

Snowbird Resort

Wasatch Mountains, Near Salt Lake City, Utah
1965 - 1975

Snowbird is a four-season resort in the rugged Wasatch Mountains of Utah, some nine miles above the Salt Lake valley floor. It is studiously modern and American in concept. The nature of the terrain, the scale of the mountains and the land ownership required a bold concept of multi-level structures which follow the natural contours of the land. These structures provide lodging, commercial space, employee housing, parking, and maintenance facilities. The plaza and skier's bridge over Little Cottonwood Creek are the nucleus of the plan. Skier and pedestrian circulation move outward from this central plaza to the mountain and all buildings and facilities. The plan avoids a piecemeal multiplication of small chalets across the site seen in so many other resorts in Europe and America. Steep grades, avalanche paths and existing trees were all accommodated in the design.

Design Team

The Snowbird master planning, buildings, and mountain development were done by a team of people including Snowbird Design Group; Ted Johnson, the original developer of Snowbird; Brixen and Christopher, Architects; Beat Von Allmen, Mountain Development Consultant; Edward LaChapelle, Glaciologist; Dan Kiley & Partners, Landscape Architects and Planners; and the Enteleki Partners. Jack Smith was the author of the original concepts beginning in 1964, and a member of the Snowbird Design Group beginning in 1966. He was Partner in Charge with Dan Kiley and Partners, 1967 to 1970, and Partner in Charge with ENTELEKI, 1970 to 1975. He was also the coordinating architect and supervised the construction of the buildings and mountain development from 1970 through 1975. Dick Bass became the financier and general partner with Ted Johnson in late 1969.

Snowbird Design Group, Salt Lake City, Utah

Martin Brixen & James Christopher
Robert Bliss
Jack Smith

The original concepts of planning and architecture were done by Snowbird Design Group.

Consulting Landscape Architects

Dan Kiley and Partners, Charlotte, Vermont
Dan Kiley; Henry Arnold; Peter Ker Walker; Ian Tyndal;
Jack Smith, Partner in Charge

Principal Architects

Brixen & Christopher Architects, Salt Lake City, Utah

ENTELEKI, Architecture, Planning, Research

Salt Lake City, Utah and San Francisco, California
Partners:
Jack Smith, Partner in Charge;
Ray Kingston, Partner; Frank Ferguson, Partner;
John Perkins, Partner

Continuing work on Snowbird from 1975:

Fowler, Ferguson, Kingston & Ruben, FFKR, Architects, Salt Lake City, Utah

The firm ENTELEKI, *Architecture, Planning, Research* changed its name to FFKR when Jack Smith went into independent practice and Robert Fowler replaced Jack Smith as president. The founding partners of ENTELEKI were Jack Smith, Ray Kingston, and Frank Ferguson.

Jack Smith was a collaborating principal of FFKR Architects after 1975 until the Fall of 2006 when he began teaching at Montana State University School of Architecture.

Lodge 1V, Iron Blossom

Iron Blossom Lodge is a 192 unit 11 story condominium lodge hotel.

The structure is composed of staggered vierendeel concrete trusses which alternate in section to accommodate borrowed space in an adjacent bay for flexibility of plan. The two-story elements provide a variety of spaces for each condominium unit.

ENTELEKI Completed 1975

The Cliff Lodge

The Cliff Lodge is a 163 unit 12 story lodge hotel. The structure is a concrete frame built on a 90 degree grid with non bearing dividing partitions at 45 degree to 90 giving long views and sun to both exposures of a double loaded corridor. The structure follows the natural contours of very steep terrain. A major addition was completed in 1989 by Architects FFKR.

ENTELEKI First Phase Completed 1974; FFKR Second Phase Completed 1987

Mid Gad- Valley Restaurant

The Mid-Gad Valley Restaurant and Warming Facility was constructed of glue-laminated wood beams and steel gusset plates. The structure was pre-cut and assembled in snow conditions at high elevation. The building accommodates 200 skiers. The flat roof allows high winds to remove the snow naturally. The structure was designed to withstand 125 mile per hour winds and blizzards that can deposit 14 feet of snow. Minimal foundation concrete was required due to the bridge type design.

ENTELEKI Completed 1972

Employee Housing Building

ENTELEKI Completed 1974

Lodge Five

A 192 Unit, 19 story condominium lodge.

ENTELEKI Design Phase 1972

Warming Hut, Lower Gad Valley

ENTELEKI Completed 1972

Avalanche Control Building and Lift Operator's Stations

ENTELEKI Completed 1971

Snowbird Executive Residence

ENTELEKI Completed 1973

Architectural Projects with Snowbird Design Group

BRIXEN & CHRISTOPHER, Architects of Record

Brixen & Christopher, Principal Architects and Architects of Record.

Jack Smith, Associate of Brixen and Christopher and Partner of Snowbird Design Group

Snowbird Base Facilities

Plaza, Skiers Bridge, Tram Terminal, Commercial Shops and Restaurants, Business Offices and Parking Structure.

BRIXEN & CHRISTOPHER Completed 1971

Lodge No.1, The Lodge at Snowbird

BRIXEN & CHRISTOPHER Completed 1971

Snowbird Executive Office Building, (Proto-type for Lodge #1)

BRIXEN & CHRISTOPHER Completed 1970

Turramurra Lodge at Snowbird

BRIXEN & CHRISTOPHER Completed 1972