

**VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE, EDUCATION AND MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER**  
Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA

RAFAEL VIÑOLY ARCHITECTS



With a cascading skylight roof that arcs over each terraced floor plate, the Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids, Michigan, evokes the rapids of the nearby Grand River while housing a cutting-edge cancer research institute. Responding to an irregularly shaped, sloped site in an urban center, Rafael Viñoly Architects designed

a flexible, phased-growth facility that would encourage researcher interaction and adapt to fit the changing needs of the research program for the private institute, founded in 1997. The building's profile results from the terraced floors, interacting with double-height interior atria and the steeply sloping topography

**FACTS + FIGURES**

**Completion**

Phase I: 2000  
Phase II: 2009

*The Boston Globe*, "Does Innovative Architecture Lead to More Innovation Science?," May 2004

**Size**

Phase I: 15,050 gsm  
Phase II: 22,460 gsm  
Total: 37,510 gsm

**Client**

Van Andel Institute

**Sustainability Rating**

LEED Platinum

**Consultants**

*MEP Engineer*

Phase I: Stantec  
Phase II: WSP

**Awards**

Award of Excellence  
Structural Steel-Fabrication,  
Associated Builders and  
Contractors, Western  
Michigan Chapter, 2000  
Award of Merit, The Concrete  
Industry Board, Inc., 1999

*Structural Engineer*

Phase I: Dewhurst  
Macfarlane & Partners  
Phase II: Thornton Tomasetti

*Civil Engineer*

Phase I: Focus Engineering  
& Surveying, P.C.

**Media Coverage**

*Architectural Record*, "Shedding  
New Light on Scientific  
Research," May 2001  
*Architectural Record*, "Viñoly's  
Laboratory Design Idea:  
Keep the Researchers  
Happy," May 1998

*Laboratory Planner*

Phase I: Jacobs  
Phase II: Research Facilities  
Design (RFD)

*Life Safety Engineer*

Phase II: Jensen Hughes

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