

BRUTALISM AND UMass Amherst

The bold and impressive Brutalist monuments on the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus represent the culmination of achievements in the fields of design and engineering, coupled with the progressive ideals and ambitious political programs of Kennedy's New Frontier and Johnson's Great Society that were energizing public universities in the United States.

Following Hideo Sasaki's new campus plan of the early 1960s, UMass Amherst, under the guidance of Pietro Belluschi, hired some of the most distinguished architects in the U.S. This building program, running from the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s, produced some of the most ambitious and dynamic Modernist architectural projects of the era. Using raw concrete and other textured materials, architects, campus planners, and contractors built avant-garde buildings which, even today, stand as not only sculptural pieces of art but also as reflections of the progressive spirit of the age in which they were created.



THE BRUTALIST BUILDINGS UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS Amherst

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| 1. Lederle Graduate Research Center (1966)
<i>Architect: Campbell and Aldrich</i> | 10. Southwest Residential Area (1966)
<i>Architect: Hugh Stubbins and Associates</i> |
| 2. Campus Center Parking Garage (1970)
<i>Architect: Marcel Breuer and Associates</i> | a. Melville Dormitory |
| 3. Lincoln Campus Center (1970)
<i>Architect: Marcel Breuer and Associates</i> | b. James Dormitory |
| 4. DuBois Library (1973)
<i>Architect: Edward Durell Stone and Associates</i> | c. Thoreau Dormitory |
| 5. McGuirk Alumni Stadium (1965)
<i>Architect: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill</i> | d. Kennedy Dormitory |
| 6. Tobin Hall (1972)
<i>Architect: Coletti Brothers</i> | e. Emerson Dormitory |
| 7. Herter Hall (1969)
<i>Architect: Coletti Brothers</i> | f. Hampshire Dining Commons |
| 8. Bromery Center for the Arts (1975)
<i>Architect: Kevin Roche, John Dinkeloo and Associates</i> | g. Coolidge Dormitory |
| 9. Whitmore Administration Building (1967)
<i>Architect: Campbell and Aldrich</i> | h. Prince Dormitory |
| | i. Hampden Dinning Commons |
| | j. Crampton Dormitory |
| | k. MacKimmie Dormitory |
| | l. Moore Dormitory |
| | m. Berkshire Dinning Commons |
| | n. John Quincy Adams Dormitory |
| | o. John Adams Dormitory |
| | p. Patterson Dormitory |
| | q. Pierpont Dormitory |
| | r. Washington Dormitory |
| | s. Cance Dormitory |

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BRUTALIST CAMPUS GUIDE

AMHERST UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRUTALIST MAP KEY

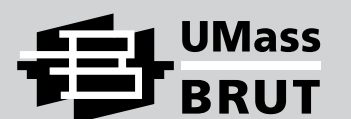
- Brutalist Buildings (1966 - 1975)
- Other Buildings
- Roadways and Pathways

UMassAmherst

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, Massachusetts, 01003

Scale: 1 Inch = 380 Feet

University of
Massachusetts
Amherst



THE BRUTALIST ARCHITECTS

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

It is no exaggeration to say that the designers behind the Brutalist architecture of the University of Massachusetts Amherst are among the most famous and decorated architects of the twentieth century. This elite group consistently designed bold, dynamic, and avant-garde buildings which continue to be revered 50 years later.



MARCEL BREUER (1902–1981)

- **AIA Gold Medal Winner, 1968**

Today, Marcel Breuer is widely regarded as one of the founders of Modernism. After working with Walter Gropius at the Bauhaus, the two reunited at Harvard and mentored a generation of United States architects. Breuer is known not only for his sculptural buildings, such the Whitney Museum (1966) and Pirelli Tire Building (1970), but also his iconic Wasily and Cesca chairs.



KEVIN ROCHE (1922–2019)

- **Pritzker Architecture Prize Laureate, 1982**
- **AIA Gold Medal Winner, 1993**

After immigrating from Ireland in the 1940s, Roche became Eero Saarinen’s head designer at a young age. Roche went on to oversee construction of the St. Louis Gateway Arch (1967) before completing his own masterpiece, New York’s Ford Foundation Building, in 1967 with his partner, John Dinkeloo.



HIDEO SASAKI (1919–2000)

- **Inaugural American Society of Landscape Architects Medal Winner, 1971**

Born in California, Sasaki was interned by the United States government during the Second World War due to his Japanese heritage. After his release, Sasaki would become the Chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Harvard’s Design School, and one of the most lauded landscape architects in United States history.



