



GREAT HILLS CORPORATE CENTER

Austin, Texas
1981 - 1988

Client: Connaught Corporation

Gross Floor Area: 197,000 sf

Landscape Architect: John Rahenkamp

Structural: O'Donnell & Naccarato

MEP: Bala Consulting Engineers

Photography: R.Greg Hursley

The 21-acre site fronts on a major arterial loop in Austin, Texas. The design challenge was to place 197,000 square feet of office space in a steep, densely wooded setting without destroying the very characteristics that made the site unique. A strict zoning ordinance that established a maximum building height of 35 feet above undisturbed ground further complicated the design parameters. The client, moreover, wanted a design that would clearly set his project apart from the ubiquitous dark-glass boxes that increasingly dotted the western hills of Austin. The project became an exercise in sensitive site planning, optimized solar orientation, and responsive geometry.

"Harmony within the ecosystem, the site, the regulatory framework, the program, the choices of systems, and the aspirations of the Owner. The result is a strong public image on the outside; and delightful, carefully considered spaces on the inside."

- Austin Chapter of Associated General Contractor's Award Jury