



New Tradition Homes Corporate Office



Reception and Lobby

Company profile

“New Tradition Homes was started in 1987 by Alvar and Nancy Helmes and their family. From the beginning, the Helmes family dream has been to build homes with a focus on better quality, friendly service and outstanding value. Over the years, thousands of homeowners have enjoyed the experience of building and owning a New Tradition Home. The company has grown to be one of the largest homebuilding companies in the Clark County and Tri-cities regions. Along the way, the New Tradition family has grown to include a team of dedicated employees and a reputation for outstanding customer service and satisfaction.” *(From New Tradition Homes website)*

Business situation

New Tradition Homes was growing and needed to expand their offices. The company owners wanted to upgrade their company image and provide the capacity in a new building for future growth and a prospective buyer design center. In addition to expanding office space, the company wanted to provide additional parking for customers and company vehicles, as well as provide on-site storage areas for their tools, equipment and supplies.

Technical situation

Programming, planning and design studies needed to be done in conjunction with on-going business operations. The company was growing rapidly, expanding its service areas and increasing the number of completed units. The challenge was to work with the company owners and senior staff while they maintained their daily business responsibilities.

Solution

Owner and staff time was scheduled in multi-hour blocks of time at the New Tradition Homes office, well in advance of meetings. This strategy maximized the efficiency of working with large groups of people, followed by back-to-back discussions with smaller groups. While at the company office, the design team was able to engage staff where they worked and to gather information about how the company functioned and the interaction between separate departments.



Training Room

Benefits

The process of detailed scheduling and grouping of staff time minimized disruption of current operations and saved the owners the significant travel time typically required for staff to attend off-site meetings. It also allowed the design team access to key participants at the same time for efficient decision-making that allowed the design process to proceed without delay.

Services Provided

- Programming Services
- Full Range of Architectural Design Services
- Coordination of Engineering Consultants
- Jurisdictional Building Permit Submittal and Approval Process
- Participated in Selection of General Contractor
- Limited Construction Administration Services

Project Summary

Architect/Role: David Commeree, Partner-in-Charge
Client: Union Prairie, LLC, Kelly Helmes, Vice President
Address: 11815 NE 113th Street, Vancouver, WA 98662
Project Type: Office/ Industrial
Construction Cost: Not Disclosed
Project Area: 11,800 square feet
General Contractor: TEAM Construction

Project undertaken while with ARCHITECTS Barrentine.Bates.Lee AIA
Bridging design, Construction and Management
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