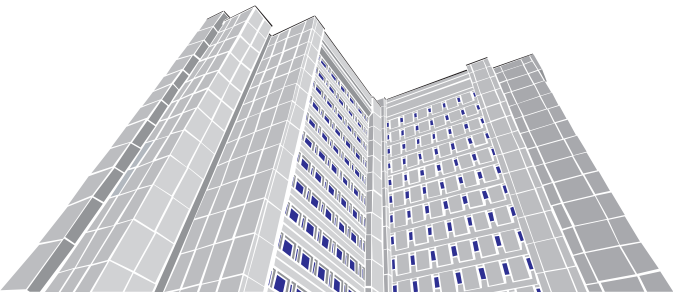
EDWARD DURELL STONE (1902–1978)

During the 20th century, Stone was one of the most famous architects in the U.S., even appearing on the cover of Time Magazine in 1958. Stone began his career designing iconic New York buildings, such as Radio City Music Hall (1932) and the Museum of Modern Art (1939). Known for his stately and Modernist buildings, Stone went on to design the U.S. Embassy in New Dehli (1959) and Washington D.C.’s Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (1962).



HUGH STUBBINS, JR. (1912–2006)

Stubbins was educated at Harvard under architectural luminaries Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer and later himself became the chair of Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. In his prolific career, Stubbins designed famous national landmarks, such as Philadelphia’s Veterans Stadium (1971), the Citigroup Center in New York (1977), and Ronald Regan’s Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California (1988).



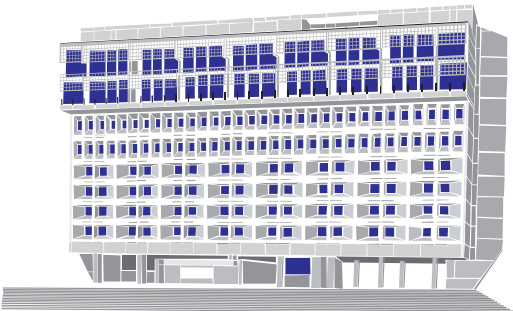
1. JOHN W. LEDERLE GRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER (1966) Campbell and Aldrich, Architects, Boston, MA

Consisting of a low rise building with adjoining three high rises, the John W. Lederle Graduate Research Center houses vital laboratory and office spaces for engineering and the sciences. Its façade of precast concrete, originally designed as limestone, has since been sealed and painted.



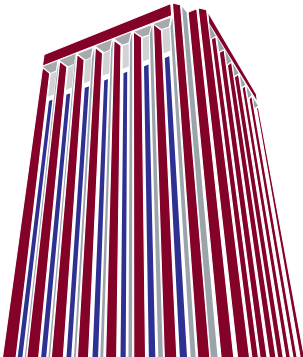
2. CAMPUS CENTER PARKING GARAGE (1970) Marcel Breuer and Associates, Architects, New York, NY

Also designed by Breuer, the Campus Center Garage’s rectilinear plan is broken up by trapezoidal staircases at the corners. The waffle pattern on the walls of the garage mirrors the sun breakers on the Campus Center where they provide shade for the top floors of the complex.



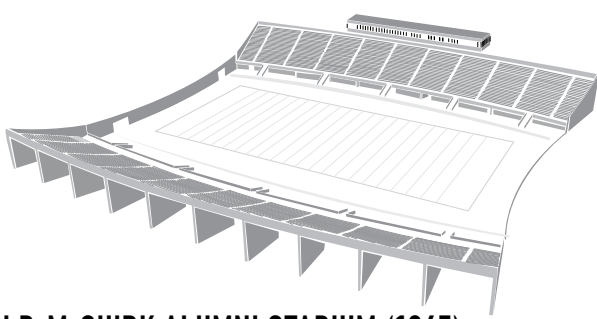
3. MURRAY D. LINCOLN CAMPUS CENTER (1970) Marcel Breuer and Associates, Architects, New York, NY

The Campus Center’s windows and highly sculptural façade reflect the unique functions of its different floors, including a hotel. The eleven-story building’s rectilinear silhouette is raised into the air on a colonnade and is enhanced with a trapezoidal entrance and stairwells.



4. W.E.B. DuBOIS LIBRARY (1973) Edward Durell Stone and Associates, Architects, New York, NY

When the tower-library opened in the early 1970s, its 28 stories made it the tallest library in the world. While the original design was more horizontal, the final version closely resembles Stone’s design of Chicago’s Standard Oil Building (now AON Center) which was completed a year later in 1974.



