



## **DESIGN LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

### **PHOENIX MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT CENTER DESIGN COMPETITION COLLECTION**

**Collection #: MS MSS 7**

**Location: DESIGN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**Papers, Drawings, etc.: 1984-1993**

**No. of Items: 8 boxes, 31 oversize folders and items, 10 ln. ft.**

#### **Historical Background**

On April 12, 1985, the Phoenix City Council set the goal of a world-wide architectural design competition for a new municipal complex that would attract national and international attention by exhibiting a unique "Phoenix Style." The plan proposed a complex that stretched from Central Avenue west to the State Capitol along Washington and Jefferson Streets. The complex was to include fire, criminal justice, and municipal buildings covering 214,000 square feet and costing \$24,400,000.

Oregon architect Edward C. Wundram was commissioned to manage the competition, which was budgeted at \$225,000. A jury of six local professionals and laymen as well as two outside professionals was appointed to select the winning entry. Over one hundred architects expressed interest and the jury named nine semi-finalists who submitted detailed plans. From these, the jury selected four finalists, one each from the United States, Canada, Japan, and Mexico.

Barton Myers of Toronto was ultimately selected as the winner of the competition

in October 1985. In the months that followed the project became mired in controversies involving costs, practicality of design, and politics. By 1991, the city turned to the construction of a more modest twenty-story city hall at Third Avenue and Washington Street. This facility opened in November of 1993.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection is divided into three Subgroups: 1) Planning Stage, 2) Design Competition Stage, including oversize design boards (Phase I and Phase II), and 3) Post-Competition Stage.

Subgroup 1 contains a single series, Reports. Included here are: the Proposed Competition Schedule of November 1984; Design Competition Procedures and Prospectus of February and March 1985; and news clippings from the *Arizona Republic* of April 1985.

Subgroup 2 contains six series. Series 1, Reports, consists of 17 folders and 2 volumes spanning from April 1985 to December 1986. These folders contain such documents as site development programs, building programs, final design proposals, master plans (some of which are oversize) and other design competition process documents submitted by architects who entered the competition.

Series 2, Jury Hearings, is comprised of seven folders containing transcripts of jury meetings and hearings from April, July, and October 1985. Series 3, Miscellany, includes clippings from the *Arizona Republic* and the *New Times*, as well as sketches and posters from the period. Series 4, Design Boards, consists of 25 oversize items housed in map case drawers that represent the works submitted for the competition by both semi-finalists and finalists. Series 5, Design Competition Videotapes, consists of 11 VHS cassette tapes that include formal presentations by the four finalists in the design competition. Series 6, Photos/Slides, is comprised of numerous color and black/white photographs of the finalist architects and their designs. A number of slides depicting models, perspective drawings, elevations, etc. are also present.

Subgroup 3 contains three series. Series 1, Reports, includes the post-1985 phase of the Phoenix Municipal Complex planning story in six folders. Folder titles include Book Publication on Design Competition, March 1986; Municipal Center Project Design Agreements, March, 1986; Costs of Alternative Scenarios, February, 1987;

Capital Improvement Needs Study, November 1987; Analysis of Phoenix Downtown Development Project, October 1988; and Miscellaneous Documents, 1990. Within this latter folder is a noteworthy summary report on the design competition and Barton Myer's winning design compiled by Charles E. Hill, a donor of material to this collection.

Series 2, Miscellany, contains nine folders of correspondence (including letters of support for the municipal complex idea), clippings, publications, and sketches.

Series 3, UCLA/Wight Art Gallery Exhibit Videotapes, includes 23 3/4" tapes detailing the competition. The tapes were produced in conjunction with the touring exhibition of the U.S., titled "Architecture of Democracy," that started at the University of California, Los Angeles in 1987.

## **Provenance**

The materials in this collection were donated by Dr. Roger Schluntz of the ASU College of Architecture and Environmental Design in April 1992; by Charles Hill from the ASU Office of the President in 1994; and by The Herberger College of the Arts in 2003.

## **Container List**

### **Subgroup 1 Planning Stage**

#### **Series 1 Reports, 1984-1985**

##### **Box 1**

Folder 1 Proposed Competition Schedule, Nov 18, 1984

Folder 2 Design Competition Procedures, Feb 1, 1985

Folder 3 Design Competition Prospectus, Mar 1, 1985

Folder 4 Clippings, April 1985

## **Subgroup 2 Design Competition Stage**

### **Series 1 Reports**

- Folder 1 Site Development Program Phase I--E. Wundram, May 29, 1985
- Folder 2 Design Competition Phase I--R. Stern, July 12, 1985
- Folder 3 Site Development Program Phase I--C. Moore, July 12, 1985
- Folder 4 Master Plan Proposal Phase I--M. Graves, July 12, 1985
- Folder 5 Phx Municipal Government Center Phase II--M. Graves, Oct 18, 1985
- Folder 6 Design Competition Building Program Phase II--E. Wundram, Aug 16, 1985
- Folder 7 Phx Municipal Government Center (Phase I)--Barton Myers, July 12, 1985
- Folder 8 Phx Municipal Government Center Outline Specifications, Cost Summaries, Building Area--B. Myers, Oct 17, 1985
- Folder 9 Phoenix Municipal Government Center Concept Summary--B. Myers, October 18, 1985
- Folder 10 Final Design Proposals--E. Wundram, Oct 24-25, 1985
- Folder 11 Design Competition Process (summary), Nov 13, 1985

### **Box 2**

- Folder 12 Master Plan--B. Myers, Dec 1, 1986
- Folder 13 Program--B. Myers, Oct 8, 1986
- Folder 14 Program Appendix--B. Myers, Dec. 1, 1986
- Folder 15 Portfolio of Selected Projects--B. Myers, n.d.

