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PERKINS EASTMAN CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING OF TURKISH HOUSE - TÜRKEVİ, HOME OF THE TURKISH CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK

The 32-Story tower on ‘Consulate Row’ will feature a distinct curving façade, introducing a new icon to Manhattan’s eastside skyline

New York, NY (September 20, 2017) – This past Monday, September 18, principals and design leaders from the New York office of Perkins Eastman joined H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Amb. Feridun Sinirlioğlu, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the UN, Amb. Mr. Serdar Kılıç, Ambassador to Washington, DC, Mr. Ertan Yalçın, Consul General, and other dignitaries to mark the official groundbreaking of Turkish House – Türkevi, the new Consulate and Permanent Mission to the United Nations, located at 821 UN Plaza on Manhattan’s famed ‘Consulate Row.’ Construction of the replacement building, which sits across the street from the UN, is now underway, with a scheduled completion for the fall of 2020.

At 32 stories (171 meters) tall, the new Turkish House is designed to be a signature addition to the New York skyline, complementing what is already a destination neighborhood marked by iconic architecture, from Tudor City to the buildings lining First Avenue opposite UN Headquarters. Perkins Eastman’s design team envisioned the new Turkish House to have a “lasting and distinguished impact on the eastside skyline of Manhattan,” according to Principal Jonathan Stark FAIA.

The tower’s façade curves as it ascends; a contemporary architectural expression that subtly recalls the Turkish crescent, a powerful symbol that is simultaneously elegant and inviting, and stands in contrast to some of the more rectilinear structures in the area. The building’s stately interior will feature materials such as Turkish stone and tile, as well as graphic patterning and other aesthetic elements that honor the cultural heritage of the Consulate’s home country.

In his address to the crowd gathered at Monday’s ceremony, Mr. Stark also remarked, “Türkevi has been years in the making and involved a lot of hard work by many talented people. Those in our industry understand what it takes to produce a great building, and it takes a great client to realize it. We are thankful for the support of the entire Republic of Turkey team, government agencies in Ankara, and for the support of President
Erdoğan. Their vision, direction and passion for a facility that all Turks can be proud of is the cornerstone for a truly successful project ... It has been a true partnership and collaboration."

The new building will feature more than 20,000 SM of space dedicated to Turkey's Mission to the UN, the Consulate General, and residential space for diplomats and their families. Amenity spaces will include a passport and visa office, conference center, auditorium, dining facilities, and a cultural center devoted to rotating exhibitions of Turkish art and artifacts. Atop Türkevi’s podium – wrapped in perforated metal paneling – will sit an expansive, open terrace for events and entertainment, offering incredible views of the East River. Additionally, several loggias will be placed along the upper floors of the building’s south and east faces. The Turkish House – Türkevi is targeting to exceed LEED Silver.

The Turkish House design team is led by Mr. Stark, Principal-in-Charge Michael Lew AIA, Design Principal Gilles Le Gorrec, and Project Manager T Rajwer. Ecrüment Gümrük of Dizayn Grup, Istanbul, is the Turkish Design Consultant. Phillip infelise, Michael Lomax, and Len Eagle of Cresa represent the development’s owner. Also in attendance at Monday’s groundbreaking were Turkey’s Chief of the General Staff, Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Justice, Minister of EU Affairs, Minister of Economy, and Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

**About Perkins Eastman**

Perkins Eastman is a globally-based design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people’s lives. The firm’s award-winning practice draws on its 1,000 professionals seamlessly networked across 15 offices worldwide. By keeping the user’s needs foremost in the design process, the firm sets out to enhance the human experience in the places where people live, work, play, learn, age, and heal. Perkins Eastman’s portfolio comprises work in a wide range of specialized project types: Civic & Cultural, Healthcare, Higher Education, Hospitality, Large Scale Mixed-Use, Office & Retail, Planning & Urban Design, Primary & Secondary Education, Residential, Science & Technology, Senior Living, Sports & Exhibition, Transportation & Infrastructure, and Workplace. For more information, visit [www.perkinseastman.com](http://www.perkinseastman.com).

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