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GREEN BUILDING & DESIGN
JULY/AUGUST 2011

GREEN MUSEUMS SERIES

EXHIBITION

PART I: LIGHT, P. 48

Not Afraid of Heights

Under Lloyd Rosenberg's visionary leadership, DMR Architects has navigated the last 20 years admirably and looks forward to greater challenges

Throughout its 20 years in business, DMR Architects has navigated the ups and downs of the economy—as well as the draught of funding for construction projects—with president and CEO Lloyd Rosenberg, AIA, at the helm. The keys to the firm's longevity? "We're diversified in a wide range of areas—from education, commercial, public, and urban planning to health care, residential, and sustainable building," Rosenberg says. "So when one or two sectors are down, we're able to focus on work in the others."

The full-service architecture firm, based in Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey, specializes in design, programming, LEED certification, and construction administration. What started out as a three-person outfit in 1991 is now a thriving, 35-person firm—and one of the largest and most respected practices in the New York metropolitan area. Under Rosenberg's guidance, the firm offers environmentally conscious consulting, and cutting-edge community and urban planning. Over the years, DMR Architects has spearheaded significant and noteworthy projects

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One of the markets in which DMR Architects leads the field is in the design and construction of sustainable educational buildings. In 2006, the firm organized the work on the first LEED Silver-certified public school building, Carlstadt Public School. This 110,000-square-foot, \$22 million facility was also the first public building in Bergen County to receive



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OPPOSITE PAGE: Carlstadt Public School was the first public building in Bergen County to earn LEED certification.
RIGHT: The Bergen County Public Safety Operations Center expects a 21% energy savings.



LEED certification. That same year, the firm designed and built the LEED-certified St. Joseph's School for the Blind in Jersey City, New Jersey. The project was unique in that it demanded extraordinary attention to design detail to ensure that the school fully met the needs of the faculty and the student body.

Newer noteworthy projects include sustainable design work for Middlesex Community College, Ocean County College, and the Bergen County Public Safety Operations Center. In the fall of 2009, John C. Bartlett Jr. Hall opened its doors to the Ocean County College campus. This LEED Silver, 32,000-square-foot building contains 13 classrooms, student and staff lounges, and faculty and administrative offices. "With an eye toward the future, we designed enough space for 7,500 kilowatts of solar panels if the college chooses to install them," Rosenberg says.

Less than two years later, in January 2011, Middlesex Community College dedicated its newest building to David B. Crabiel, who served on the freeholder board for 27 years

A diversified portfolio that runs the gamut from commercial buildings to urban planning is key to the DMR's longevity in a volatile economy.

and was a legend in the county and state. Crabiel Hall is a two-story, 36,000-square-foot building that holds 13 classrooms, four computer labs, two conference rooms, three meeting rooms, a student lounge, and a demonstration kitchen with a projection system so students can see up close what the instructor is showing. It also holds offices for the Division of Corporate and Community Education. The building is environmentally friendly, with numerous features designed to save energy and conserve resources, including water reduction of 40 percent, building materials with 23 percent recycled content, and Energy

Star-rated light fixtures and high-efficiency windows. College officials expect the building to receive LEED Silver certification.

Outside the realm of higher education, the Bergen County Public Safety Operations Center serves as the emergency-management facility for the entire county. Since it is the command center for all area emergencies, DMR Architects knew it needed to ensure that the building was self-sustaining 24 hours a day, every day of the year. It included solar power backup, water, sleeping facilities, and a data center. Green features include Energy Star-rated light fixtures, low-flow plumbing fixtures, high-efficiency windows, and low-VOC interior products. The building is estimated to achieve a 21 percent energy savings.

"Every day is a different challenge," says Rosenberg of the myriad design work his firm will continue to take on. "Architects are problem solvers. The bigger the challenge the more rewarding it is. The satisfaction out of solving problems makes an architect happy each day."

—by Anne Dullaghan