

ALBERT WINN PARK | Emerging Professionals Design Competition

The American Institute of Architects, Central Valley Chapter, in partnership with the Midtown Association and the City of Sacramento, announce a design competition to successfully activate Albert Winn Park and the abandoned fire alarm building in its center. Design a new vision for this underutilized gem in our City!

COMPETITION OVERVIEW



Winn Park is located at 1616 28th Street in Midtown, Sacramento in a residential neighborhood, near entertainment and social services. It currently includes a tot lot play area, limited picnic-style seating and a vacant historic building in the middle of the park. It is currently underutilized by the community and the existing building is closed to the public.

The primary goal of the competition is to generate positive interest in the park; enhance its functionality; increase the perception of the park as a community amenity and destination; and provide ideas for creative uses of the existing building now, and in the future.

Precise programming for the competition is open to entrants. Key considerations include: creating an environment that draws the public to the park as a destination; building

modifications that will attract tenants with who are open and active throughout the day and evening hours (such as a cafe, coffee shop or restaurant); and expanded use of the site for events such as weddings and celebrations.

Please reference historic information at the end of the brief.

Competition Dates & Deadlines

April 19	Registration Opens
May 9	Information Session <i>12 noon at Winn Park, 1616 28th Street in Midtown, Sacramento</i>
June 15	Submittals Due (by 5:00 pm)
July 17	Award Recipients Notified

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to AIA Central Valley Emerging Professional members only. Submittals may be made by individuals, or teams of up to (5) five members.

Emerging Professionals are:

- AIA member Architects licensed 10 years or less
- Associate AIA members
- Student AIA members currently attending college in the Los Rios District, CSUS Sacramento or UC Davis.

ENTRY

Advance registration is required to participate. To register, click [here](#) or visit the Design Award page on the [AIACV Chapter Website](http://aiacv.org/exparch/): <http://aiacv.org/exparch/>

The entry fee is \$50 per submittal.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Entries are due July 6, 2017 by 4 PM PST and must include the following:

Design Team Information

Project Title

Team/Firm Name

Team Member Contact Information, including name, physical address, email address, and telephone number for each member.

Design Concept Narrative

Narrative may not exceed two 8.5" x 11" pages addressing the evaluation criteria. Font must be 12 pt Arial.

One (1) 30"x 42" Presentation Board with 150 ppi minimum resolution. File must be in PDF format, no others will be accepted. Must be in landscape format, and include all the following information:

- **Site Plan:** Minimum of one site plan that clearly identifies the concept as it relates to the park.
- **Elevations/Sections:** As necessary to explain the concept.
- **Floor Plan(s):** Minimum of one floor plan to explain the concept.
- **Context Illustrations:** Rendering or graphic that clearly indicates the design including how it interfaces with existing site features.

The AIA Central Valley will produce one **complimentary** (1) 24" x 36" **hard copy** presentation board for each submittal from the digital presentation board file for exhibition display.

NOTE: No identifying information of any kind (team or firm name, individual names, or logos) may be included on the Project Narrative or digital display Board, or the submission will be disqualified.

JURY

Steve Hansen

*City Council Member, District 4
Midtown Association Board Member*

Bruce Monighan, AIA

*City of Sacramento
Urban Design Manager*

Mike Heller

*Heller Pacific
Midtown Association Board member*

Bruce Marwick, Vice President

Sacramento Art Deco Society

Mark Huck, AIA, LEED

*Restoration Architect
California Office of Historic Preservation*

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Design Innovation	30%
Community Impact	25%
Feasibility	25%
Historic Appropriateness	20%

CASH PRIZE & RECOGNITION

The number of recognitions bestowed will be at the discretion of the jury.
One Grand Prize will be awarded, and will receive the following:

- \$2,500 cash prize.
- An opportunity to present the concept/design to the potential lessees of the historic building as identified through the City of Sacramento's Request for Information (RFI) process.
- Recognition in the September issue of Comstock's Business Magazine and Experience Architecture Event Guide and other media sources.
- Recognition on AIA Central Valley and the Midtown Association websites.
- Inclusion in the AIA Central Valley Architectura Obscura Reception / Exhibition, scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, September 20, 2017.
- Award bestowed at the 2017 Design Awards Presentation and 75th Anniversary Gala, scheduled for the evening of Saturday, September 23, 2017.

RESOURCES

[LAZERTECH® Floor Plans](#)

[Winn Park Site Plan](#)

[Site Photographs](#)

City of Sacramento Preservation:

<https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Community-Development/Planning/Urban-Design/Preservation>

Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties:

<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm>

<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/treatment-guidelines.pdf>

WINN PARK BACKGROUND / HISTORY



Winn Park in mid-town was named to memorialize Major General Albert Maver Winn, president of Sacramento's first City Council.

A carpenter by trade, Winn served in the Mississippi Militia, rising to Colonel by age 35. Lured by the Gold Rush, he immigrated to California in 1849, arriving in Sacramento in June where he set up his carpenter's bench under the shade of an oak tree at the foot of K Street. His first project was a coffin, which he sold immediately. He began manufacturing much-in-demand gold rockers. Winn organized a local chapter of the Fraternity of Odd Fellows to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, and bury the dead. The following year he was appointed a brigadier general in the California State Militia and commanded a force during Sacramento's infamous Squatter's Riots. He was an active member of the Freemasons and was instrumental in establishing a hospital for widows and orphans.

He founded the Native Sons of the Golden West; it was this organization that dedicated the park in his honor in 1917. Winn Park is 2.5 acres situated between 27th, 27th, P and Q Streets.

The building at the center of Winn Park once housed an elaborate fire alarm electronic system which connected with up to 550 publicly accessible fire alarm boxes that were mounted throughout the city. Built in 1937 under the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the building was once considered the "nerve center of the fire department" – providing 24 hour coverage and response to fires throughout the city. The system was designed and operated to allow the fire department to be able to respond and send fire trucks to the fire within a 3 minute window.

When a fire alarm box is pulled to report a fire, the tall black box circuits – which are still standing in the building today – would become lit and clang bells. The white tape at the base of each box would punch out a code of the exact location of where the street box is located,

allowing one of the operators to pinpoint the location of the fire and put in a call to the nearest fire station.

The fire alarm station stayed fully operational up until the 1981, going through upgrades that allowed the station to also operate as a call center for the local fire departments. The building housed computers and taping systems, and was often described as a “futuristic setting.” In 1981, the operations of the fire alarm station were moved off-site to another location.

After many years of declining use, the building was found to be an eye-sore to many of the visitors to the park. At the time, it was a dark green building surrounded by barbed wire and looked to be in a sad state of disrepair. In 2001, the Sacramento Art Deco Society worked with the city to renovate and update the colors of the building to help accentuate its features, and to also help make it a more attractive feature of the park. The colors of the building today are the same colors from the original 2001 renovation.

In 2005, Sacramento removed the original 550 publicly accessible fire alarm boxes that were used to notify the fire alarm station of a fire, and the building was officially vacated as a result.

The building itself is a poured in place, three level concrete structure. Simplistic in design, it is characterized with bold outlines, streamlined with rectilinear forms. The front entry, located at the 28th street side, features a double door entry that is embossed with angular and parallel lines. Constructed as an essential services facility that was meant to be fireproof, earthquake proof, and secure from any threats during WWII, the structure maintains most of the same criteria.

Our thanks to Deputy City Historian Dylan McDonald, from the Center for Sacramento History, for providing historical information.

Questions?

Please contact Kevin Young, Competition Chair: young@williamspluspaddon.com or AIA Central Valley: info@aiacv.org, 916-444-3658.

SPONSORS

