

CHARLES ROSE ARCHITECTS INC

PROJECT^{data}

ADMISSIONS CENTER, BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Waltham, Massachusetts USA

Commissioned by: Brandeis University

Scope: 24,000 SF gateway building; offers official welcome to prospective students; three waiting areas; 100-seat presentation room; administration offices.

Sited near the campus entrance, the admissions center is one of the first buildings that visitors see when entering Brandeis. First impressions were important to our clients when we began talks about design. Several questions became the basis of our work: How might the building accommodate large numbers of people and still feel intimate? How could the architecture impress—but not overwhelm—prospective students?

We knew Brandeis well when we started this project: Charles Rose Architects completed the Campus Center—directly across from the admissions center—in 2002. We linked the admissions building closely to the campus center by creating another sculptural design with limestone and abundant glass. The ground floor public space needed to be able to accommodate 100 visitors at a time. To create a more personal and intimate feel, we designed three separate waiting areas rather than herd people into one large area. The waiting areas are warm and light-filled; one has a fireplace; all have generous views of the campus.

Materials: Limestone; bush-hammered concrete; exposed aggregate concrete; stainless steel; aluminum windows; artisan plaster; acoustical plaster; American sycamore paneling.

Completed: 2009

Cost: \$11,500,000

“In the design of public buildings, these considerations of material and detailing of constructional systems have been directed to explore a broader range of ideas relative to building and landscape. So while Rose’s design for a new campus center at Brandeis University (2002) pursues the use of stone as a response to nearby orthogonal modernist pavilions,

the new skins of fossilized limestone that he has developed are also assertively sculpted in ways that recall the rocky outcroppings that define the more expansive natural setting of this particular campus.”

The Work of Charles Rose by Brian Carter, from the monograph, [Charles Rose, Architect](#), Princeton Architectural Press, 2006

Awards:

Boston Society of Architects Design Award

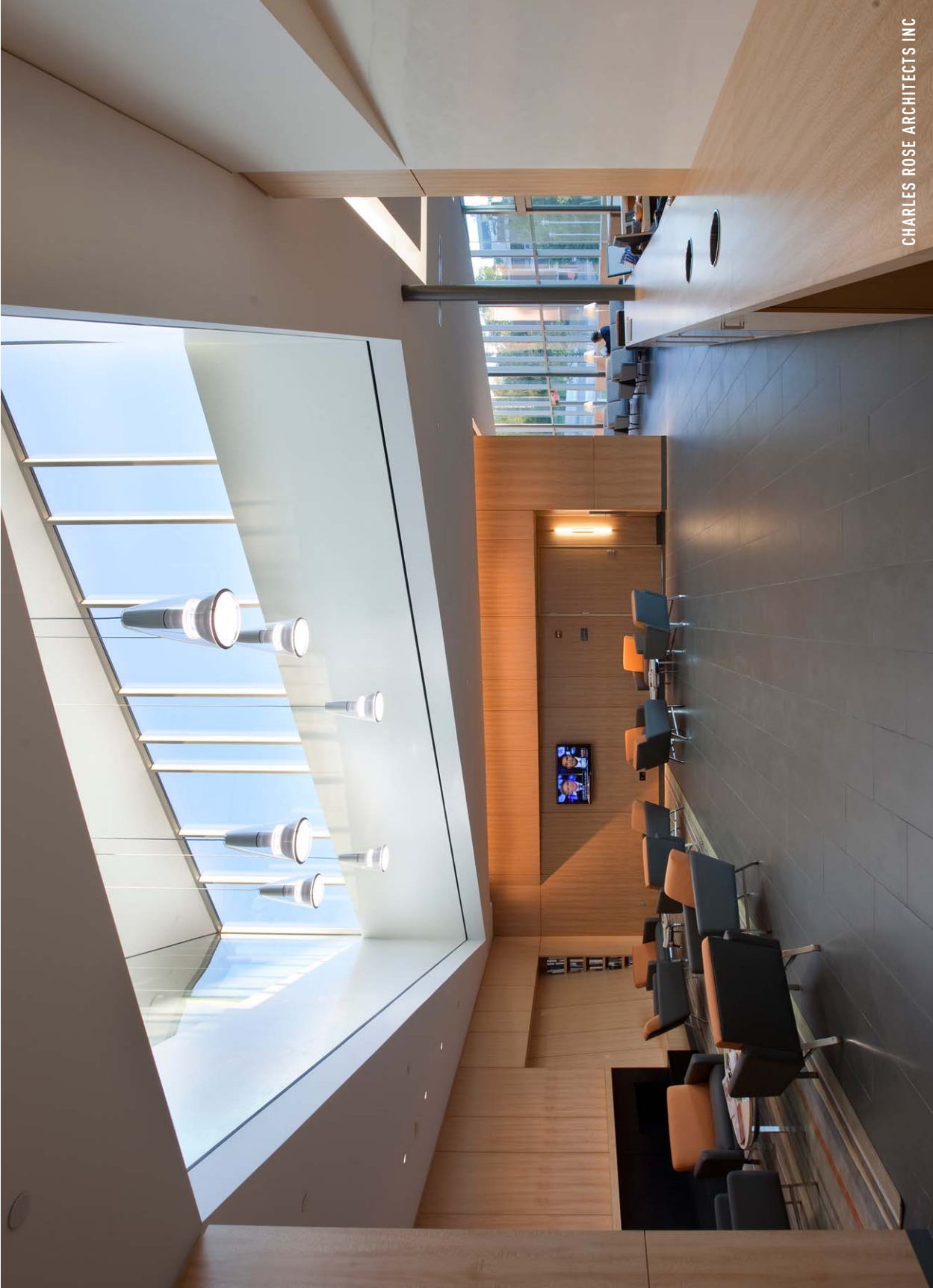
Publications:

“Breaking the Plane,” *Design Bureau*, July 28th, 2011.



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