

AWARD OF MERIT

HISTORIC CATEGORY

Northeastern State University Wilson Hall Renovation

TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA

SUBMITTED BY RESTEK, INC.—EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

Wilson Hall, originally constructed as a women's dormitory on the main campus of Northeastern State University (NSU), is one of NSU's oldest buildings. Constructed in 1936 with an addition to the north side of the building built in the 1960s, the 75,000 sf (6,970 m²) building consists of a basement, three floors and an attic space. A recommendation in the 2012-2013 campus master plan prompted NSU to move forward with a decision to renovate the facility and design a new space for the College of Liberal Arts, complete with offices for both faculty and administration, classrooms, an event space, and a new dining venue. The motivation behind renovating Wilson Hall instead of reconstructing stems from the sentimental attachment to the building from NSU alumni and current students alike.

The dormitory had been out of use for the last 10 years and had deteriorated heavily since its closure. Necessary architectural changes like removing and adding walls, egress path modifications and increased live loads resulted in the entire building needing structural upgrades to meet current building codes. Wilson Hall is a multi-wythe masonry structure with reinforced concrete beams, slabs, and



columns, so strengthening the system while preserving the integrity of the building was challenging. Various strengthening strategies were evaluated for the deficient beams and slabs and an externally bonded fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) system was selected as the least intrusive and most aesthetically-pleasing approach to maintain the historical look and feel of the building. In locations where the loads were too high for the FRP solution to work, steel beams were used.

The final phase of this project will include new walls for office spaces, mechanical systems and electrical systems. The fundraising for this project is continuous with funding from the university, the state, and the community.

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OWNER

Northeastern State University
Tahlequah, OK

PROJECT ENGINEER/DESIGNER

Guernsey
Oklahoma City, OK

REPAIR CONTRACTOR

Restek, Inc.
Edmond, OK

MATERIALS SUPPLIER/MANUFACTURER

Milliken Infrastructure Solutions, LLC
Spartanburg, SC