### **Box 3 (Oversize)**

- Folder 16 Master Plan--ELS Design Group, n.d.
- Folder 17 Master Plan--Hammond, Beeby, and Babka, n.d.
- Folder 18 Master Plan--Tai Soo Kim, July 12, 1985
- Folder 19 Master Plan--Arata Isozaki, n.d.
- Folder 20 Competition Phase II--Arata Isozaki, n.d.
- Volume 1 Master Plan (1)--R. Legorreta, July 12, 1985
- Volume 2 Master Plan (2)--R. Legorreta, July 12, 1985

### **Series 2 Jury Hearings**

## **Box 4**

Folder 1 Presentations and Deliberations, 1985

Folder 2 Meeting of April 20, 1985

Folder 3 Meeting of July 26, 1985

Folder 4 Meeting of July 27, 1985

Folder 5 Meeting of October 24, 1985 (1)

Folder 6 Meeting of October 24, 1985 (2)

Folder 7 Meeting of October 25, 1985

## **Series 3 Miscellany**

Folder 1 Miscellaneous Documents, April-Nov 1985

Folder 2 Clippings, Aug-Nov 1985

## **Map Case 153G R2 D13**

Folder 3 Color presentation sketches, Phoenix City Hall, Arata Isozaki; poster  
“Phoenix Celebrates National Historic Preservation Week, May 12-18, 1985”

## **Series 4 Design Boards (Oversize)**

### **Map Case 153G R2 D6**

Item 1 Arata Isozaki, Phase I Design Board (a), Ground Floor Plan, Master Plan,  
Axonometric Drawing

Item 2 Arata Isozaki, Phase I Design Board (b), City Axis, City Room, City  
Corridor, City Gate

### **Map Case 153G R2 D7**

Item 3 Arata Isozaki, Phase II Design Board (a), Facilities Floor Plans

Item 4 Arata Isozaki, Phase II Design Board (b), Master Plan, Ground Floor Plan,  
Basement Plan, Office Layout

### **Map Case 153G R2 D8**

Item 5 Arata Isozaki, Phase II Design Board (c), Axonometric Drawing, Elevations  
Item 6 Arata Isozaki, Axonometric Drawing (framed)

### **Map Case 153G R2 D9**

Item 7 Arata Isozaki, Axonometric Drawing (framed)  
Item 8 Robert Stern, Phase I Design Board (a), Plan, Council Chamber Building, Figure Ground Plan  
Item 9 Robert Stern, Phase I Design Board (b), Perspective  
Item 10 Charles Moore, Phase I Design Board (a), Master Plan  
Item 11 Charles Moore, Phase I Design Board (b), Partial Elevation, Phase One Plan

### **Map Case 153G R2 D10**

Item 12 Ricardo Legorreta, Phase I Design Board (a), Master Plan  
Item 13 Ricardo Legorreta, Phase I Design Board (b), Aerial Perspective, etc.  
Item 14 Tai Soo Kim, Phase I Design Board (a), Master Plan  
Item 15 Tai Soo Kim, Phase I Design Board (b), Site Plan and Axonometric Drawing  
Item 16 Michael Graves, Phase I Design Board (a), Master Plan Proposal  
Item 17 Michael Graves, Phase I Design Board (b), Master Plan Proposal

### **Map Case 153G R2 D11**

Item 18 Michael Graves, Phase II Design Board (a), Master Plan  
Item 19 Michael Graves, Phase II Design Board (b), Site Plan  
Item 20 Michael Graves, Phase II Design Board (c), Elevations  
Item 21 Michael Graves, Phase II Design Board (d), City Hall Floor Plans and Sections

### **Map Case 153G R2 D12**

Item 22 ELS Design Group, Phase I Design Board (a), Master Plan (incl. Site Plan)  
Item 23 ELS Design Group, Phase I Design Board (b), Ground Floor Plan and Views  
Item 24 Hammond Beeby and Babka, Phase I Design Board (a), Perspective  
Item 25 Hammond Beeby and Babka, Phase I Design Board (b), Master Plan

## **Series 5 Design Competition Videotapes**

### **Box 5**

Item 1 Tape 1--Design Competition-Models, Introduction, B. Myers Presentation, Oct. 24, 1985

Item 2 Tape 1, Copy

Item 3 Tape 2--Design Competition-B. Myers Presentation, M. Graves Presentation, Oct. 24, 1985

