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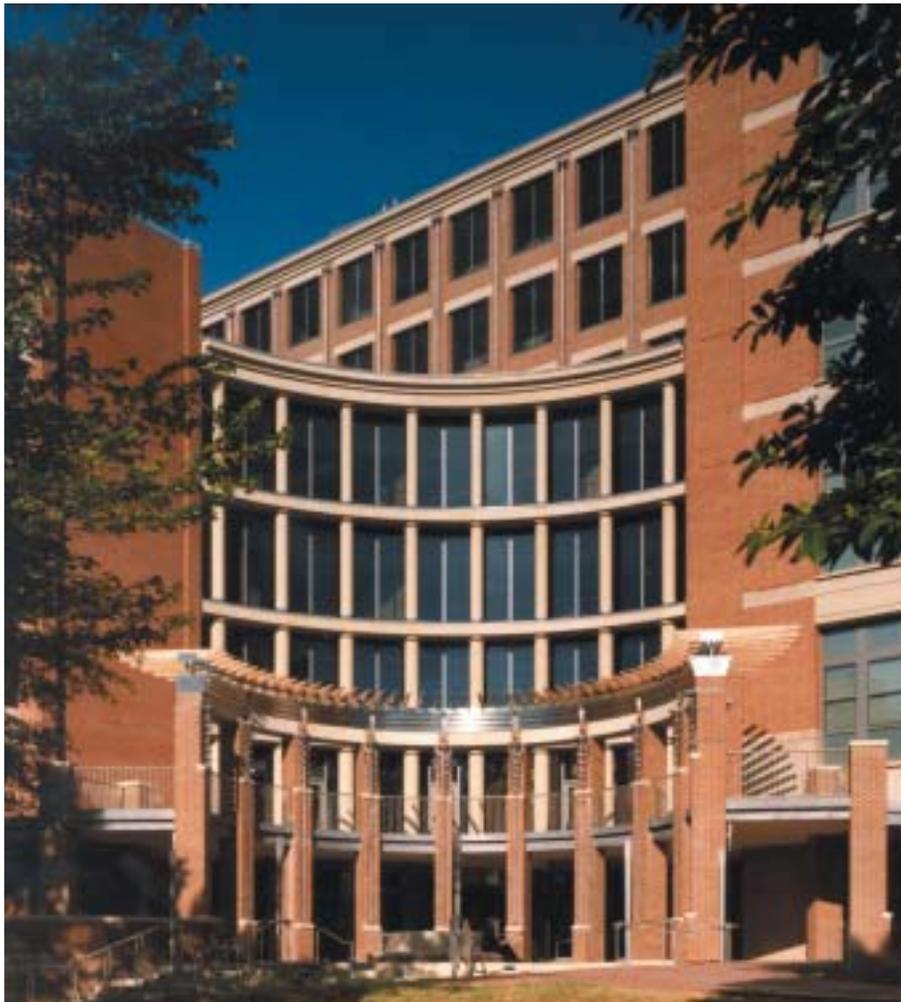
University of North  
Carolina – Chapel Hill  
Biomolecular  
Research Building  
Chapel Hill, NC

Architects:  
Lord Aeck & Sargent  
Architecture  
Chapel Hill, NC

General Contractor:  
Skanska USA  
Building Inc.  
Winston-Salem, NC

Masonry Contractor:  
Skanska USA  
Building Inc.  
Winston-Salem, NC

# BRICK *works*



## Research Building Bridges Eras On Historic Campus

Chartered in 1789, UNC-Chapel Hill is the nation's first state university, boasting two National Historic Landmarks on its campus and consistently ranked among the most respected schools in the country. Its 729-acre campus is widely regarded as one of the most beautifully landscaped spaces in the United States. As the University continues to expand its campus with new buildings, it strives to honor its architectural heritage while remaining on the cutting edge of research and innovation.

The University of North Carolina Medical School needed a modern facility to house interdisciplinary research programs.

“Brick’s historical precedence in the area’s architecture – as well as its durability, visual appeal and design flexibility – made it an ideal material for this project.”

*Terry Sargent, AIA, Lord Aeck & Sargent Architecture*





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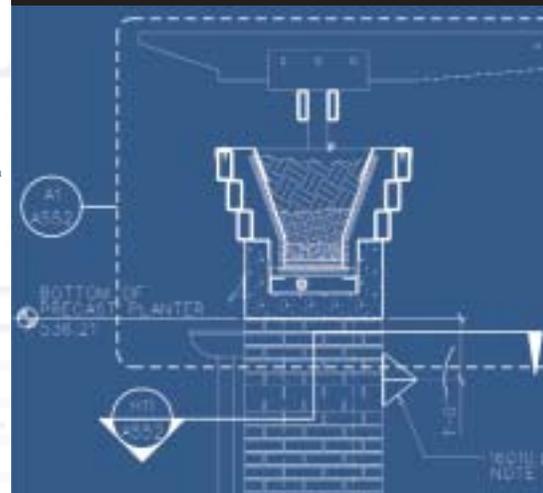
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**THE DETAIL FILE**

Take a closer look at how the Architect detailed this section.

Of course, this depiction is not to be construed as an exact detailing recommendation by the Brick SouthEast.



The design needed to be flexible enough to adapt to continually advancing technologies while integrating the permanence, scale and texture of the historical campus. The school selected Lord Aeck & Sargent architecture to create a “100-year building” that would fulfill these objectives. “Flexibility, durability and ‘place’ were the three charges from the school,” said Terry Sargent, design principal. “The design needed to accommodate the flexible modular concepts of a modern research laboratory with a structure capable of an indefinite lifespan. Brick was the obvious choice.”

Brick is used liberally on both the exterior and interior finishes to create permanent, easy-to-maintain and economical surfaces. The design team took great care in working with the brick manufacturer to match the historical brick and mortar colors and textures of the connecting buildings

to the contemporary brick used on the new, 228,000-square-foot structure.

The design team built a concrete two-way flat slab with an eight-story, load-bearing structural solid brick exterior tower to connect two adjacent research facilities. The tower serves as the main entrance to the three-building complex and features steel windows, lead-coated copper roofing, precast columns, oversized utility capacities and brick lintels. The dramatic entrance, featuring ornate stainless-steel stylized Cadeuci symbolizing the medical field, leads to a four-story atrium lobby connecting the two existing buildings with the research tower. The atrium contains two auditoria, which offer state-of-the-art audio-visual capabilities and create the largest video-conference facility in the world. Rising above the shared facility is a free-standing tower containing offices, laboratories and classrooms.

Corbelled brick columns inside the atrium provide a fundamental connection between the exterior of the adjacent buildings and the grand lobby space within. Brick is also on the interior of the laboratory spaces, lending warmth and durability to the building’s overall design. “The masons did an excellent job with coursing, setbacks, and interior masonry to create an image that has an appearance of history and permanence in a contemporary building,” Sargent said.

The new biomolecular building fulfills UNC Chapel Hill’s desire to return to traditional collegiate architecture that marries classic beauty with modern functionality. The design team at Lord Aeck & Sargent has thoughtfully created a research environment for faculty and students that is ahead of its time while honoring the timeless quality of the campus surrounding it.

