

Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame

Museum and Retail Complex
Springfield, Massachusetts



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The building, viewed from both the Interstate Highway and the Amtrak rail lines, is compositionally simple, yet iconic and compelling. The three primary elements are the 150 foot high basketball topped spire, the 120 foot diameter sphere, and the intersecting 100,000 square foot horizontal, curved-roof exhibition pavilion that accommodates the entry, retail and lobby, and the north and south visitor parking plazas.

Integral to the site master plan, and connecting to downtown Springfield, is the pedestrian Walk of Fame, a tourist information center, a proposed Children's Museum and a bridge over the Amtrak rail lines to the Riverfront Park, completing the revitalization program.

Circulating through the retail arcades, the visitor arrives at the museum lobby with its "arena" ticket booth, and adjacent 200 seat movie/lecture theatre. Immediately east of the lobby is the glazed entry to the sphere, housing a regulation basketball court on the ground level. Elevators and perimeter exposed stairs access the second level containing the primary exhibition venues, and the third level balcony incorporating the members Honors Ring — suspended at the top of the spherical volume, overlooking the multi-imaged scoreboard and the center court below.

The primariness and singularity of the sphere as an exterior form is transformed on the interior by the complex intervention of elements that reveal the content and aspiration of the sport, as well as a varied and enriched architectural experience, memorializing the birthplace of basketball.

1 Daytime view from I-91

2 Night view from I-91



Detail view from lawn, looking towards downtown

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Center Court



View from Honors Ring



Center Court from stairs



View from museum level



Stairs toward museum level

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View towards press box



Honors Ring

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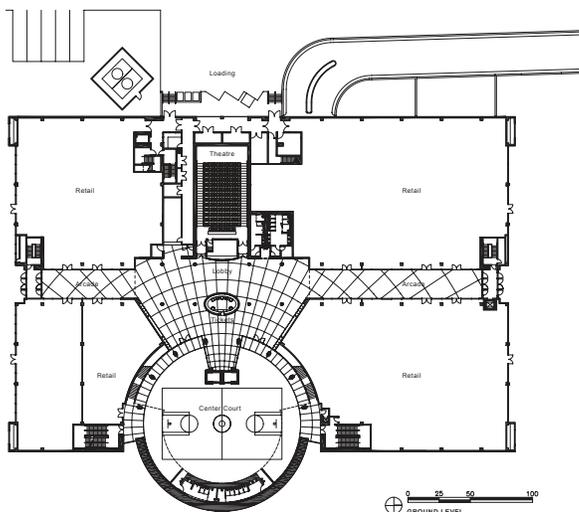
Museum and Retail Complex

Key Project Information

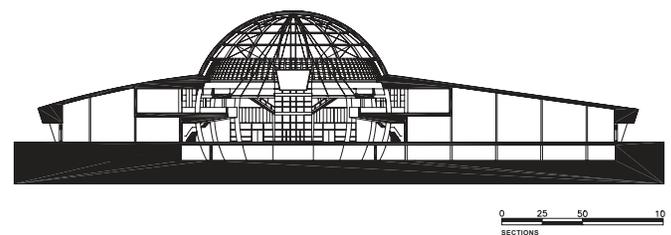
- basketball court/atrium
 - lobby/retail arcade
 - 34,000 sf exhibitry
 - 200-seat theater
 - 160-car parking garage
 - site parking for 740 vehicles
 - entry plaza and “walk of fame”
 - 50,000 sf retail space
 - museum store
 - administrative offices, multipurpose room
 - archives
 - railroad pedestrian overpass
 - spire & beacon
 - loading/receiving platform
-
- completion 2002
 - gsf 200,000



Second floor exhibit space



Ground level plan



Section