Item 4 Tape 2, Copy

Item 5 Tape 3--Design Competition-M. Graves (cont'd), Mayor Goddard Intro, Each Architect Speaks, A. Isozaki and Assoc. Presentation, Oct. 24-25, 1985

Item 6 Tape 3, Copy

Item 7 Tape 4--Design Competition-A. Isozaki (cont'd), R. Legorreta Presentation, Oct. 25, 1985

Item 8 Tape 5--Design Competition-R. Legorreta (cont'd), The Models Again, Audience Questions, Jury Comments, Oct 25, 1985

Item 9 Tape 6--Design Competition-Jury Comments, the First Vote, The Second Vote, etc., The Last Vote, Interview with David Johns, Oct 25, 1985

Item 10 Tape 7--Design Competition-Brief Presentation by B. Myers, Oct. 24-25, 1985

Item 11 Tape 8--"Master 1/2 Design Presentation Phase I"

## **Series 6 Photos/Slides**

### **Box 6**

#### **Subseries 1 Michael Graves**

Envelope 1 Michael Graves Photos

Envelopes 2-10 Michael Graves Design Photos

Envelope 11 Michael Graves Design Slides

#### **Subseries 2 Arata Isozaki**

Envelope 1 Arata Isozaki Photos

Envelope 2 Arata Isozaki Design Slides

### **Subseries 3 Ricardo Legorreta**

Envelope 1 Ricardo Legorreta Photos  
Envelopes 2-9 Ricardo Legorreta Design Slides

### **Subseries 4 Barton Myers**

Envelopes 1-3 Barton Myers Photos  
Envelope 4 Barton Myers Design Photos  
Envelope 5 Design Slides (Model Views)  
Envelope 6 Design Slides (Mayor's Court)  
Envelope 7 Design Slides (Council Chamber)  
Envelope 8 Design Slides (Civic Plaza)  
Envelope 9 Design Slides (Phoenix Tower Study)  
Envelope 10 Design Slides (Municipal Arcades Elevation)

### **Subseries 5 Miscellaneous**

Folder 1 Miscellany, 1985-1986

### **Subgroup 3 Post-Competition Stage**

#### **Series 1 Reports, 1986-1988**

#### **Box 6**

Folder 1 Book Publication on Design Competition, March 19, 1986  
Folder 2 Municipal Center Project Design Agreements, March 25, 1986  
Folder 3 Costs of Alternative Scenarios, Feb. 1987  
Folder 4 Capital Improvement Needs Study, Nov. 1987  
Folder 5 Analysis of Phoenix Downtown Development Project, October 8, 1988  
Folder 6 Miscellaneous Documents, 1990

#### **Series 2 Miscellany, 1986-1993**

Folder 1 Correspondence (letters of support), Feb. 1990  
Folder 2 Clippings, 1986-1993  
Folder 3 Publications, 1987  
Folder 4 Barton Myer's Schematic Design (S1-10), 1987



## **Map Case RR5 D9**

Folder 5 Color presentation boards HNTB, Zenoarski: The Cultural Park, The Deck at Central Avenue, Phoenix; The Neighborhood Park, The Deck at Central Avenue, Phoenix

Folder 6 Color presentation sketch, Phoenix I, Phoenix City Hall, 1987

Folder 7 Drawing of a house, inscribed from T. Haas to Mayor Goddard, 1985

Folder 8 Color photograph of Phoenix skyline in early evening, Papago Park, Mark Klett, photographer, 1988

Folder 9 Phoenix Futures Forum poster

## **Series 3 UCLA/Wight Art Gallery Exhibit Videotapes**

### **Box 7**

Item 1 Phoenix Tape 1C--July 10, 1987

Item 2 Phoenix Tape 2C--July 10, 1987

Item 3 Phoenix Tape 3B--July 10, 1987

Item 4 Phoenix Tape 3C (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 5 Phoenix Tape 3C (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 6 Phoenix Tape 4A (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 7 Phoenix Tape 4A (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 8 Phoenix Tape 4B (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 9 Phoenix Tape 4B (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 10 Phoenix Tape 4C (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 11 Phoenix Tape 4C (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 12 Phoenix Tape 5A (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 13 Phoenix Tape 5A (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 14 Phoenix Tape 5B (Master)--July 10, 1987

### **Box 8**

Item 15 Phoenix Tape 5B (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 16 Phoenix Tape 5C (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 17 Phoenix Tape 5C (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 18 Phoenix Tape 6A (Master)--July 10, 1987

Item 19 Phoenix Tape 6A (Dub)--July 10, 1987

Item 20 "Phoenix Architecture"--Aug 7, 1987

Item 21 "Phoenix Rough Cut Assembly #1"--Aug 10, 1987

Item 22 "Address Track Time Code"--Aug 10, 1987 (Phoenix Project-Terry Stokes)

Item 23 Summary/Tracking Tape

**Finding aid by Paul G. Hubbard and Dennis D. Madden, (August 1994)**

**Updated by Harold Housley (June 2016)**