



Towers Crescent Building B
Mike Synnott
Structural
Advisor - Parfitt



Final Presentation

Breadth Study 1 – Architectural History

Built in 2001, Building B was designed based off of Towers Crescent, the first building built on the site. Towers Crescent was designed by well known architect Philip Johnson in the early 1980's.

If you do not recognize the name Philip Johnson, he was born July 8th, 1906 in Cleveland OH. He attended Harvard and graduated in 1930 with a degree in Architectural History. From there he became the first Director of the Department of Architecture at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. He returned to Harvard in 1940 and studied architecture, where the design for one of his most famous works, the Glass House, was designed for his master Thesis. Due to “50 years of imagination and vitality embodied in a myriad of museums, theaters, libraries, houses, gardens and corporate structures”, he became the first recipient of the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1979.

A few of his most Notable works I have listed below.

The Glass House, New Canaan CT (1949)





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Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove CA (1980)



AT&T Headquarter, New York City (1984)



Transco Tower, Houston Texas (1983)





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Johnson's original idea for the design of the Towers Crescent site was to have two other identical buildings built alongside the original in order to provide a focal point from I-495. RTKL, the architectural firm hired for the design of the site, decided to modify Johnson's original idea. The redesign is to create five smaller buildings instead of two identical buildings, but still maintain the same total square footage of 900,000 square feet. Buildings B and C are the first two of the five to be built with three other buildings still in the planning/design phase.

With such a prestigious name attached to site, the design of Building B had to encompass Johnson's style as well as accentuate Towers Crescent Building. The façade, primarily brick and glass, also contains aluminum trim and a two story, pre-patina copper wall. RTKL succeeded in designing buildings which complemented the original Towers Crescent and added to the beauty of the site.



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