

CHICAGOARCHITECT

Clear Choices

Design Excellence Awards 2008

ALSO INSIDE: HONORING GERTRUDE LEMPP KERBIS FOR LIFELONG LEADERSHIP

AIAChicago

nov | dec 2008

Claremont House

Honor Award

Brininstool + Lynch, Ltd.
Brad and Karen Lynch

- **Consultants** C.E. Anderson & Associates (structural)
- **Division** Residential
- **Location** Chicago, IL
- **General contractor** Goldberg General Contracting

Overview

The panel praised the thoughtfulness, restraint and attention to detail the architects employed in designing this brick, glass and concrete house. "It looks like it was designed from the inside out, and the exterior is the result," a juror noted. Using traditional materials while bucking tradition, the architects created an unconventional house in a north side Chicago neighborhood. Large glass windows allow plenty of ambient light to penetrate the ground and second floors and connect the indoors with the outdoors. The third floor offers privacy for the family of four. The focus on function and sustainability are evident in the below-grade courtyard and green-roofed garage. The architects' attention to color, material and scale is carried through in their furniture selection: custom-designed furniture mixes with classic pieces, all complementing and not competing with the building's architecture.

Photos

(Click each for a larger version)



Photo: Christopher Barrett, Hedrich Blessing Photographers



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Claremont House

Citation of Merit

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Overview

Jurors immediately noted the skillful hand that designed this house. "It's well resolved. Nice volumes. They're paying attention without overdoing it," one juror observed. This brick, concrete, steel and zinc residence, set in a North Side neighborhood, takes traditional materials and creates a strikingly contemporary three-story house. Its open plan, 63 feet in length, has only one fixed element on the entire first floor: a stainless steel island in the kitchen. Outside, passersby get a peek into the westward-facing basement-level guest bedroom and a clear view into the first floor living room. The top-floor's brick façade provides privacy. It seems the program left little if anything off the client's wish list—an outdoor courtyard sits below grade within view from the kitchen, the garage sports a green roof, and custom-designed furniture fits perfectly in the living room, at home alongside older classics.

Photos

(Click each for a larger version)

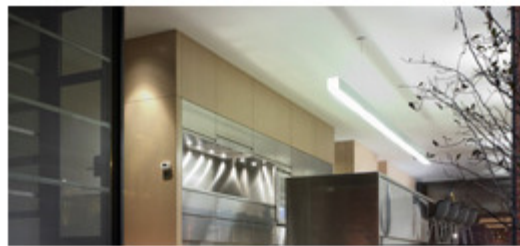


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