



## **Street Dixon Rick Architecture earns LEED Gold for Juniata College's Founders Hall**



*Founders Hall*



*Juniata College*

**Huntingdon, PA and Nashville, TN** – Known as one of the premiere architecture firms for historic renovation, restoration and sustainable design, Street Dixon Rick Architecture announced today LEED Gold certification for Founders Hall, the campus icon for Juniata College.

Founders Hall is the most historic building on the central Pennsylvania campus. Completed in 1879, the building has quite a story to tell.

"We predict the future of architecture – especially on college campuses – will focus more now than ever on the renovation and restoration of existing buildings," said Baird Dixon, AIA, LEED AP, Principal, Street Dixon Rick Architecture.

"Sustainability is an integral part of the culture at Juniata College, so it was natural during the planning stages to consider the building's role in that effort," said Dixon, lead architect for Founders Hall. Carly Wansing, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, served as project manager.

"Initially, the goal was basic LEED certification, because of concerns about cost control during the renovation of a 130-year old structure. Because of the total commitment of everyone involved, however, we kept finding more and more ways to make the building greener. LEED Gold certification is a very significant achievement for the design and construction team, and especially for Juniata College," Dixon said.

Street Dixon Rick Architecture fully renovated one portion and replaced another portion of the building, impacting approximately 34,000 square feet. The modern, but complementary, portion of the building introduces much-needed natural light into the building interiors. "This portion also provides visual separation between new and old," Dixon said.

"One of the most impressive things about Founders Hall and its 'green' rating is that we were able to save a great deal of the original 19th century building and bring it up to modern environmental standards," said Thomas Kepple, Juniata College President. "Founders' 'Gold' rating is a testament to our facilities staff, the contractors who worked on the building and the architects who designed the building."

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, an independent certification provided by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The four-story building provides offices for the president and the provost, faculty, additional administrators, as well as seminar and classroom spaces.

Student lounges and conference rooms are housed in a glass-enclosed space on the east end of the restored original wing, replacing a former brick stairway enclosure.

Background:

### **Street Dixon Rick Architecture**

Street Dixon Rick Architecture provides architecture, programming, master plans and interiors for universities and schools, churches, libraries, and commercial projects such as offices and health and wellness centers, as well as residential projects. The firm has established a national reputation both for its expertise in student housing and for LEED certified designs, i.e. sustainable or 'green' architecture. Clients include Juniata College, Middle Tennessee State University, Vanderbilt University, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, The Harpeth Hall School, First Presbyterian Church/Oak Hill School and the W. F. Adams Memorial Library.

### **Juniata College**

Juniata College is an independent, co-educational liberal arts college founded in 1876. Set in a beautiful learning environment in the Allegheny Mountains of central Pennsylvania, Juniata provides rich traditions and academic experiences that flexibly support learners. Juniata College is known for its success in encouraging students to think independently, evolve individually and act globally.

## FACTS

### **Street Dixon Rick Architecture earns LEED Gold for Juniata College's Founders Hall**

#### **Site and Building Design Facts**

Project Cost: \$8.5 million

Completed: July 2009

#### **Recycled Content**

More than 20 percent (by cost) of the materials used on site are made of recycled content which reduces the impact from extracting and processing virgin materials.

#### **Re-using Existing Building**

The project team reused the South portion of the historic 1879 building. Because the North Wing was no longer structurally stable, it was removed.

#### **Managing Construction Waste**

More than 50 percent of demolition and construction waste was diverted from landfills. Most materials were recycled, wood from the old building was reused in the new construction and a majority of the wood was salvaged by a furniture company for reuse. *Note: In a fun twist of fate, some of the original wood wound up as furniture for Keith Urban and Nicole Kidman, for their home in Nashville, TN.*

#### **Planning for Daylight and Views**

Up to 75 percent of all regularly occupied spaces have windows bringing in daylight and 90 percent of these same spaces have views outdoors. Almost all windows in the building can be opened for fresh air.

#### **Minimizing Heat Island Effect**

More than 80 percent of the paving used on the site meets the requirements for solar resistance to reduce the heat island effect.

#### **Reducing Water Use**

Waterless urinals and dual flush toilets help provide water consumption reduction of more than 50 percent -- compared with a standard building the same size.

All plants and trees are either native to the area or adaptable to the site, so they can thrive without irrigation.

In the South Lawn, an underground 10,000 gallon collection tank stores rain water from the roof to use for irrigation.

## **Regional Materials**

Nearly 25 percent (by cost) of the materials used on site were harvested and manufactured within 500 miles of the project site.

## **Rapidly Renewable Materials**

Approximately 5 percent of the building materials (by cost) are made from rapidly renewable sources. This includes cork, linoleum, rubber flooring, rubber base, bamboo plywood reception desk and agrifiber core doors.

EcoStar roofing tiles are made from 80 percent recycled rubber and plastic – but they look like slate tiles.

## **Operational Facts**

### **Green Power**

Juniata purchases renewable energy credits for 40 percent of the entire campus with a five-year contract to increase the purchased amount every year to reach 75 percent by 2012.

A geothermal heating and cooling system provides heating and cooling energy needs and sends unused power to the Von Liebig Center for Science.

### **Green Cleaning**

Juniata committed to the use of green cleaning products in all campus buildings.

### **Air Quality**

Founders Hall was constructed using low VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) materials, reducing the harmful fumes associated with paints, stains, carpets and adhesives. Fresh air ventilation exceeded minimum requirements by more than 30 percent.

Students and Administrators using the building have control of lighting levels and thermal temperatures. The building automation system allows Juniata to control and monitor building energy efficiency.

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