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Rendering: Fred Feller/ Nelson Villacorta
OVERALL DESIGN

The Link extends interior living spaces to the exterior through the use of porches; connecting the family with both the surrounding community and the landscape.

FOCAL DESIGN POINTS

The Link explores a traditional notion of the extended family living in one house through the use of a central, double-height kitchen space that joins two distinct zones of inhabitation and functions as a core where multiple generations can connect.

PROCESS

The 12 designs were whittled down to 3 for groups of students to proceed with until the final review. Dynamic ideas were pursued by each group - SIP panels (Span House), modular volumes (Reflux), & custom prefabrication (Living Around House) were explored within each house design.

GOAL

The Link is hoped to be the beginning of a string of projects in The Near Westside. With the collaborative efforts between Syracuse University's School of Architecture, its students, Lubrano Ciavarra Design, VIP Structures and Home Headquarters a great initiative has begun.

Linking together The Near Westside area of Syracuse with the Scholarship in Action ideal of Syracuse University and local businesses has allowed a stronger connection between all the people that make Syracuse - its students, citizens and professionals.

The Link will allow its new homeowners to reside in a comfortable home with subtle design decisions aimed to amplify the home's liveability as well as allow them to be part of The Near Westside Initiative.

The final construction drawing set was sent to Haven Homes for them to construct much of the home during June. Beginning July 6th, 2009 seven of the original 12 architecture students returned to help complete the Link. July 9th marked the day that Haven Homes brought in the pieces of the home and sat them on the site. For the next six weeks, the seven students, Lee Ciavarra of Lubrano Ciavarra Design, Jim Herr and Jeff Shank of VIP Structures, and Mike Hughes and Tim Rittenhouse of Home Headquarters would work closely in order to finish the project. With an Energy Star rating being pursued, an excited community of people in The Near Westside, and the Westside Workshop's focus, the Link is hoped to be completed for a new homeowner by August 14th, 2009.
SPONSORS & PARTNERS

This project has been possible because of many groups of people and individuals. The team thanks each for their unique donation of time, knowledge or materials.

- Two groups of Syracuse University Architecture Students (Fall 2008, Summer 2009)
  - John Bryant

- Mike Hughes
  - Tim Rittenhouse

- Jim Herr
  - Jeff Shank

lubrano ciavarra design llc
- Lea Ciavarra
- Anne Marie Lubrano