

Foreword

The Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects presents this publication as a record of

the achievements in design, planning, and execution of architectural projects made by its member firms.

This year's volume gathers together the award-winning and exhibited projects featured in the

Chapter's 2009 Awards for Design Excellence, which are presented annually to recognize significant

achievements in architecture. Within these pages you will find a snapshot of the hundreds of proj-

ects that were submitted to the Design Awards. They include a diverse range of buildings, including

houses, government buildings, places of worship, museums, schools, university buildings, healthcare

facilities, restaurants, corporate headquarters, and professional offices.

These projects reveal the dramatic way in which architecture impacts the physical environment and

how members of the American Institute of Architects are making great strides in creating more valu-

able, healthy, secure, and sustainable communities and cityscapes. The work of AIA Philadelphia

members appears both at home and abroad, advancing the future of the built environment in places

as far away as Asia and the Middle East, a testament to their commitment to good design.

Cover image: Thin Flats photo courtesy Mariko Reed Architectural Photography.

2009 Awards for Design Excellence

At the 2009 Awards for Design Excellence, held October 14, 2009, at the Loews Philadelphia hotel, 15 architectural projects received Honor and Merit Awards. The Gold Medal was presented to Martin Jay Rosenblum and Associates for The Spreter Studio. The Silver Medal was presented to Wallace Roberts & Todd for its Roosevelt Plaza. In addition, the following awards were given by AIA Philadelphia for individual achievement:

AIA Philadelphia John Harbeson Award, for lifetime achievement of the highest standards of professionalism, accomplishment, and regard for the development of his younger colleagues

Emanuel Kelly, FAIA

Kelly/Maiello, Architects and Planners

AlA Philadelphia Young Architects Award, for demonstrated excellence and exceptional contributions to the field of architecture

Patrick Stewart McDonough, AIA
John Milner Architects

Jury Rod Kruse, FAIA BNIM, Des Moines, IA

Elizabeth Amirahadi, AIA International Architects Atelier, Kansas City, MO

Dan Maginn, AIA el dorado inc, Kanas City, MO

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Thin Flats Condominiums

Plumbob LLC



This eight-unit residential project explores the highly efficient and architecturally latent potentials hidden within the traditional form of the Philadelphia rowhome. The vertical rhythm, regularity yet diversity, of this most prevalent residential urban typology was the primary source of inspiration for this experiment. Thin faces fronting both Laurel and Pollard streets mask and

blur conventional lines of demarcation between all eight duplex dwellings both vertically and horizontally. In the process, a degree of density yet expansiveness uncommon to the thin space of the urban duplex emerges.

The Philadelphia row is by nature a long, thin slice of dense, sustainable, urban space, typically light-deficient and insular at its core. Thin Flats questions this traditional deficiency by spatially reconfiguring the relationship between the interior and its skin, such that its core is flooded with light and air. This skin also affords each room on the periphery of the dwelling the ability to step outside and yet remain in the skin.





Structural Engineer: AEC Associated

LEED Rater: MaGann Associates