

1. The site of the Stephenson Cancer Center is sloped so therefore the building is built down into the ground. The front entrance, as seen on the bottom right in figure 1, has a covered drop of with free valet parking. Visitors and staff can pull through the covered drive and go into the parking garage. The parking garage provide direct access to the cancer center on every level so patients can go straight in to the desired location without having to take the stairs or elevators. The front left side of the building is an outdoor patio space. This patio is dropped down about 30 feet below grade level, as seen in figure 2. This patio provides a green outdoor space where patients can go to relax or spend time with their visitors. Even though this patio is 30 feet below grade level it does not flood because of the way the building is oriented on a sloped site. There has been a proper drainage system incorporated in the patio space to allow the water to get out and filter down the site.



FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2

2. The building is visually defined by the volumetric spaces. The glass windows blur the lines between interior and exterior spaces. The red brick and natural stone, figure 3, are used throughout the building create a natural warm feeling to the interior and exterior. The main building of glass and off white plaster give a more institutional and professional feel so as to ensure patients and staff that the Center takes its work very seriously and they are good at what they do.



FIGURE 3

3. Daylight is successfully dispersed throughout the whole facility from the integration of a large atrium space. The front curtain wall allows the light to permeate all the floors including the basement. This atrium that provides so much daylight can be seen in figures 4, 5, and 6. Daylight is essential to our physical and mental health. Studies have show that natural light and natural views helps the healing process of sick patients.

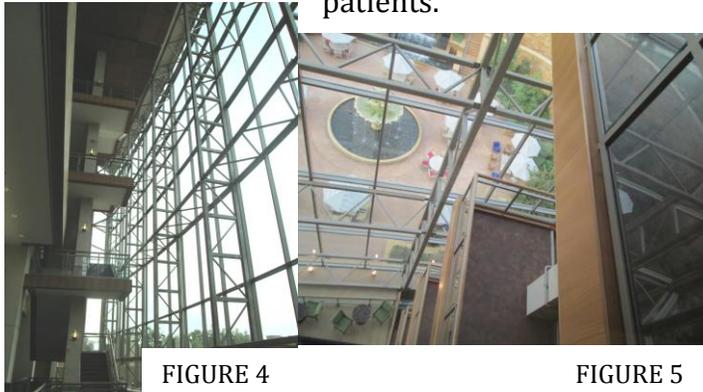


FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5



FIGURE 6

4. Ceiling heights are changed depending on the use of the space. The public spaces, such as the entrance, lounge area, and waiting rooms, have taller ceilings and feel more spacious, figure 7. In the exam rooms and consultation rooms suspended ceiling systems are used to drop down the height and provide for acoustical privacy. These more private areas have lower ceiling to make the patients feel safer and not visible by other people. The spaces that are transitional from public to private provide a visual cue of the height change by stepping down the ceiling height as seen in figure 8 over the reception desk of a chemo clinic. This dropped panel is also defined by the change in material so as to the subtly communicate that you are entering a different area.



FIGURE 7



FIGURE 8

5. The materials and textures used in the space are all related as to how it would make a patient feel. The furniture is soft and comfortable, without



FIGURE 9

being too soft that it is difficult to get out, figure 9. There are natural materials in every space to bring bring a sense of warm and comfort. The natural materials in clued wood, stone, and tile. Onyx is used as a wall covering in front of the elevator banks, figure 10.



FIGURE 10

This material provides a visual warm feeling. The onyx is used at every elevator bank of every floor so it is also used as a way finding for people to know that they are at the elevators when they can see the onyx on the wall.

6. Way finding is made possible through the use of signs, seen in figure 11, and the through changes in the floor materials, seen in



FIGURE 12

figure 12 and 13. Signage allows people to easily determine exactly where they are going and how to get there. The forms of way finding created through material

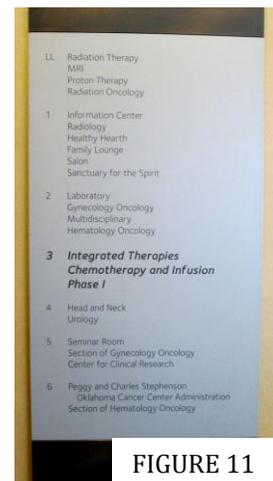


FIGURE 11



FIGURE 13

changes are more of a subliminal way of leading people through a space. Curves in the floor are created by butting two different materials of contrasting colors up against each other in a curves path. These flooring changes can lead people down a path or serve a barrier to steer them away and around an area.

7. As far as circulation goes there is a main entrance, and then there is an option of elevators or stairs to get the other levels. The elevators are to the right and the stairs are to the left. The main stairs can be seen in figure 14. These stairs are not fire stairs. They go up through the atrium space that reaches every level. The fire stairs are accessible from every clinic and lab area on all the floors. Most of the fire stair cases are located toward the back of the building while the elevator is at the front.



FIGURE 14

8. The living room, as it is referred to by the staff and patients, is a synergy created from the combination of the health food service, the waiting area, and the lounge area. This space is off to the right of the main entrance as seen in figure 15. It functions as a social area where patients can go to meet with visitors or get away from the treatment facilities. There is a health foods service where families and patients can get some refreshing food that is good for you. This space has the feeling of a residential living. There is a piano that is normally playing to reiterate the relaxing feeling. The piano music also doubles as background noise so that the waiting area and entrance are not silent and intimidating upon entering.



FIGURE 15

9. Colors and graphics are used a lot in this Cancer Center to create a warm and welcoming feeling. One prime examples of color being used to influence your mood and feelings is in the exam room, seen in figure 16. Every bright color possible is incorporated into the materials in the space. The walls are kept as a soft yellow so the space does not over stimulate or shock the patients. These bright colors are chosen to foster a feeling of happiness and delight in a situation that is very sad



FIGURE 16

and bleak. Graphics are also used as inspiration around the top the exam room as seen in figure 17. Motivational words were written around the ceiling line to reinforce this feeling of hope that the designer was trying to instill in the space.



FIGURE 17

10. Figure 18 shows the reception desk that is at the main entrance. This space is defined by the custom architectural work along the ceiling and by the custom desk. The desk is keeping with the material scheme of natural materials. There is wood, textured glass, and stone in the desk. The reception desk is one of the first impressions patients and visitors will receive of the interior space and here the materials are used to set the



FIGURE 18

scene and atmosphere. There is also a combination of different materials displayed in the casework of the nurses' station seen in figure 19. This combination of wood and glass uses the same tones and colors. There is visual interest where the wood and glass meet along a curve in the elements that extend all the way to the ceiling. While these elements are aesthetically pleasing, after speaking to the nurses it was determine that the vertical protrusions blocked views of the patients and in turn created a dangerous situation. The nurses must be able to see their patients at all time to make sure they are feeling okay.



FIGURE 19