penn Medicine has created a new vision for translational medical care, research and education.
The APPC site is tightly bound on all sides. Its main approach is along 36th Street Walk, but the program necessitated entry from the west as well. These two entries establish a diagonal path of movement through the site and building, marked by cutouts in building massing and exposed columns at the plaza level.

The APPC’s massing and its exterior palette of layered glass and wood complement nearby buildings, while still presenting a modern, open image befitting a program dedicated to public policy. The resulting effect of this layering provides a warm transparency. The layered façade reduces energy use and allows individual occupants to fully control light, air and temperature within their offices. A three-story atrium links all spaces of the building, from the multi-purpose “agora” space on the first level, to a sky-lit lounge on the fourth. The building, by incorporating a below grade shared loading and materials management center, provides uninterrupted public access at the plaza around the new building.

The Annenberg Public Policy Center, the premier communication policy research center in the country, houses resident scholars who address the role of communication in politics, health care, and other important arenas.
Located along Walnut Street and creating a new gateway to campus, Penn Park reimagined 14 acres of asphalt parking and 10 acres of underutilized recreation fields. The design resolved the site’s isolation caused by elevation and transportation infrastructure, including concrete bridge structures, Amtrak’s northeast corridor, SEPTA regional rail and the iconic CSX elevated highline. Penn Park’s location along the west bank of the Schuylkill River provides stunning views of the Center City skyline. Formal and informal play fields are framed and subdivided by groves of canopy trees extending the familiar landscape of the campus. The recreation venues provide needed respite for the public and campus communities. A multipurpose stadium, in the heart of the complex, is designed for a variety of communal gatherings.

The park employs a combination of welcoming pedestrian connections and sculptural landforms to organize the site and create linkages between the campus and the city. A multipurpose stadium, in the heart of the complex, is designed for a variety of communal gatherings. The park realizes several sustainability goals, notably the reduction of potable water consumption and the replenishment of groundwater via its 300,000 gallon below grade retention and irrigation facility. Other sustainability features include energy-efficient shielded lights that reduce light pollution, the reuse of salvaged site materials and the planting of over 500 trees, all native species.

Penn Park
2011

The park employs a combination of welcoming pedestrian connections and sculptural landforms to organize the site and create linkages between the campus and the city.
The site is flanked by two of the University’s most iconic athletic facilities, the Palestra and Franklin Field, and previously housed outdoor tennis courts which were relocated to Penn Park. Shoemaker Green’s primary program accommodation is daily passive recreation, but the design can house multiple events and activities with a wide range of scales, from secluded lunch areas all the way up to staging areas for the Penn Relays and graduation.

The design of Shoemaker Green was optimized to capture and control storm water from the site and potentially from surrounding rooftops, provide visible native plant and animal habitats, and serve as a starting point for the development of a sustainable landscape maintenance strategy for the University at large. Visitors are invited to engage with the rainwater management design where it is made visible in a rain garden. Stone weirs convey storm water, while plantings and gravel beds capture and filter the water.

**SHOEMAKER GREEN**

**2012**

Shoemaker Green is a major open space, linking the central campus and Penn Park, serving as a new continuation of the Locust Walk/Smith Walk corridor, and continuing the design essence of College Green.

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The Singh Center ascends as a spiral of research, demonstrating Penn’s leadership in the emerging field of nanotechnology. While laboratory buildings are typically organized around a central corridor that affords little public space, the Singh Center inverts this model, focusing the laboratories around a new central quad. Researchers are relieved of their usual isolation through the introduction of natural light into the lab spaces and shared amenities, such as conference rooms and lounge spaces, all visually connected throughout the building. In the clean room, amber-colored glass filters ultraviolet light to protect photosensitive nanofabrication equipment, allowing the public to view the research from the building’s public gallery. More sensitive research is conducted below grade within the “sweet spot,” removed from electromagnetic interference and the impact of noise and vibration.

KRISHNA P. SINGH CENTER FOR NANOTECHNOLOGY 2013

The convergence of architecture and landscape at the heart of this project provides a new indoor/outdoor open space for interaction, allowing panoramic exterior views, opening the sciences to the University community and making research activities highly visible.

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Award of Distinction, 2015

LEED Gold Certification

Honor Award, AIA National, 2015

Honor Award, AIANY, 2015

Award of Excellence, Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, 2015

Award of Excellence, AIANYS, 2014

IDEAS2 Award for Steel Construction, American Institute of Steel Construction, 2014


Special Mention, Architizer A+ Awards, Architizer, 2014

Best Project Award, Mid-Atlantic Engineering News Record, 2014

Excellence in Structural Engineering, Structural Engineers Association of New York, 2014

American Architecture Award, Chicago Athenaeum, 2013

International Architecture Award, Chicago Athenaeum, 2013

Program Nanofabrication, clean room, and laboratory

Size 78,000 GSF

Project Cost $91.5M

LEED Designation Gold

View from Walnut Street © Albert Vecerka/Esto

Curtain wall © Albert Vecerka/Esto

Monumental Stair © Albert Vecerka/Esto

Glandt Forum © Albert Vecerka/Esto

Sketch from Walnut Street WEISS/MANFREDI Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism
The project is a ground-leased development by Brandywine Realty Trust and partners on the site of the former U.S. Post Office Annex. On the northern edge of the site facing Chestnut Street stands the EVO apartment tower, a 38-story residential community with street retail at its base. Its challenging narrow site, partially above an existing rail line, offers suite style housing options within walking distance of 30th Street Station and University City. The glazed curtain wall is punctuated with smartly located hubs of communal activity. The public spaces bring building occupants together to form shared communities. The building’s amenities, including a rooftop pool and fitness center, promote unique social encounters among residents.

