



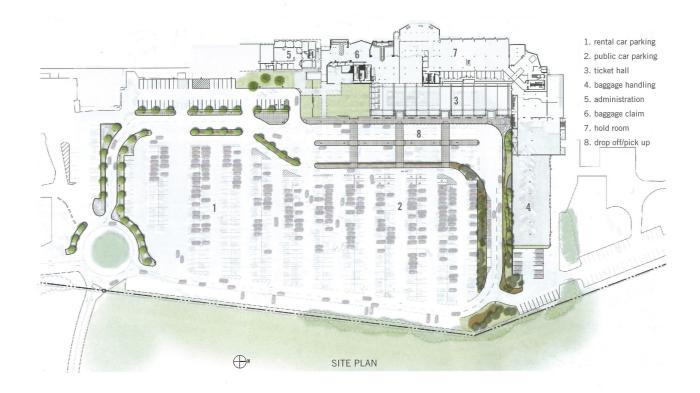


## INSTITUTIONAL

Design reflects mountain and western heritage

## Jackson Hole Airport

Gensler



ackson Hole, Wyoming is an increasingly popular year-round tourist destination. It is the gateway to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks, as well as world-class skiing and myriad summer activities. The airport is a visitor's first and last impression of Jackson Hole and is also an important symbol within the tight-knit, local community. It was important to the client and the community that the design be rooted in the community, reflecting its mountain environment and western heritage.

Jackson Hole is the only airport in the United States situated in a National Park. Grand Teton National Park has strict boundary limitations and an 18-foot building height limit that presented a challenging framework. The design also had to reflect environmental responsibility, a central cultural value in the region. As a result, the project targeted and achieved LEED Silver certification.

The exquisite beauty of the landscape and the sheer scale of the Grand Teton Mountain Range are overwhelming and humbling; therefore, the concept considers the building as a simple, understated feature within this beautiful landscape. The design fosters a rich dialog between interior and exterior, opening up the terminal to the expansive views to the east and west.

The Jackson Hole Airport distinguishes itself from typical airports through its regional design approach, materiality and intimate scale. The use of wood was an important factor in achieving these goals.

Wood was used extensively as the primary structure of the building. In the ticketing hall, 24-in.-diameter Douglas fir columns anchor the space. The columns are turned smooth in a refined modern manner in lieu of a conventional rustic appearance. Expansive glulam beams dramatically span the ticketing hall and interface with the columns via intricately detailed steel connections. Due to

height restrictions, a queen post truss system was integrated with the glulam beams to reduce their depth and bulk, thus maximizing the spaciousness of the terminal. The rhythm and clarity of the structural system is on display as it marches over 250 feet through the terminal, culminating with the dramatic 17-foot exterior overhang.

The main ticketing hall's ceiling and the underside of the exterior overhangs use hemlock, selected for its subtle grain and light, yet rich coloration that complements the golden glulam beams. The hemlock ceiling boards are spaced intermittently to improve acoustics in the terminal that is primarily hard surfaces of glass, concrete, wood, and steel. Reclaimed weathered snow fence was used extensively in the millwork and as a wainscot. The weathered gray appearance offers a nod to the past and is a nice contrast to the new warm wood structure and ceiling. Glulam beams from the original demolished building were repurposed into large-scale exterior and interior benches.

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