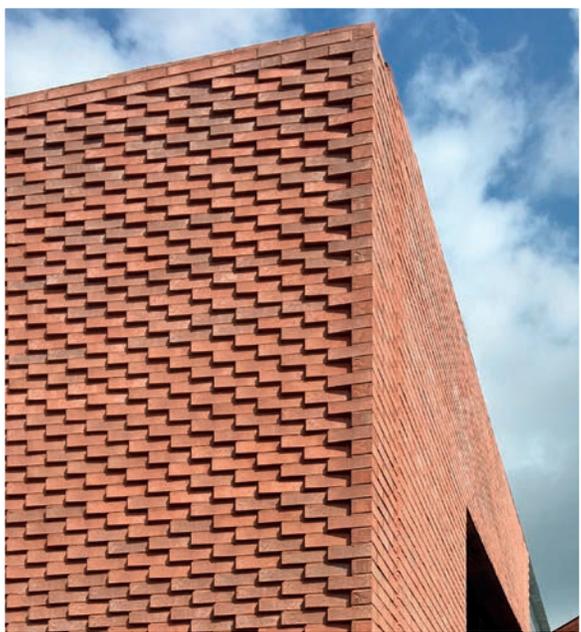


case study: a closer look at **NYS EQUAL RIGHTS HERITAGE CENTER**



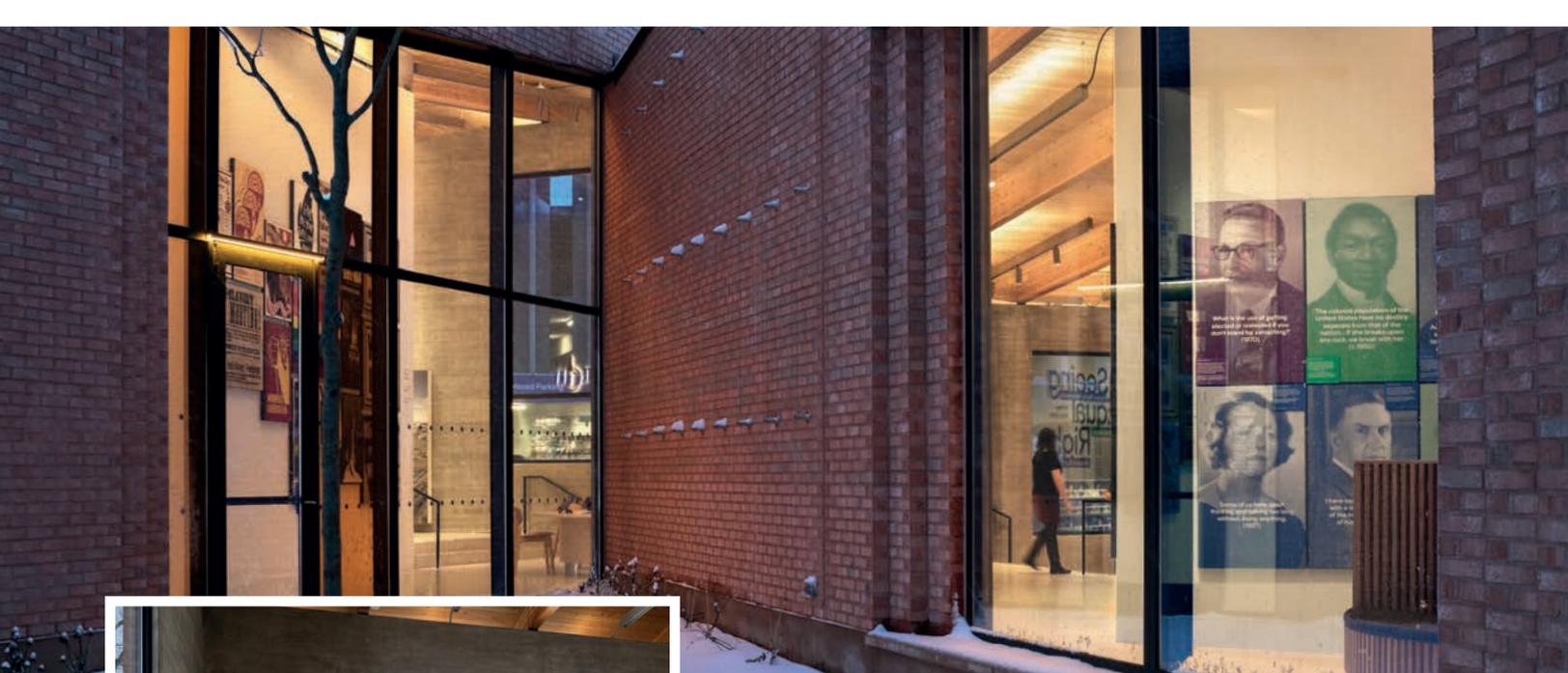
Winter Rose

NYS ERHC • Auburn, NY

nARCHITECTS used brick at the NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center to help gain acceptance for the project. The site for the 7,500-squarefoot center came with a history, both good and bad. It is surrounded on three sides by buildings that are important to the city of Auburn: the Seward House Museum to the south, Memorial City Hall to the east, and Westminster Presbyterian Church to the west. On its north side, a concrete 1980s-era parking garage is a less-beloved

building. And as the most recent project that the city of Auburn had commissioned, it was not a good precedent for the center.

The designers looked at local conditions in an effort to win over Auburn's residents. They documented the many brick Federal-style buildings in the area. "I even snooped around and picked up brick chips, put them in my pocket, and



key players:

- Architect • nARCHITECTS
- General Contractor • Fahs Construction Group
- Mason • DiPeso Contractors
- Distributor • Bock Brick

the brick breakdown:

- 53,025 Winter Rose Modular
- 5,800 Winter Rose Bullnose

brought them home,” says Eric Bunge, FAIA, Co-Founding Partner of nARCHITECTS. From this research nARCHITECTS found a brick well suited to the project — “a pink brick that is very close to some of the brick colors we found in Auburn, but also a little bit different,” says Bunge. “I think our clients were very excited about that — that brick would address some of the concerns of the residents about having a new building in a very important spot.”

The brick is set both in standard courses and with some unique detailing. On the north and south façades of the building’s central volume, nARCHITECTS laid the brick at

a ten-degree angle. These projecting bricks produce a pattern with deep shadows. Thin brick setbacks frame the sides of some of the large windows. “We were thinking of a loose interpretation of the shutter,” says Bunge, “the way that the window doesn’t quite terminate within a wall as in a modernist wall puncture.” Both details help to break up the large expanses of brick that are necessary in exhibition buildings.

Exerpt directly from Folio 2.

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