

Heart of Missouri Girl Scouts Silver Meadows Lodge



LOCATION

Boone County, Missouri

DESCRIPTION

7,200 sf, two story, multi-purpose activity center

COMPLETION DATE

April 2000

CONSTRUCTION COST

\$455 thousand

CONTRACTOR REFERENCE

Professional Contractors & Engineers, Inc.
Andy Bonderer 573-442-1113

The Girl Scouts needed a four-season, handicap accessible facility to sustain and compliment their camping and recreational activities at their 130 acre wooded preserve near Pinnacles State Park in northern Boone County, Missouri. Simon Oswald Architecture worked closely with the Girl Scouts building committee to develop a modest design balancing their programmatic requirements with the desire to reduce their impact on the local environment and be good stewards of both their natural and economic resources. SOA saw the building as an opportunity to educate and inform the scouts on how a building can relate and respond to its environs, becoming a living classroom to quietly teach sustainable practices.

The two story design is sited near the crest of a small hill with a commanding view of a five acre lake. The water provides recreational activities as well as a source for fire protection in this secluded setting. Prevailing breezes blow across this body of water and up the hill to provide summer passive cooling via louvered windows in the main activity room. In winter, these same windows allow low angle sun to warm the stained concrete floor; coupled with the wood burning fireplace in the main assembly room, the call for mechanical heating is greatly reduced. Three-ply wood trusses allow for a lodge style open ceiling and are punctuated by south facing clerestory windows for optimum daylighting. A shed roofed dormer provides passive exhausting of the main activity space.

The exterior materials reflect the rural context of the woods and stone outcroppings with rough sawn cedar siding on the upper level and board formed concrete for the basement. A meandering segmented retaining wall outlines an outdoor patio for gatherings and bonfires. A green, standing seam metal roof compliments the natural setting and will provide years of service for the facility.

