

Professor Mark Hoistad
UNL College of Architecture



The land grant mission of the University of Nebraska requires faculty to engage in teaching, research and service. All three of these missions are touched upon within the *Design Build House Project*. In partnership with Neighborhoods Inc., the College of Architecture will be able to provide:

- > students with a hands-on design and construction experience;
- > faculty a research opportunity; and
- > Lincoln with a low/moderate income home.

For more information on the *Design Build House Project* contact:
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
College of Architecture
(402) 472-9233 or
Neighborhoods, Inc.
(402) 477-7181

The Design Build House Project

The project began with a graduate design studio in the fall semester of 2004. Neighborhoods, Inc. identified the site for the project and met with the studio to discuss the parameters of the project's program. From this initial meeting, the twelve students in the studio embarked on a design process that generated 12 individual schemes for the given site. At the end of the semester a panel of judges representing Neighborhoods, Inc. and the College of Architecture selected the design generated by Jamie Wietfeld, a 5th year student in the Master of Architecture Program from Leigh, Nebraska. Jamie's design was focused on relating to the existing neighborhood, and its porch culture, along with bringing the landscape of the site into the experience of the house. This was successfully managed by extending the house deep into the site and scooping out garden areas from the mass of the house along the way, each with a different relationship to the ground plane.

During second semester, under the tutelage of adjunct faculty member Peter Hind with the architecture firm



Studio 951, a new group of students developed construction documents based on Jamie's initial schematic design along with another student's, Jean Vacha, from Omaha, Nebraska, also a 5th year student. Revisions were made to refine the scheme

to meet Neighborhoods, Inc.'s programmatic and financial requirements. We expect that these drawings will be completed prior to the end of the semester, receive a building permit and get the

foundations in the ground in the early spring. The construction of the house will follow in summer of 2005. The plan is for a group of students, working with Neighborhoods, Inc. and the College, to build the house and have it completed by the beginning of August.

Collectively, the *Design Build House Project* will have involved thirty or more students, two faculty, the staff of Neighborhoods, Inc. and a collection of construction professionals each contributing to the quality of one Lincoln neighborhood. The College plans to make this effort an ongoing activity in the future.

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