

# Student Success District Bear Down Gym Preservation & Renovation

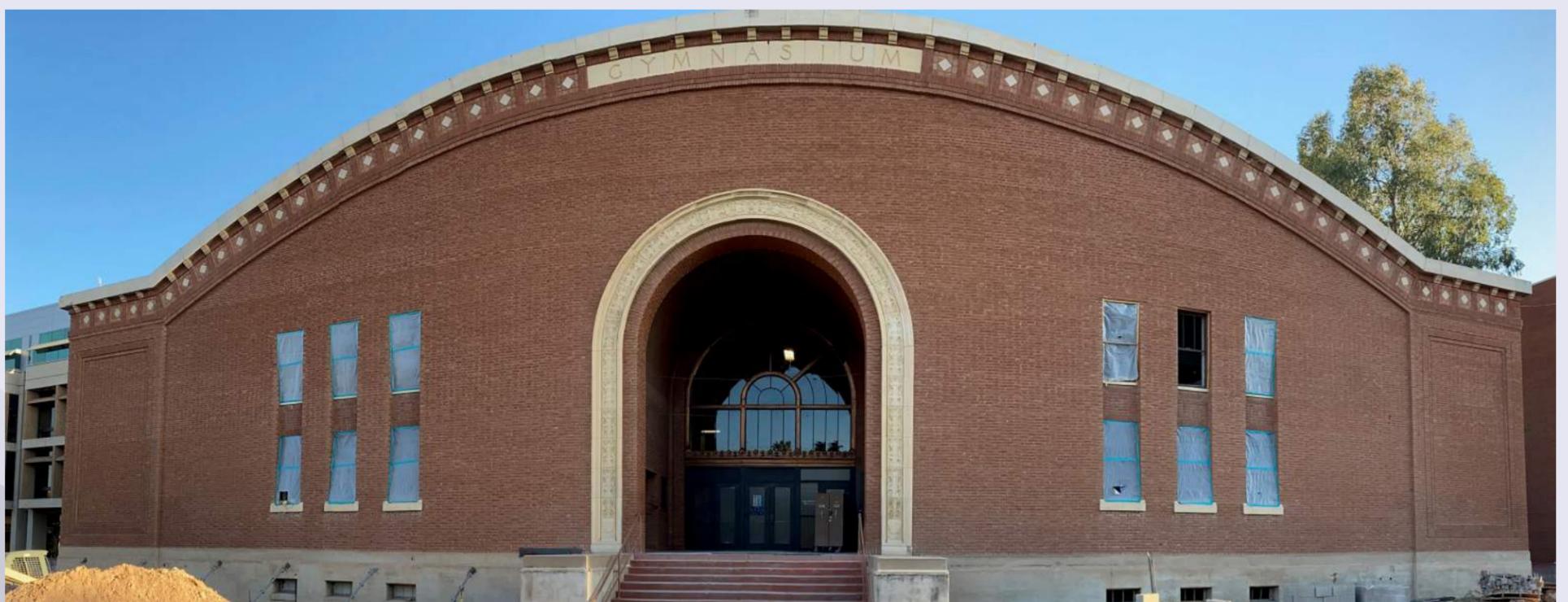
Construction Recap - April 2021



*Bear Down Gym circa 1926 following completion of construction. The recognizable main entrance and red brick exterior are being preserved during the renovation and preservation project.*

## *Status:*

*In October 2020, Sundt Construction broke ground on the final piece of the new Student Success District to renovate and preserve Bear Down Gym. The adaptive reuse of this UA landmark was designed by Poster Mirto McDonald and will transform this iconic building into a central campus destination for all students, while preserving and honoring its history. The project team is led by UA Planning, Design & Construction.*

