

Practice Philosophy:**Design Born of Culture and Climate**

Eskew+Dumez+Ripple is a New Orleans, LA based architecture, interior and urban planning firm widely recognized for producing innovative projects grounded by a strong understanding of context and culture.

Eskew+Dumez+Ripple

ARCHITECTURE
INTERIOR ENVIRONMENTS
URBAN STRATEGIES

Since its founding in 1989, the Partners have articulated a commitment to four enduring core values that resonate within our body of work: Design Excellence, Environmental Responsibility, Community Outreach, and Client Commitment. Every aspect of the practice has been structured to support these ideals.

Our practice's commitment to culture and civic engagement places public participation at the center of what we do. We structure an authentic, collaborative process to promote meaningful dialogue and build consensus among a multitude of stakeholders, crafting a common vision and translating that into exceptional design. Our firm also recognizes that creating better communities requires more than simply designing good buildings. As architects committed to the civic realm as well as a sustainable future, we commit our time to numerous initiatives that champion quality in the design of our built environment—teaching, research, speaking engagements—and public advocacy.

Sustainability + Research: A Catalyst for Better Communities

Our work is grounded in a deep understanding of the value of vernacular responses to site and climate. But the firm has moved beyond vernacular intuition with a rigorous, science-based approach to achieving high performance, particularly in challenging hot-humid climates. The firm has established a unique initiative bringing together building science research, long term engagement and ongoing monitoring of projects that have moved the practice to the forefront of evidence-based design.

Creative Collaboration

Our firm has developed a unique collaborative working style - one that results in distinctive, nationally recognized, award winning projects for our clients. We do not have a predetermined architectural style nor do we develop preconceived solutions to our client's design problems. Rather, we work hand-in-hand with you to draw out the critical, essential elements of your project program to provide a facility that represents your vision for the project.

A Commitment to New Orleans

Galvanized in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and strengthened in the years that have followed our commitment to rebuild what was lost, but better, in new and smarter ways is an underlying thread in the work we undertake. New Orleans is our home and we want the next chapter of our city be an exciting one where good design and best practices begin to address the social and economic issues confronting our city and our neighborhoods.

Our city is no stranger to blight. Few cities are. What many see as an eyesore, we see as opportunity to rebuild and repair; to make whole. Because of their location, oftentimes with existing infrastructure, places of urban blight are the ideal place to encourage redevelopment on the large and small scale. When done properly, redeveloping these sites can have numerous benefits on the community-at-large; encourage neighborhood revitalization and preserve open space by accommodating growth where it makes the most sense. Eskew+Dumez+Ripple is proud to support the efforts of the Committee for a Better New Orleans and Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance as they continue to champion an important cause so critical to moving our great city forward.

Lagniappe: Something Extra, Always

"Lagniappe" is a Cajun-French term that means "a little something extra," like the thirteenth donut in a baker's dozen. Yet, for our practice, the extra is essential: a good building always exceeds its brief, just as a good gumbo always exceeds its ingredients. Excellence exceeds expectations: This is the firm's mindset, fostered in a culture that reaches from the studio to the academy, to peer professionals, to the community at large; and one that is realized in beloved buildings and place making. Vital architecture, as Eskew+Dumez+Ripple demonstrates, is a product of a vital firm culture.

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