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2003 AIA COLORADO/WESTERN MOUNTAIN REGION CONFERENCE

Vail Microwave Tower Wins Respected 25-Year Award & Wellington E. Webb Municipal Office Building Receives Honor Award

DENVER, CO -- The **Vail Equipment Building and Microwave Tower**, an RNL designed project, was honored with the respected 25-year award from the **Colorado Chapter of The American Institute of Architects (AIA Colorado)** at the 2003 AIA Colorado/Western Mountain Region Conference. In addition, RNL received a 2003 Honor Award from the **AIA Western Mountain Region (WMR)** as well as a 2003 Merit Award from **AIA Colorado** for the **Wellington E. Webb Municipal Office Building**. The project was completed by the design-build team of RNL and David Owen Tryba Architects (in a joint venture) with Hensel Phelps Construction Company. Winning for highest achievement, the firm was honored for architectural and design excellence at the 2003 AIA Colorado/Western Mountain Region Conference Gala, held at the Park Hyatt Beaver Creek Resort in Colorado.

Remaining a landmark to visitors traveling along Highway I-70, the Vail Equipment Building and Microwave Tower at Vail Village was built in the early seventies. The 110-foot high facility was designed to handle all communications for Vail, Colorado residents. Design challenges included the facility's impact on the environment, architectural style and choice of materials, since the structure would be visible from the highway. RNL's solutions to these problems resulted in a communications facility that is part of the existing landscape.

RNL Founding Partner, John B Rogers, FAIA, was project manager on this unique project and is touched by the AIA Colorado honor, "We can all be proud of the fact that this firm has been a contributor to the Colorado landscape since its inception. The Vail facility joins the rank of such notable projects as Currigan Hall, which is now gone, the Air Force Academy and other significant pieces of Colorado Architecture."

The 2003 AIA WMR Design Awards jury was impressed by both the breadth and quality of this year's submissions and equally impressed with the design issues on the Wellington E. Webb Municipal Office Building. "It is difficult to relate a large civic structure to the context of downtown. At the same time, the civic center of Denver holds several iconic structures, which form the context for this new office building. The decision to orchestrate the design of this structure with differently sized volumes, materials, and geometries goes a long way toward resolving this double design challenge." The AIA Western Mountain Region comprises all AIA members from the six-state area of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming.

The Wellington E. Webb Municipal Office Building consolidates nearly 2,000 employees from 26 City departments previously scattered throughout 14 locations. Located on the border of Denver's busy central business district and Civic Center Park, the strategic design creates a pedestrian thoroughfare that connects the civic and business areas to the commercial district, the 16th Street Mall. Developed by Mile High Development, LLC, the new \$131M office building is at a strategic location in downtown Denver, occupying a complete city block and encompassing over 480,000 s.f. of new offices (680,000 total s.f.).

Since its inception in 1956, RNL Design has built its practice providing innovative design solutions to clients, exceeding their needs and bringing ideas to life. RNL offers clients around the world a continuum of design services, including architecture, interior design, facility programs, feasibility studies, urban design and planning, landscape architecture and engineering. Testimony to RNL Design's success are the many partnerships with clients spanning several decades and many prestigious awards including the 2001 Firm of the Year award from The American Institute of Architects Western Mountain Region. For more information, visit www.rnldesign.com.

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