



The Cambridge City Hall Annex, Cambridge, Mass., recently became the oldest municipal building in the world to receive LEED Gold certification. PHOTO BY DAN GAIR. BLIND DOG PHOTO

MUNICIPAL STRUCTURE IS OLDEST LEED-CERTIFIED BUILDING

The Cambridge City Hall Annex, Cambridge, Mass., recently became the oldest municipal building in the world to receive LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Cambridge is one of few U.S. cities to require its municipal buildings to be LEED certified.

The building was built in 1871 and was closed in 2000 after IAQ testing found mold spores at elevated levels. After a major renovation, the 23,216-square-foot (21570-m²) city hall annex reopened in February 2004 as the city's first green municipal building, first LEED-certified municipal building in Massachusetts and oldest building to receive LEED certification. The city's decision to renovate the building led to receipt of the Massachusetts Historic Commission's 2005 Preservation Award, as well as five more awards for innovation and preservation.

"We were pleased to see a forward-looking client in the city of Cambridge," says Bill Hammer, principal architect of Somerville, Mass.-based HKT Architects. "As a team working toward the same goals, we successfully combined energy efficiency with adaptive reuse, and, in this case, because of the importance of the building, we also used best practices in historic preservation to guide the redesign."

To learn more about this project, see *eco-structure's* July/August 2004 issue, page 18.