

**For Immediate Release**

## Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

Architecture Planning Interior Design

### **BOHLIN CYWINSKI JACKSON DESIGNS HIGH MEADOW STUDIO AT FALLINGWATER**

*Collaboration with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy doubles capacity for Institute's residency program*



Photo: Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

**Pittsburgh, PA (January 30, 2019)** – Bohlin Cywinski Jackson has designed High Meadow studio, a re-purposed educational hub for students of the Fallingwater Institute's summer residency programs in architecture, art, and design.

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, entrusted to preserve and conserve Fallingwater and the natural and historic lands of the region, continues its mission through educational programs such as those hosted at High Meadow. Faithful to this function and mission, High Meadow Studio complements its rural setting with modest form, efficient materials, and honest details.

An addition to and renovation of an existing garage, the High Meadow Studio is a short walk from the High Meadow Dwellings (a project also completed by Bohlin Cywinski Jackson). Previously utilized as the design studio for the summer programs, the garage's size limited the program's capacity while the lack of natural daylight, views, and ventilation disconnected the space from the adjacent meadow. To address these restraints, the design team created a new studio that doubles the existing footprint, adding a fabrication shop, review space, storage, support services, a covered outdoor work area, and most importantly, a strong connection to the natural surroundings.

Rather than demolish the aging garage structure, the team re-skinned and re-purposed the space to serve as the fabrication shop. Opaque double garage doors were replaced with translucent panels that fill the space with

diffused light, and, when opened, direct views of the meadow. The addition to the garage – the studio pavilion – is positioned strategically into the forest between mature trees. The extension’s interior is defined by a translucent north wall paired with a full-length pin-up wall to the south. In counterpoint to the twin doors that open to the meadow, the studio pavilion is punctuated with a single transparent portal out to the work-porch and woods.

Framing the link between the shop and studio, two red-stained plywood cores house the support and storage spaces. Roof vents draw air from the forest floor across the studio through operable panels. Custom screen panels deter insects while allowing breezes to flow through the structure. The simple gabled roofline of the existing space extends over the new studio, breezeways, and outdoor work-porch. The natural plywood ceiling and modest wood trusses are activated by a translucent ridge lite that transects the length of the work-porch and studio.

In addition to High Meadow, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson is responsible for several other notable projects completed for the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, including the 2006 adaptive reuse of the Barn at Fallingwater, originally built in 1870. Entrusted to the Conservancy in a 1963 grant that also included the Fallingwater residence, the Barn was transformed to provide a variety of gathering spaces for exhibitions, lectures, classes and events. The project received an AIA Committee on the Environment Top Ten award for sustainable excellence in 2005.

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Additional images and information for this project can be found [here](#).

**Bohlin Cywinski Jackson**, founded in Northeastern Pennsylvania in 1965, has offices in Wilkes-Barre, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Seattle and San Francisco. The firm’s work is noted for elegant and humane design, ranging from modest houses to large academic, civic, cultural, and corporate buildings. To date, the practice has received more than 650 design awards, including three AIA COTE Top Ten Awards and the AIA Architecture Firm Award. Founding Principal Peter Bohlin also received the AIA Gold Medal, the highest honor an individual architect can receive. The firm is well known for its work with Apple, designing stores such as the iconic Fifth Avenue cube in New York City and flagship stores worldwide. They have also created headquarters for Pixar, Adobe and Square, and city halls in Seattle and Newport Beach, CA. To learn more, visit [BCJ.com](http://BCJ.com).

**The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC)** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting the region’s exceptional natural places. Since its founding in 1932, the organization has conserved more than 254,000 acres in Western Pennsylvania, restored watersheds, and saved wildlife. The WPC maintains and operates Fallingwater, a Frank Lloyd Wright masterwork and a symbol of the harmony between nature and humankind. The organization also operates the Fallingwater Institute, which offers summer residency programs in art, architecture and design for high school and college students and educators.

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