

Silicon Valley Financial Center San Jose CA

From 1980 to 1990, downtown San Jose, experienced a rebirth and transformation in one of the most aggressive and successful redevelopment plans of its time. The plan created an 8-block redevelopment district bound by City Center Park and Market Street on the west and San Jose State University campus on the east. The plan included the introduction of a light rail system running north/south, connecting downtown with northern San Jose, the civic center of the city. The plan introduced over 2MSF of commercial, residential, retail and cultural facilities into downtown in a phased plan to be realized over a 25-year period. Several significant historic buildings in the urban fabric were adaptively reused or restored, integrating old building stock into the revitalized downtown area advocating for a pedestrian friendly, 24-hour live-work environment, active street-life and sense of place celebrating the heart of the Silicon Valley and the historic dominance of Hispanic culture in the region.

The city partnered with leading developers to fund and build: The New Fairmont Hotel: 50 San Fernando (a 325,000 GSF commercial office building, at the time the tallest between San Francisco and LA); the renovation of and 45,000 GSF addition to the San Jose Museum of Art: and Civic Center Plaza (constructed over 2 levels of subterranean parking shared by all parts of the Phase I development)

Williams anchored the architectural design team while at Skidmore Owings & Merrill collaborating with the urban design leaders to develop the 8-block plan and was the overall team leader in the design of the new office tower, the museum addition, The Fairmont (by HOK) and the Plaza (designed in collaboration with Dan Kiley, Landscape Architect).















SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF ART











