

U.S. EMBASSY HARARE, ZIMBABWE

GROUNDBREAKING FACT SHEET

AUGUST 2015



AECOM

Design Architect AECOM

Architect of Record Page

General Contractor B.L. Harbert International

Site 16.5 acres

Office Space 12,500 square meters

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The new Embassy will be located on a 16-acre site in the Bluff Hill Township area, approximately 6.2 miles northwest of the city center.
- The multi-building campus will include a chancery building, support services annex, warehouse, utility building, Marine Security Guard Residence, and other facilities for the Embassy community.
- The new Embassy will provide a safe, secure, and modern workplace for over 400 Embassy staff.
- The new Embassy is projected to be complete in 2018.

DESIGN

- The building will meet all Department of State standards for life safety and security and will provide open, light-filled spaces for the employees, including a protected courtyard that takes advantage of Harare's beautiful climate.
- Design elements will incorporate the use of local materials such as brick and stone, and is inspired by both the structures of Great Zimbabwe and by local weaving traditions.
- The finished campus will maintain the original topography and plantings to the extent possible, enhancing the natural setting with naturalized landscape.

SUSTAINABILITY

- The campus utilizes indigenous and adapted plant species for reduced irrigation demand.
- The campus also features sunshades to reduce solar heat-gain, low consumption water fixtures, and automated building systems to reduce operating costs.
- The campus has an automated daylight harvesting system that adjusts office area lighting in response to the amount of daylight entering the space to maintain a pre-set lighting level at work-area desktops.

CONSTRUCTION

- Approximately 600 American, local, and other workers will be involved in construction of the project.



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ART

- The permanent art collection, curated by the Office of Art in Embassies, will feature works in a variety of media by artists from both the United States and Zimbabwe. Each piece will be carefully selected for its quality and ability to promote cross-cultural dialogue through the arts.
- Highlights will include site-specific commissions that reflect a strong yet nuanced understanding of U.S. and Zimbabwean cultural heritage. The collection as a whole will celebrate cultural connections while relating to themes commonly explored by contemporary artists in both countries.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Karen Kelley

Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy Harare
+263-4-758801 | KelleyK@state.gov

Christine Foushee

OBO Director of External Affairs
703-875-4131 | FousheeCT@state.gov