# Legacy ER Allen

Allen, Texas



8,432 BGSF



**OWNER/AFFILIATION** Legacy ER



ARCHITECT(S) 5G Studio Collaborative



**COMPLETION DATE** 2013











## **ABOUT | DESIGN INTENTIONS**

Legacy ER operates a hybrid program offering urgent care and 24/7 state-licensed emergency medical care services within a freestanding 8,432 SF building. Conceptualized as a potent reflection of the organization's identity, the architecture sought to capture in aesthetic terms the duality of the emergency medical professionals' character, projecting outwardly the knowledge, skill, precision, and decisiveness necessary for the competent practice of emergency medicine and expressing inwardly the gentle, empathic, and humanistic qualities of the persons beneath the robe.





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#### **DESIGN STRATEGIES**

# Natural lanscape form

Situated among open fields and nondescript suburban development, the project administered an episodic architectural intervention to agitate the chronically lethargic context beyond its lot line. Beginning with a landscape design strategy that reconciled nature and man-made settings, droughttolerant vegetation species such as the cedar elm trees, pink muhly grass, weeping love-grass, and buffalo-grass were selected and subtle grading of land were composed to evoke memories of natural landscape forms. The soft- and hard-scape elements seamlessly dissolved their boundaries along the public domain.

# **Tectonic roof design**

The building profile extrapolated the conventional residential roof planes and was given a new tectonic grammar to drive its programmatic transformation around the building. Gradient perforated panels were mapped onto the exterior surfaces to allow for diffusive building lighting and passive solar shading. Zinc, being the most sustainablysourced metals for construction, was selected for its inherent greyish-blue warmth and resiliency during extreme Texas weather events. The zinc panels were patterned to maintain continuous readings of the vertical standing seams with knife-edged thickness along their planar perimeter.

The project was conceptualized as a reflection of Legacy ER's organizational identity and sought to give form to an emerging model of freestanding emergency medical care facilities. -Yen Ong, 5G Partner.











#### **STRATEGIES**

# **Natural light**

Relating in contrast, the interior spaces blur their edges and receive natural and artificial light softly. The points of admission of natural daylight and outdoor views create apertures that penetrate through the building envelope and interior planes and elucidate those intersecting tectonic moments. The atmospheric quality of the interior continually morphed in response to the natural climatic conditions and poetically linked the users to nature. The detailing of the interior skylights read as frameless apertures puncturing through the exterior membrane. At the material level, the mirror aggregates in the polished concrete floor mix and the frosted glass panes reflected the outdoor light colors and set a pleasantly calming ambiance.

# **Collaborative working environment**

The building integrated the principles of **Evidence-Based** Design within its spatial, circulatory, and sensory structure while being careful not to create a facility that could be perceived as overly methodical. Multiple skylights were situated at strategic intersections of the circulation to form a sensible system of way-finding. The components of workspaces were designed for peer collaboration, patient accessibility, and data privacy, while the patient care areas were crafted for hospitality and treatment efficacy to reduce errors in the administration of medicine. The off-stage environment of the medical staff was as well accounted for; the staff lounge and office areas were connected through a daylight-filled double-height space and were provided access to a balcony tucked under the zinc roof.

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#### PROJECT SUMMARY:

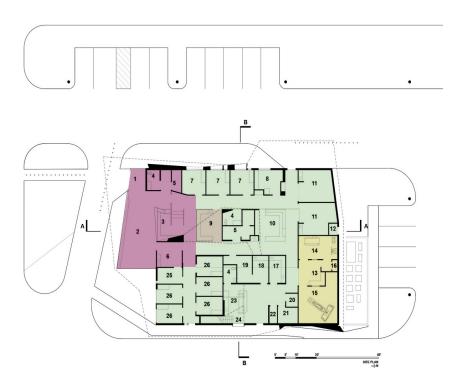
Project: Legacy ER Allen Project location: Allen, Texas Owner/Client: Legacy ER **Architect: 5G Studio Collaborative** Project manager: Christine Robbins-Elrod

Structural engineer: Datum Engineers General contractor: UEB MEP engineer: Jordan & Skala Engineers Photographs/Illustrations: Michael Moran/OTTO Construction cost: ?? Building area GSF: 8,432 SF Cost per square foot: ?? Construction start date: ?? Substantial completion date: ??

### **DEPARTMENTAL GROSS SQUARE FOOT** TAKE-OFFS

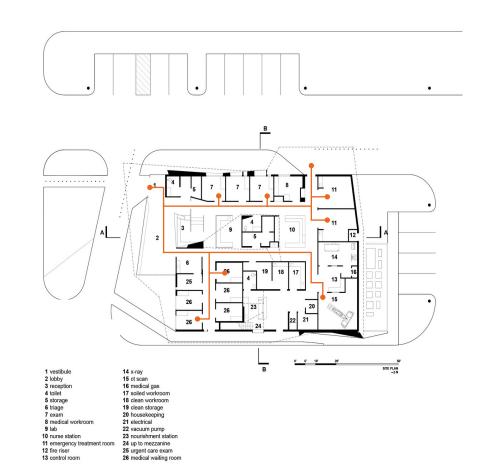
Medical support	4,282 SF
Registration/Waiting	1,451 SF
Lab	168 SF
Imaging	753 SF

### **GROUND LEVEL:**



Note: "Departmental Square footages take-off based on 'Analysis of Departmental Area in Contemporary Hospitals calculation methodologies & Design Factors Report, 2014

#### TRAVEL DISTANCE ANALYSIS



#### TITLE

### **AIA/AAH DESIGN AWARD WINNER**

Category A for built projects with total construction cost less than 25 million dollars.

#### **JURY COMMENT**

- ▶ "This architectural response to a straightforward planning solution is an exciting vision of how good design represents the intent of a building.
- ▶ The result is a fresh and innovative solution to freestanding urgent care centers and emergency rooms. Angular forms identify this facility as an important place without intimidating patrons.
- ▶ The use of light to define the forms makes most unique and delightful.
- ▶ Overall, the interior design is very clean and good use of colors, translucency, and natural light.
- ▶ The exterior design is exceptional, very sculptural and the staff amenity spaces are extraordinary.
- ▶ The strong design concept is consistently implemented at all levels, creating a highly visible branded object within the suburban surroundings.

#### **KEY SPACES**

Exam room	132 - 135 SI
Emergency treatment room	245 - 248 SI
Medical waiting room	112 SF
CT room	354 SF
X-ray room	197 SF

#### TRAVEL DISTANCE ANALYSIS

• Walk-in entrance to exam room 41ft - 64ft Ambulance entrance to emergency room 20ft - 29ft Walk-in entrance to medical waiting 90ft - 68ft Walk-in entrance to CT room 128ft