

DIALOG

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

From a fortress to a town

Office & Workplace



LOCATION

Palo Alto, California

CLIENT

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

COMPLETION

2026

COLLABORATORS

Savillis, Project Management Services

Principal Builders, Construction Management and Implementation

Pribuss Engineering

Innovative Mechanical

Elson Electronic Inc.

Pivot Interiors, Furniture Procurement

DIALOG SERVICES

Interior Design

Architecture

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP wanted its new home to make a return to the office something its people would get excited about. They needed a space that appeals to new employees and entices new clients, while reflecting both their brand and their culture.

Moving into a 40,000-square-foot former bank in a lush California setting across from Stanford University, the law firm sought to transform a building some called a “Fortress in the Forest” into a place that fosters connection, collaboration, and community.

The design concept “From a Fortress to a Town” draws on the historical evolution of cities from fortified strongholds to open, urban settlements. The fortress-to-town concept shifts this law office setting from a “stronghold” mentality of exclusivity, security, and rigid structures to a “town” model focusing on collaboration, transparency, and the people who use the space.

This design demonstrates that as the ways we collaborate evolve, the need for places that bring people together remains constant. The workplace is evolving from a collection of offices, desks and chairs to carefully tailored places designed to address the needs and aspirations of a specific organization and its people. Pillsbury is a case study showing DIALOG’s vision of the future of the workplace.