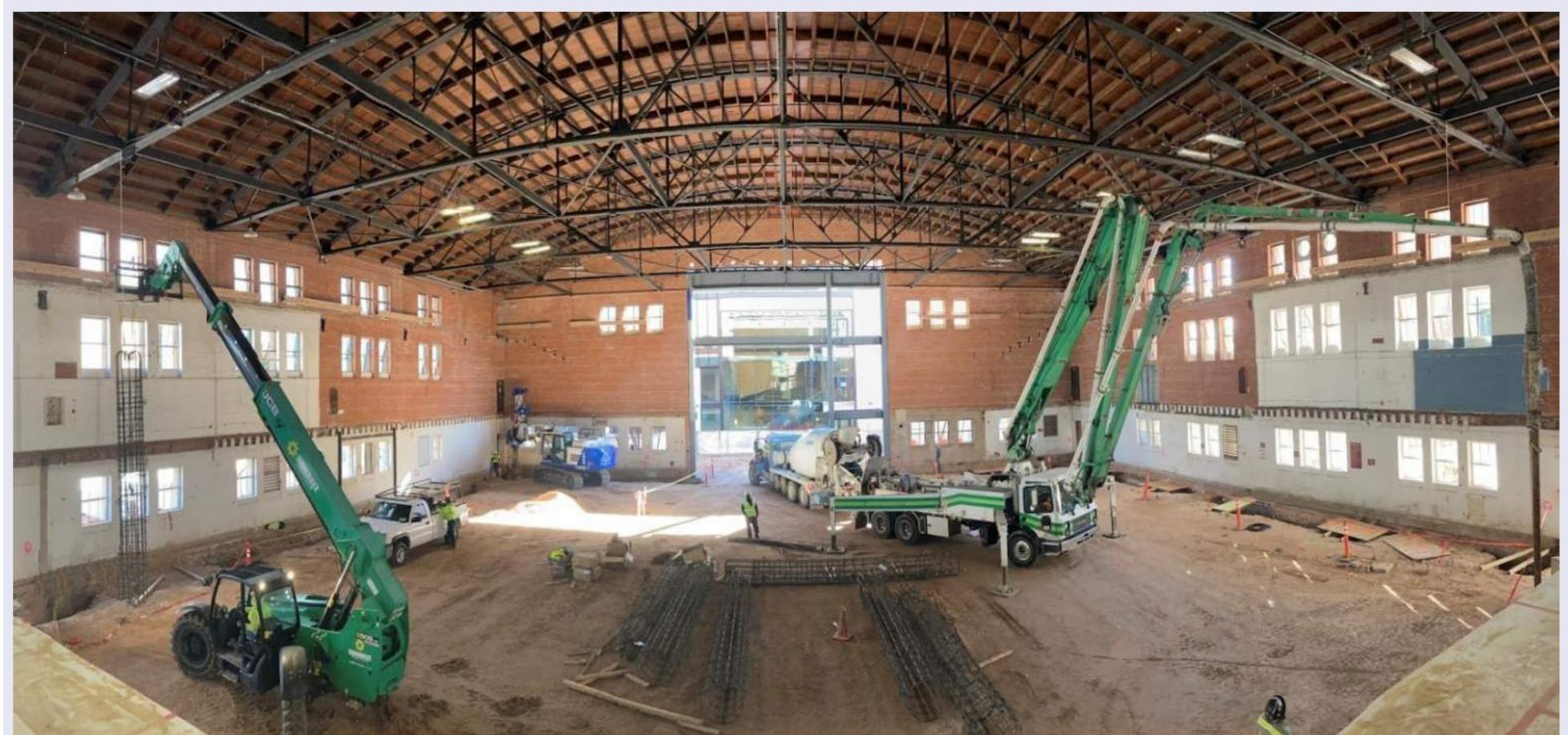


*The familiar historic Bear Down Gym entrance during construction on March 31, 2021. The project design will retain the historical elements of the front of the building while integrating important accessibility features.*