Cira Green, a one-acre green elevated public plaza, is located atop the adjacent garage, employing high sustainability standards and stormwater management through the use of innovative green/ blue roof technologies, offering a new social experience beyond Cira Centre South to the broader community.

From inception, the 49-story FMC Tower sought to create a transformative “vertical neighborhood” combining retail and offices topped by AKA residential suites fronting Walnut Street. The tower uses a memorable sculptural and crystalline form to take advantage of its highly visible location. The glass skin unifies the office and residential program into a strong memorable profile on the Philadelphia skyline. At the base of the tower its facade is lifted, forming a pedestrian friendly covered colonnade revealing glass enclosed lobbies and a restaurant.

Cira Centre South provides a vibrant mixed use community at the Walnut Street gateway to University City.

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A National Historic Landmark, the Richards Medical Research Laboratory by Louis I. Kahn, is composed of four original laboratory towers, including a central service tower. EYP researched and designed replacement glazing and new mechanical systems for the building. They developed preservation guidelines for future work in the building and completed the design for two floors that established prototype office space. Atkin Olshin Schade Architects then used these guidelines to design the fit-out for six floors in the Richards building and one in the adjacent Goddard Labs.

EYP’s solution introduced a kit of parts in a new plan paradigm, setting partitions off the structural grid to right-size offices, enabling the opening of the center and one corner of each floor. The original concrete truss construction was fully exposed and accommodates all new mechanical and electrical systems, respecting Kahn’s original design intent. Glazing performance is enhanced utilizing the original frame details, and the installation of chilled beams is in visual harmony with the building aesthetic.

RICHARDS MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY
2015

The project balances respect for the heritage of Richards with a desire to simultaneously capture Louis Kahn’s original vision of the spatial quality of the interiors, create more efficient floor layouts, and realize an optimally “energy frugal” building.
Sited on Locust Walk, adjacent to the domestic scale established by the Kelly Writers House and the University President’s House, it also sits along the busy corridor of 38th Street just opposite the Wharton School’s Jon M. Huntsman Hall. The building responds to its residential context, taking cues from a 19th century cottage that occupied the site, portions of which the new building incorporates. What was once a diminutive residence and later a fraternity house now serves as a lounge area and conference room for Perry World House. Along 38th Street, the Perry World House unfolds its contemporary limestone facade, scaling up to form a robust urban presence.

At the heart of the building is the World Forum, a glass-enclosed atrium that serves as a dynamic multi-use event space capable of hosting seminars, lectures, and special events. The building also includes a range of spaces, including classrooms, meeting rooms, offices, a conference room, and common areas, all designed to encourage interaction. A forecourt punctuates the building entrance on Locust Walk and provides a landscaped outdoor gathering space and an intimate conversation area.

PERRY WORLD HOUSE
2016

Perry World House is a global research center providing a new hub for international exchange and activity, anchoring Penn’s global initiatives and drawing expertise from Penn’s twelve schools while also creating partnerships abroad.
Comprising a city block along Chestnut Street between 33rd and 34th Streets, the design preserves vital open space and welcomes visitors to Penn along the 125 Years of Women Walk with a generous, publicly accessible sloping lawn. Residential suites include private bedrooms and shared living areas, while double-height common areas and community kitchens offer ample space for social gathering. Designed to enrich its residents’ academic life and the diversity of its urban setting, the New College House enlivens the University experience for this century and beyond. An interconnected array of public and private settings, each with distinct spatial qualities and characteristics, fosters diverse social and learning activities. The building accommodates 350 students along with living spaces for faculty, graduate fellows, a house dean and advisors. The New College House embraces the many scales of community that define Penn’s collegiate experience. It is inviting and secure, open and private. It embodies the comfort of home and the power to form a campus gateway worthy of this place.

NEW COLLEGE HOUSE
2016
The New College House offers its residents a space for true living and learning. The building encircles a garden courtyard that is surrounded by spaces for dining, music, media, seminars, and events.
The Pennovation Works is a 23-acre site consisting of a distinctive blend of offices, labs, and production space bridging Penn’s intellectual and entrepreneurial initiatives for advancing knowledge and generating economic development.

The Pennovation Center is a former Dupont paint research laboratory, transformed into a 21st century idea factory. While most of the building is occupied by state-of-the-art labs and efficient co-working areas, key social spaces tempt entrepreneurs to leave their desks and engage with their colleagues. These spaces are tucked into a new angular façade that reaches outward towards the Schuylkill River, featuring a board room and a bleacher seating area where inventors can share ideas, pitch to investors, and gain crucial perspective. The building inspires creativity within, while simultaneously telling the world outside that Penn is a leader in the field of innovation.

**PENNOVATION CENTER**

Anchoring Pennovation Works, the Pennovation Center is a business incubator and laboratory that aligns and integrates researchers and entrepreneurs for the translation of basic research into products, services, and new business ventures.

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STEPHEN A. LEVIN BUILDING

2016

A hub for neural and behavioral sciences. The building and site together form a new life sciences precinct at the edge of campus that stimulate connections between campus/community, building/garden, and the interdisciplinary programs concerned with brains and behavior.

The project is configured as a copper-roofed laboratory bar intersecting a white metal and glass office box. A lower-grade aesthetic relates to hills, and its neutral roofmates a generous entrance to a central campus botanical garden with also encapsulating a subterranean plan. At the southern end of the plaza is a rest garden, bounded by a copper roof and offset by a large copper mesh, while the library is located at the southern end of the building, and if it connects to Lynch Laboratories. The building is connected through courtyards to the north side of Lady Laboratories, completing the life sciences complex.

While the labs require a carefully controlled environment, collaborative and circulation areas enjoy a historic glass condition in tandem with an exterior outdoor area on a covered terrace at the edge of campus.