



Jewish Museum

## ***\$41M to Turn Power Substation Into Museum***

By [Brian K. Miller](#)

Last updated: February 3, 2005 09:04am

SAN FRANCISCO-The Contemporary Jewish Museum this week revealed its \$41-million plan for transforming the historic Jessie Street Power Substation into its new home. The plans are for an adaptive reuse of the historic substation and a new addition that will result in a new 60,000-sf space. Renowned architect Daniel Libeskind is the project designer.

The current timetable for the project anticipates groundbreaking in spring 2006 and a completion in late 2007. Construction now under way at the site is for an underground parking facility. The museum's longtime address, 21 Steuart St., will continue to host exhibitions until the opening of the new building.

The design is a revision of the original Libeskind design presented in 2000. According to CJM Director Wolf, the museum board and staff had to adjust the scope and scale of the planned facility to one that the museum "can maintain and operate within its capacity."

Museum officials say the revised design preserves the character-defining features of Willis Polk's 1907 landmark structure--most notably its red brick southern facade--and integrates it with a uniquely shaped addition that has a blue metallic exterior.

In addition to exhibition space, the building will incorporate a new educational center, a multi-purpose space with accommodations for seating 250 visitors, designed for film/video and intimate theatrical performance, and a museum shop and a cafe with outdoor seating facing a public plaza that will be renovated by the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency.