

Mystic Lake Casino, Prior Lake, Minnesota, is one of the nation's premier Native American gaming facilities. Gaming was first introduced in Minnesota in 1982 when the Sioux community opened Little Six Bingo as a solution to the tribe's economic woes. Little Six Bingo became Little Six Casino in 1991 with the addition of blackjack tables and expanded video gaming.

UNIQUE WOODWORK TABLES, banquettes and decorative columns, along with bright neon, colorful murals and confetti-like carpeting, enliven the dining atmosphere.



The Buffet At Mystic Lake Is

Deliciously

Appealing.

Mystic Lake opened its doors in May of 1992 to record crowds. A little more than a year later the casino was expanded to double the gaming space and add shopping and dining venues. A hotel was added in 1996 and Mystic Lake became a popular entertainment

destination.

A second hotel went up in 2000 and in 2001 Mystic Lake opened the doors to a unique new buffet – the largest buffet style restaurant in the Midwest, serving entrees from around the world.

The three-story, 57,000 square foot casino addition was designed by KKE Architects, Inc., Minneapolis. Architectural woodwork was fabricated by AWI member firm Stewert Cabinet & Fixture Mfg., Minneapolis. The addition includes the buffet/dining area



THE DRAMATIC CHERRY COLUMNS were pre-manufactured by the AWI member firm. Column tops are made from a series of aluminum extrusions finished in brass.

which covers 19,000 square feet, a 10,000 square foot kitchen, 9,000 square feet of cold/dry storage, and 18,000 square feet of office space.

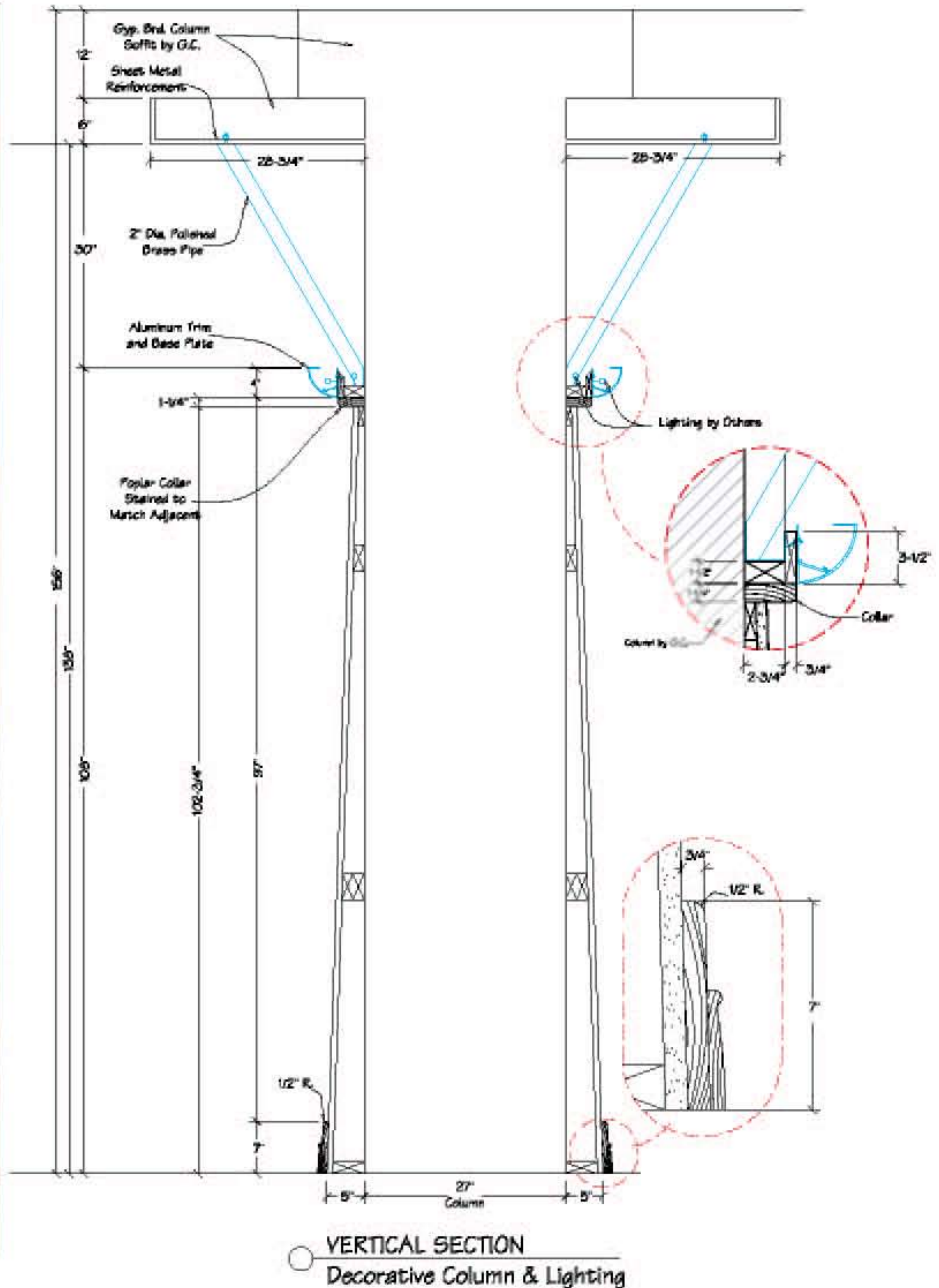
COLORFUL AND LIVELY

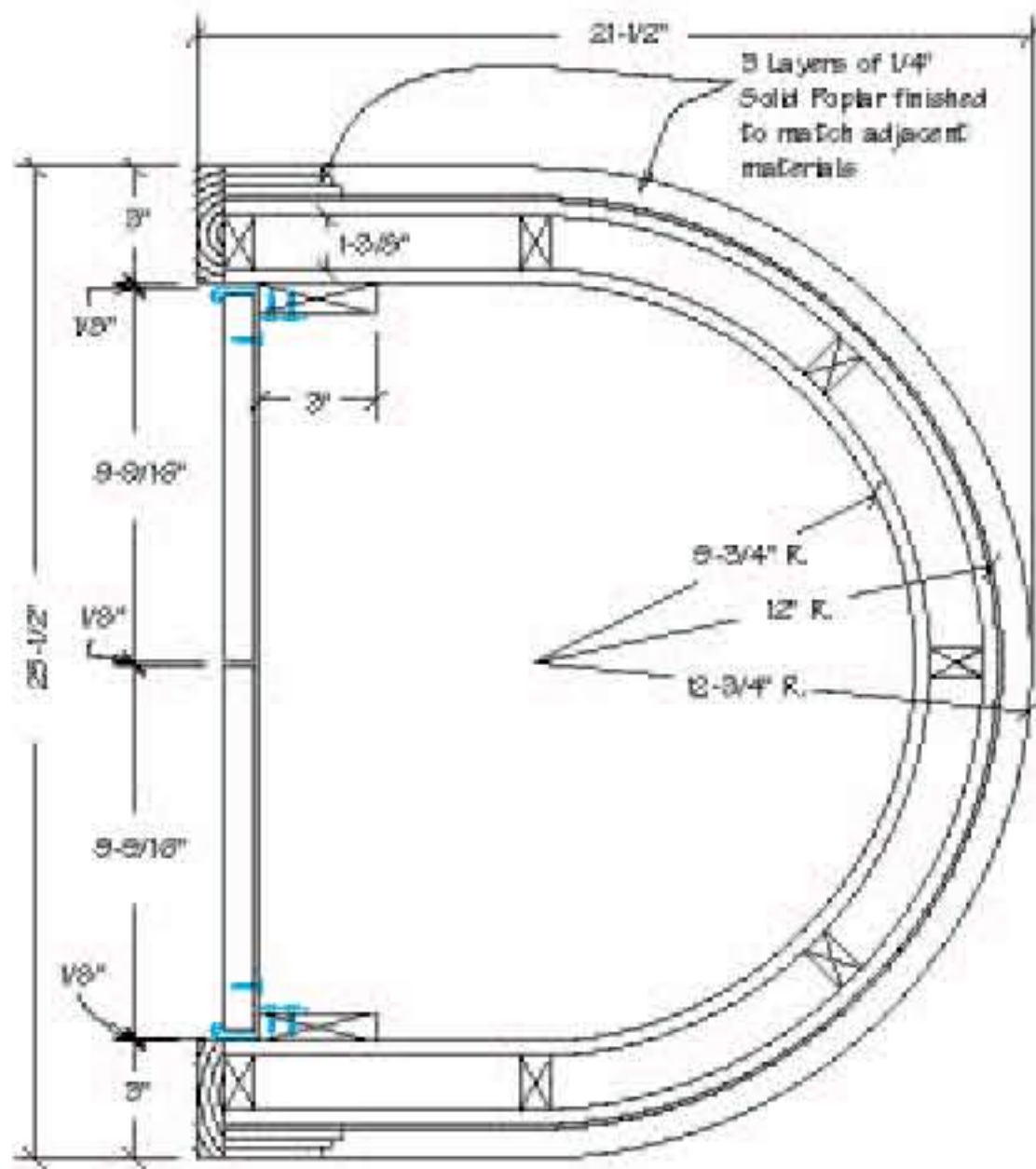
The Buffet at Mystic Lake is not

only a dining experience – it is a dining adventure. The richness of the architectural woodwork tables, banquettes and decorative columns, along with the various colors of neon that enliven the atmosphere, and the brightly colored confetti-like carpet-

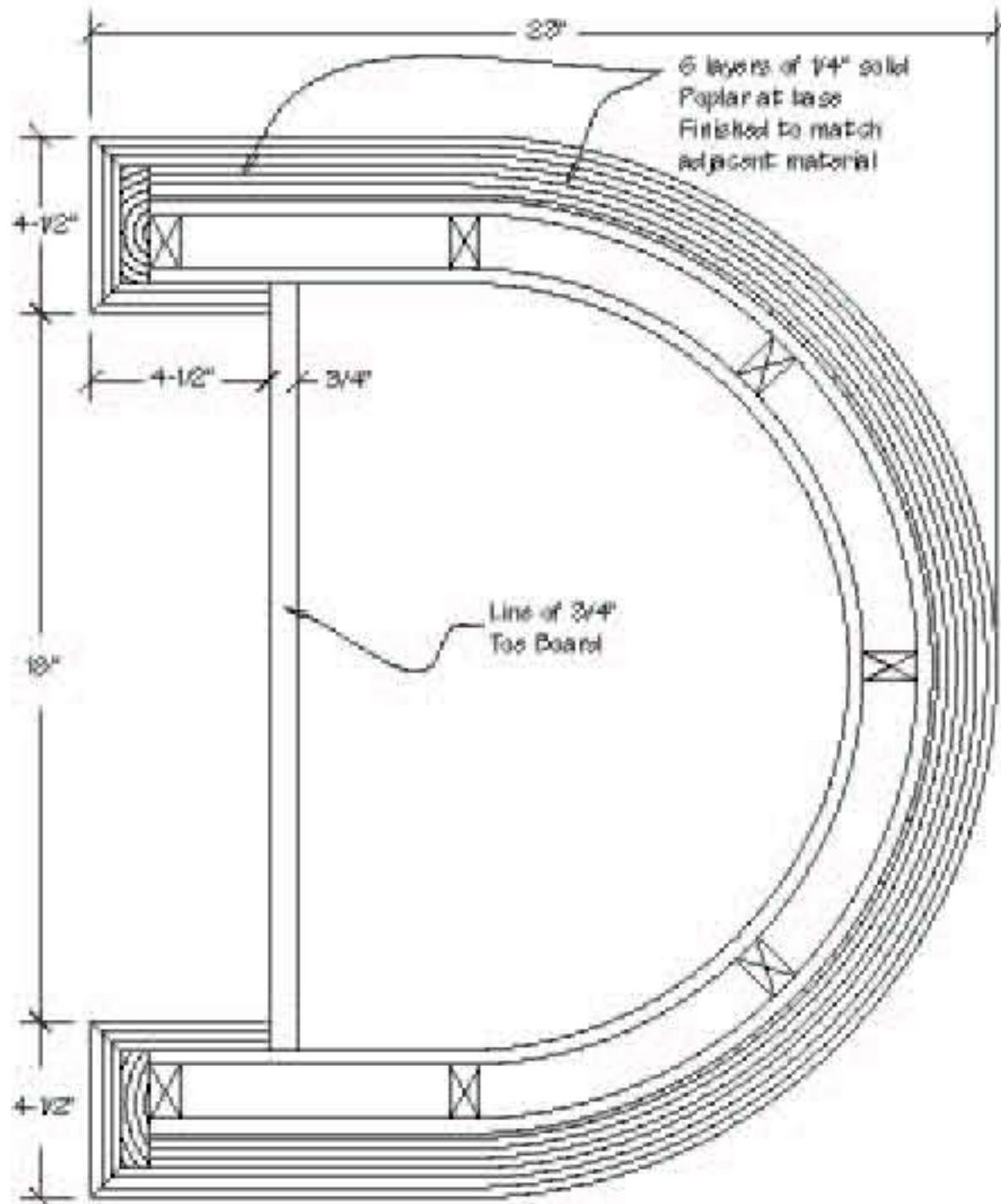
ing, add an elegant whimsy, making the dining occasion festive and fun.

The Buffet features many traditional favorites as well as exciting dishes from the Pacific Rim, Mediterranean, Europe and the Americas. A tantalizing dessert station and coffee bar is included.

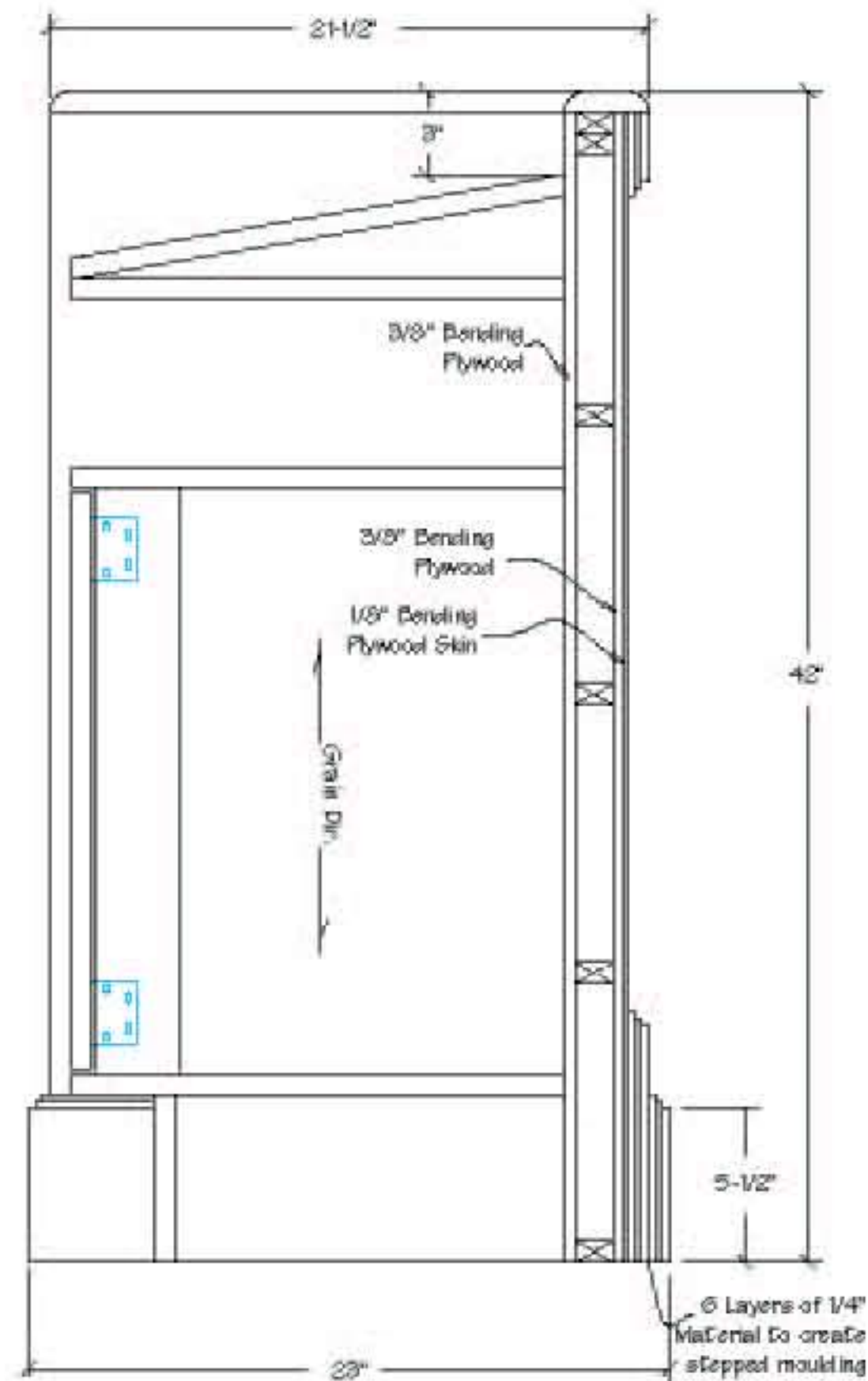




○ PLAN SECTION
Host Stand Box



○ PLAN SECTION
Host Stand Base



○ VERTICAL SECTION
Host Stand

Custom painted murals representing cuisine from around the world encircle the food stations, while earth tones and a variety of textures throughout the space emphasize the local geographical context. Crisp simple lines highlight the architecture and create a backdrop for the food.

The Buffet can be accessed directly from the gaming floor. It seats more than 500 diners and has a 50-seat private dining room. Planters, columns and settees not only serve as functional and decorative fixtures but also eloquently separate the voluminous space into intimate dining areas.

WOODWORK TOUCHES

Siewert Cabinet & Fixture provided a circular hostess desk, two cashier stations, dining tables and bases, chairs, banquette seating, columns and column tops, pocket doors, railing, built-in storage, conference tables, a media center, and high pressure decorative laminate cabinetry for the project.

Dining tables are intricately and uniquely designed. They sport a Bubinga center with an oval inlay of Maple. Edges are of solid Cherry. A decorative marquetry strip of wood diagonally crosses the table top. Tops were finished with AWI finishing system TR-6, catalyzed polyurethane for durability. Table bases are of metal.

"The table tops create a very strong visual statement," notes Michael Quirk of Siewert. They were prototyped to provide the design team a look at the

color, visual balance and layout before production began, he explains.

A prototype of the chairs was also produced by Siewert Cabinet & Fixture

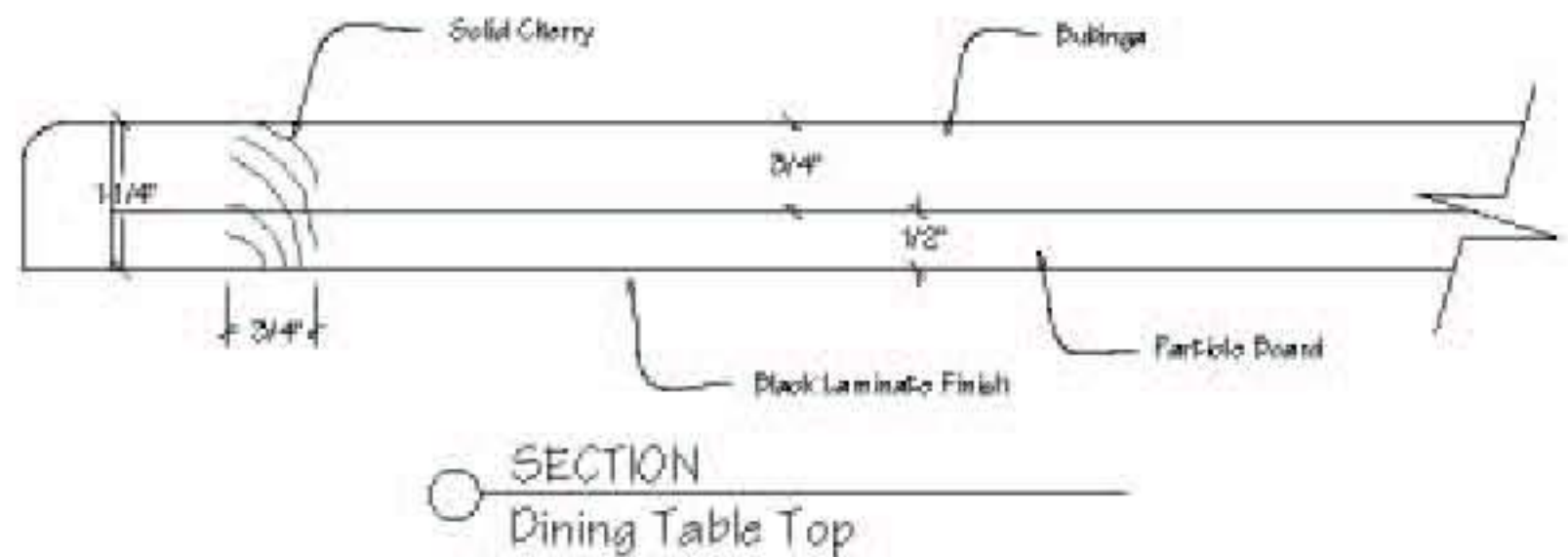
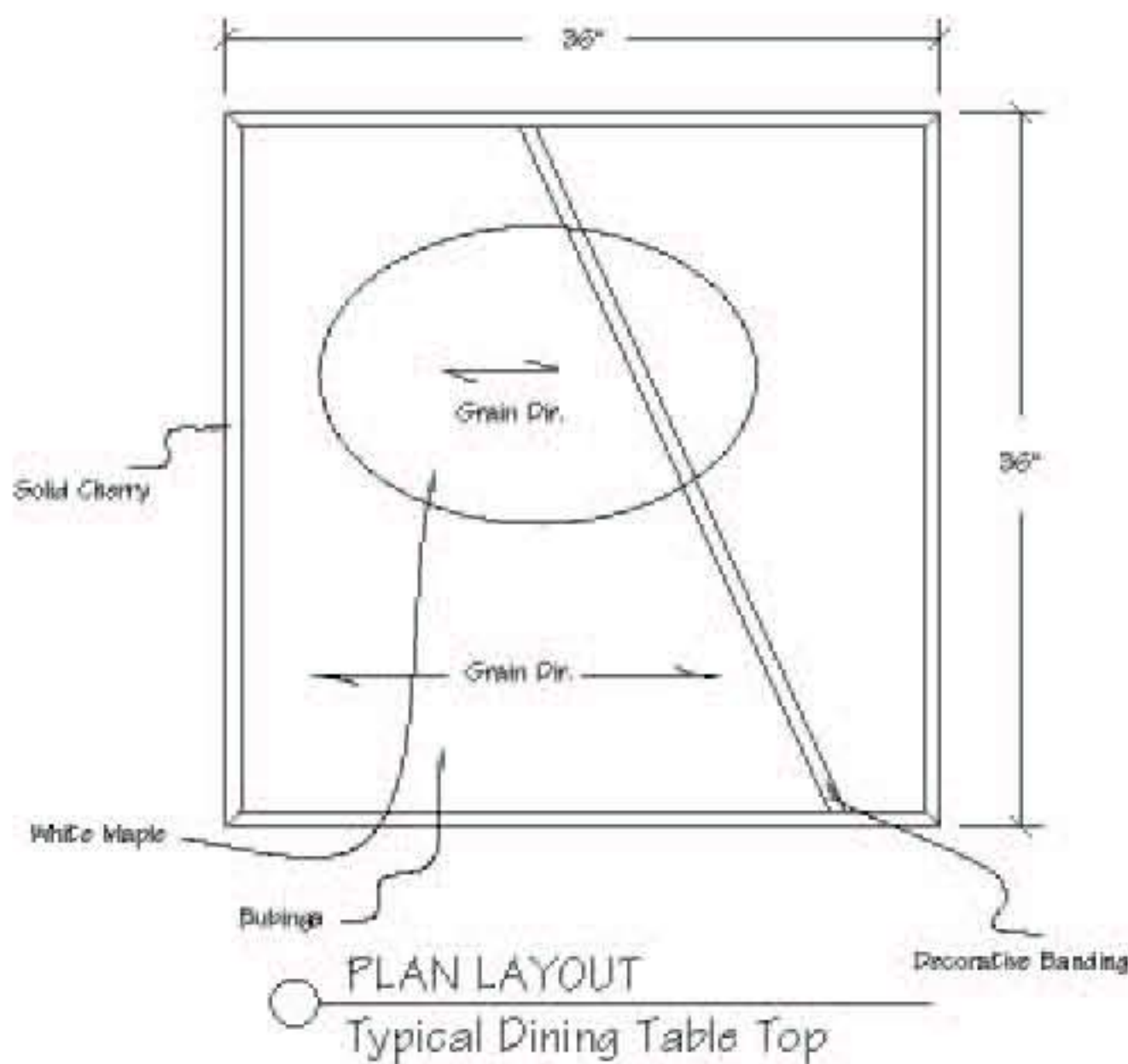
to provide the designers and owners a sample of the color and upholstery, as well as construction details. Design parameters were then sent to Malaysia



THE CIRCULAR HOST/HOSTESS STATION elegantly illustrates the color and grain of the wood.



DINING TABLES ARE INTRICATELY DESIGNED with Bubinga center, an oval inlay of Maple, edges of solid Cherry and a diagonal marquetry strip across the top.



for production, adds Quirk. After arrival in the U.S., the chairs were modified by the woodworking firm and then sent out for upholstery.

The dramatic Cherry columns were pre-manufactured by Siewert. Column tops are made from a series of aluminum extrusions finished in brass. Booths are built of hardwood frames and upholstered in cloth and vinyl.

According to the design team, the wood was selected for its color, grain and ability to take stain. Wood is used in locations where it emphasizes the architecture, notes KKE's Quentin Scott. "We felt it was important to add warmth and texture to a patron's experience at the buffet by providing quality materials and finishes within the patron's touch and reach."

The woodworking firm provided excellent craftsmanship, coupled with timely delivery and great customer service, adds Scott. "Their technical skills contributed greatly to the project."

"We worked to create a timeline that was realistic from a manufacturing standpoint," says Quirk. "Engineering, materials acquisition and approval requirements were all taken into consideration. Applying enough manpower in both the engineering phase as well as the production phase allowed us to keep this project running smoothly." ●

Project:	The Buffet	Prior Lake, MN
Project Owner:	Mystic Lake Casino	Prior Lake, MN
Woodworker:	Siewert Cabinet & Fixture Mfg.	Minneapolis, MN
Architects:	KKE Architects, Inc.	Minneapolis, MN
	Yates-Silverman, Inc.	Minneapolis, MN
General Contractor:	PCL Construction	Burnsville, MN
Photographers:	Phillip Prowse	Minneapolis, MN
	Michael Quirk	Minneapolis, MN