5. WARREN P. MCGUIRK ALUMNI STADIUM (1965) Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Architects, Chicago, IL and New York, NY

Sometimes credited to Gordon Bunshaft while he was at Skidmore, Ownings and Merrill, McGuirk Stadium is a sweeping parabolic structure with curves on all three axes. Underneath the stands are beautiful coffered spaces though which visitors originally entered.



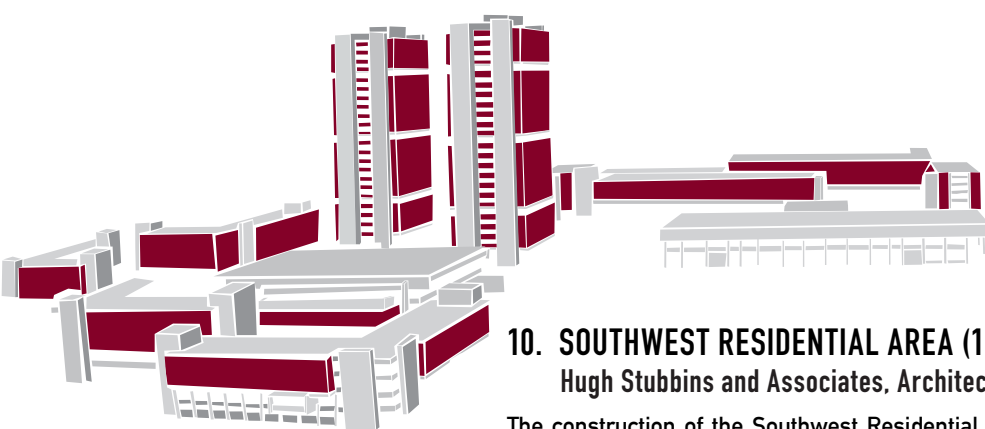
6. TOBIN HALL (1972) Coletti Brothers, Architects, Boston, MA

Much like their design for Herter Hall design, the Coletti Brothers explored the sculptural possibilities of the concrete medium with Tobin Hall. A beautifully patterned yet muscular façade sits atop 26 octagonal columns, creating an elevated portico which encircles the first floor.



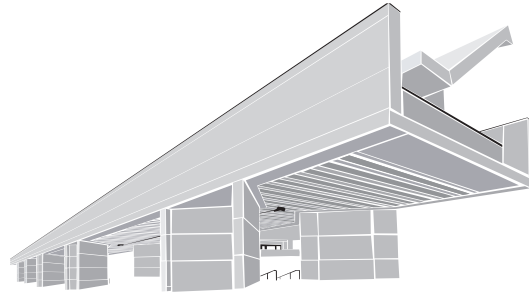
7. HERTER HALL (1969) Coletti Brothers, Architects, Boston, MA

The south wing of the Herter Hall has artfully proportioned precast concrete façades that delineate classrooms on the lower two levels and offices for departments in the humanities, while the two-story north annex has sculpturally articulated auditoria, a gallery, and laboratories in the lower level.



10. SOUTHWEST RESIDENTIAL AREA (1966) Hugh Stubbins and Associates, Architects, Boston, MA

The construction of the Southwest Residential Area in the mid-1960s represents one of the most ambitious building projects undertaken by an American university during that time. The complex, made of five 22-story towers and twelve low rise residence halls, houses roughly 5,000 students today.



8. RANDOLPH W. BROMERY CENTER FOR THE ARTS (1975) Kevin Roche, John Dinkeloo and Associates, Architects, Hamden, CT

Conceived as both an arts center and a gateway to the campus, this 220,000 square feet complex includes a gallery, a 2,000 seat concert hall, two theaters, and a recital hall, as well as space for theater, music and art departments. A 624-foot long bridge connects the east and west campus.



9. WHITMORE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (1967) Campbell and Aldrich, Architects, Boston, MA

Sitting atop a raised mound on the western side of Haigis Mall, Whitmore is often compared to a fortress. A ramp projects from its northern side and the interior reveals a beautiful courtyard filled with lush greenery and plant-life which stands in stark contrast to the raw concrete.



10 f. HAMPSHIRE DINING COMMONS (1966) Hugh Stubbins and Associates, Architects, Boston, MA

One of two dining halls that serve the Southwest Residential Area, Hampshire is an unapologetically Brutalist building which makes minimal use of brick. Its concrete façade projects into space at different points and a coffered, waffle-slab ceiling unites the building.

