



Maximizing Space

by Catherine Gavin

Project Seyfarth Shaw, Houston

Client Seyfarth Shaw

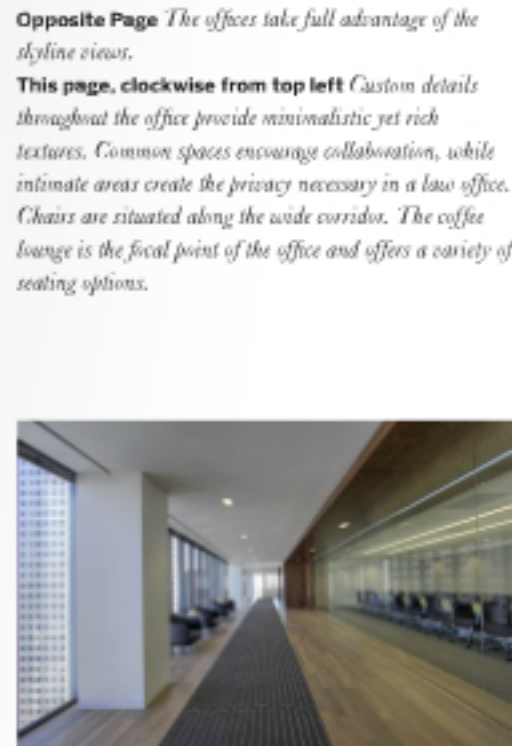
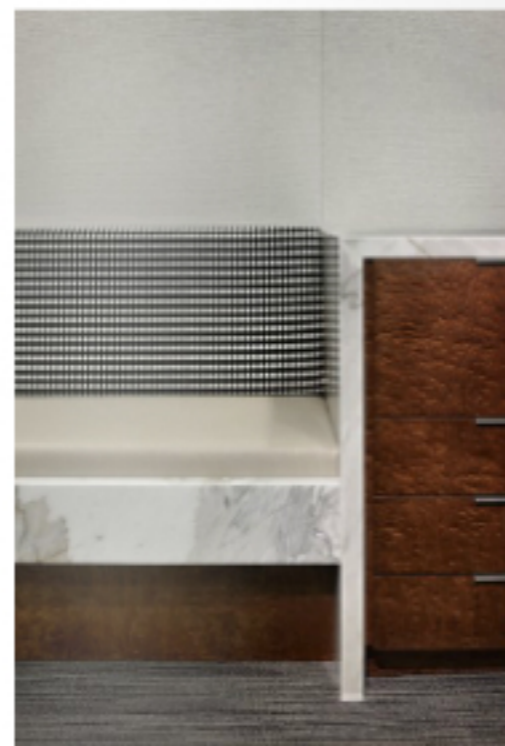
Architect Rottet Studio

Design Team Lauren Rottet, FAIA; Ashleigh Rogers

Photographer Caitlin Graham

With sweeping views of the downtown skyline, an inviting coffee lounge, and acoustically private yet visually transparent offices for all of the attorneys, the Seyfarth Shaw Houston location is an elegant alternative to the ubiquitous open plan. Rottet Studio makes designing an efficiently-laid-out space in the trapezoidal towers of the iconic Pennzoil Place look easy.

"The Pennzoil floor plate certainly helped us justify our final design layout," said Ashleigh Rogers, project designer. Seyfarth Shaw leased half of the 14th floor and the entire 15th floor, and the disjointed plans, argued Rogers, worked to the design team's advantage. Rottet Studio was able to maximize space on both floors and accommodate a 25 percent increase in total staff within the



Opposite Page The offices take full advantage of the skyline views.

This page, clockwise from top left Custom details throughout the office provide minimalistic yet rich textures. Common spaces encourage collaboration, while intimate areas create the privacy necessary in a law office. Chairs are situated along the wide corridor. The coffee lounge is the focal point of the office and offers a variety of seating options.

