3.4 ARCHITECTURAL THEMING

At the beginning of this study, community input and research guided the creation of seven architectural themes. These seven were then narrowed down by the TRC to three preferred themes. The primary focus of terminal building architecture would be oriented around these themes which include “Colorado”, “Recreation”, and “Resort”. The remaining four themes of “Historical Roots”, “Zen”, “Natural Environment”, and “Contemporary”, still remain an element of the design process, but in a smaller supporting way. The following content hones those themes into a set of sketches which encapsulate the desired sense of place through architectural designs of the previously identified project phases. In addition, art and advertising opportunities are identified throughout the passenger’s experience of the terminal environment.
ART & ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

ART
A. Natural stone and/or sculptural elements as bollards
B. Exterior sculpture on central pedestrian walkway
C. Hanging art / light fixture under porte cochère
D. Large art / mural above vestibule
E. Continuous mural / art piece along back wall of bag claim
F. Seating area infused with art / local materials
G. Decorative, translucent glazing between SSCP & exit corridor
H. Re-composure area infused with art
  • Wood incorporated into floor & ceiling
  • Addition of local, natural elements such as Aspens and stone
  • Integration of artistic details such as ski-inspired light fixtures
I. Large art / mural at high, endwall of ticket lobby
J. Fireplace infused with local art
K. Flooring inlaid with designs containing local references
L. Sculpture / displays adjacent to seating lounges
M. Hanging art / light fixture above circulation area at each set of gates
  • Wayfinding element
  • Potential incorporation of gate identification or signage
N. Large hanging art / sign element in central hall
O. Art integrated into glazing and mullions of central hall curtain wall
P. Hanging art in high ceiling of seating lounges
Q. Art incorporated into restroom entrance walls
R. Decorative glazing along railing between departure lounges & boarding ramp
S. Wall mounted art piece / mural in V.I.P. lounge

ADVERTISING
T. Advertisements inset into vestibule walls
U. Low-profile, back-lit advertisements on baggage carousels
V. Outbound passenger focused advertisements mounted on surface of wall
W. Inbound passenger focused advertisements incorporated into exit corridor wall
X. Surface mounted advertisement between columns along circulation path and in end departure lounges
Y. Advertisement inset into walls of stair cores at queuing area of departure lounges
Z. Airline advertisement / branding incorporated into wall at entrance to passenger boarding bridge & decals on walls inside bridge

Source: RS&H, 2015
3.4.1 CURBSIDE CHECK-IN

Currently there exists no weather protection at the curbside pedestrian walkway. It is recommended that a curbside canopy be added to cover the curb and one lane of cars that are dropping off passengers at the east side of the terminal in front of ticketing. This will also enhance the curbside check-in and baggage drop process. For passenger comfort it is also recommended that a porte-cochère be located at the center of the terminal and aligned with the central vestibule. It will span the roadway and provide weather protection as pedestrians cross to access the parking lots and offer weather protection at the main center entry of the terminal. Vehicles slow down as they approach the porte-cochère and thus contribute to an added level of pedestrian safety. It serves as an intuitive wayfinding element to reinforce the main entry and provide clues as to the location of the ticketing and baggage spaces within the terminal landside. The porte-cochère is found at many local resort hotels and connect the local resort experience to that of the airport. The design of the porte-cochère is resort inspired and will be compatible with the terminal by using a kit of parts and details derived from the existing terminal architecture.
Inside the terminal, as one enters from the porte-cochère, the ticketing hall is on the east and the baggage hall is on the west side of the terminal landside. Centrally located between the two halls is the security screening check point. The traveler first enters the queue space prior to entering the screening area that is composed of four passenger screening lanes, with additional area preserved for a future lane. The last part of the check point is a re-composure area where one can put their shoes on and other personal items back in their carry-on baggage. This space is also an opportunity to relax after the stress that many travelers experience as a result of the screening process. Upon exiting the re-composure area, one gets their first view through the glass curtain wall of the airfield and the mountains beyond. This area has a rich palate of materials that speak to the natural environment and sense of place. The floor finish is a combination of wood and terrazzo flooring with river patterns and colors. Stone veneer cladding on the exterior of the elevator walls add color and texture to the space. Wood glulam beams support the ceiling and continue the expression of beams found in the high volume of the landside hall. Here we create an opportunity to visually connect the lower floor with the upper floor via a large opening above the escalators and stairs. This connection is further reinforced by the day light, sounds, and smells coming from the grand concessions hall above.
3.4.3 GRAND HALL CONCESSIONS AREA

Escalators and stairs take you up into the heart of the terminal, the grand concessions hall. Arriving at the second floor is a sensory experience of natural light and from the ambient concession signage and lighting. The sounds of restaurant and bar co mingle with the conversation of the resort vacation experience. Culinary smells and aromas from a variety of food and beverage offerings compete for the traveler’s attention. A large glass curtain wall connects one visually to the sky and natural environment. At the base of this glass wall is a long coffee bar and communal family seating area. The mullions supporting the glass wall are inspired tree branches and mountain motifs. The hall is flanked by concessions that offer branding and menus inspired by local community culture. Above the concessions, clerestory windows allow additional natural light to bathe the tall space. Table seating surrounding the concession floor allow the traveler to become part of the vibrant experience at the heart of the terminal. Comfortable resort style seating with rugs, compliment a two sided stone fireplace that rises through the tall space. Stone veneer on the walls, vaulted wood ceiling beams supported by tall columns, and wood plank floors that recall the bridges of Eagle County, all contribute to the unique Colorado experience.
Passenger hold rooms are located to the east and west of the grand concessions hall and are adjacent to their respective boarding gates. The hold rooms are located along the airside wall overlooking the airfield and mountains beyond. The circulation spine is located in-board of the hold rooms and is oriented east west. Clerestory windows above the circulation bring natural light back into this space. The circulation and hold rooms feature a material palate and kit of parts that is consistent with the grand hall. These include expressing wood beams in the ceilings, celebrating the structural connections, cladding major accent walls in stone veneer, integration of art and advertising, use of natural light, and featuring natural materials to add color and texture especially at the human scale level. The east and west airside concourses also offer opportunities to locate additional resort style seating configurations with prominent views of the airside and mountains. The floor finishes that distinguish between concessions, hold rooms and circulation areas, are design opportunities to reinforce intuitive way finding as well as continue to create a journey that features metaphors from the natural environment. Instead of a straight edge, undulating lines inspired from the river’s edge now define and separate spaces.