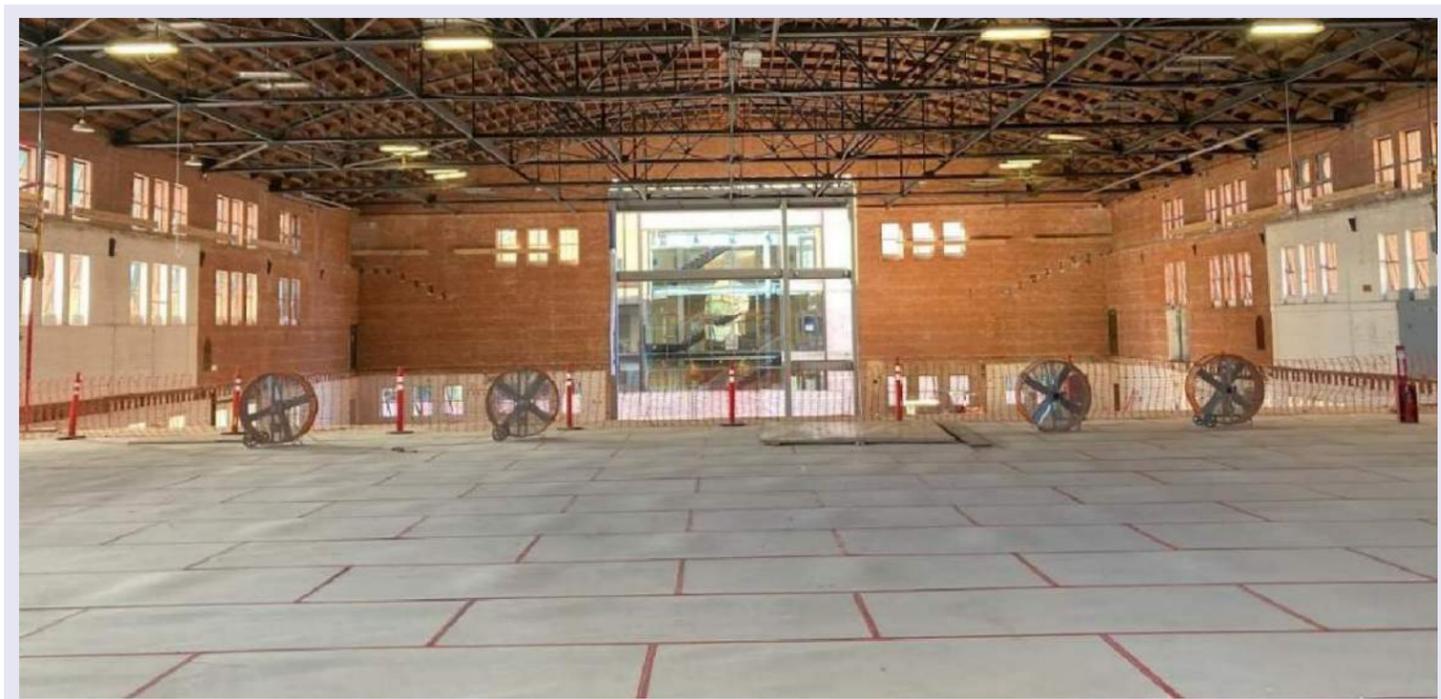


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*View of progress in January from inside the main entrance looking south. The large equipment installing rebar columns provides some perspective of the spacious interior. The windows of the completed Bartlett Academic Success Center are visible beyond.*



*View of progress from inside the main entrance looking south. The original gym floor on the north side of the building has been covered for protection during the construction process. The original bleachers will remain on the northeast and northwest portions of the building as well.*

**Preserving History:** The project team is focusing on the preservation and adaptive reuse of Bear Down Gym. Careful attention is being given to preserving the iconic elements of the building exterior; respecting the historic volume of space; and retaining important elements of the suspended mezzanine bleachers and gym floor. Future generations of students will enjoy a safe, sustainable, and accessible facility while simultaneously appreciating the rich history of Bear Down Gym as an important legacy of the University of Arizona. This historic icon will remain on the National Register of Historic Places and be renovated and preserved per the Secretary of the Interior's guidelines, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office.

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*Same view of progress in March from inside the main entrance looking south following the completion of the structural steel.*



*Architectural rendering by Poster Mirto McDonald Design shows the finished interior from the same view as the construction project photos inside the main entrance looking south.*



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*Exterior view of the south side of Bear Down Gym with the new entrance which will connect to the new Bartlett Academic Success Center. Steel framing was installed to support the existing structure.*

*The Bear Down Gym will be interconnected through pathways and canopies to its neighbors: Main Library, the Albert B. Weaver Science-Engineering Library, and the newly completed Bartlett Academic Success Center.*



*Architectural rendering by Poster Mirto McDonald shows the new space between Bear Down Gym and the new Bartlett Academic Success Center. The buildings will be connected with two bridges.*

