

Silver Moon Plaza

Chillicothe, Missouri

Chillicothe, Missouri was selected as a Missouri DREAM community in 2007. The Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) program is a three year planning program which focuses on revitalizing downtowns through programming and infrastructure improvements.

Downtown Chillicothe is the civic center of the community with many festivals, events and parades occurring throughout the year. On the north side of the courthouse square, a vacant lot was identified as the site for a new public plaza. The City of Chillicothe requested that PGAV design a small plaza as part of the DREAM streetscape plan.

PGAV collaborated with the local officials to produce a design that was creative, flexible in use and reflective of the local agrarian heritage of the community. The plaza design plan achieves the project goals by utilizing a simple layout plan and sustainable design elements. The plaza meets the courthouse square by extending into the street in place of 5 parking spaces. Fountains, landscape and site furnishings lead to an entrance gate, which utilizes a brick masonry design and detailing reflective of the local architecture. The focal point is an ornamental metalwork composition depicting local crops: corn, soybeans and wheat. An abstracted lunar cycle icon completes the arrangement and adds a sense of whimsy to the plaza.

The plaza edge on the south and west side is framed by landscape, designed to capture runoff from the plaza and adjacent alley. The landscaped areas are articulated further by historic iron fencing, recycled from a demolished local institution. The plaza interior is simplified with a large lawn panel and wide promenade walks on the perimeter. The design accommodates extensive programming as a perimeter for festivals, farmer's market and civic functions. The north edge of the plaza addresses an elevation change with a retaining wall and a stage. A sustainable landscape plan will screen an adjacent parking lot immediately north of the plaza.

PGAV provided conceptual design, preliminary design, cost estimates, graphics and programming for the project.



urban design

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