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Welcome Center featured in Architecture Minnesota magazine

Summary: The article and photos review the process of innovatively renovating a 1915 building with state-of-the-art results.

(January 11, 2011)-The University of Minnesota, Morris's Welcome Center was featured in the January/February 2011 issue of Architecture Minnesota, a publication of The American Institute of Architects Minnesota.

In pictures and text, writer Amy Goetzman's article "Prairie Star" reviews the process of restoring the Community Service building, the former West Central School of Agriculture Engineering building.

The full restoration, "on a tight budget," included restoring the exterior of a building listed on the National Register for Historic Places and renovating the interior with state-of-the-art "green" mechanicals and "green" design, creating an optimum working environment. The renovated Welcome Center features heating and cooling by a power plant that employs a biomass facility and wind turbine. It is the first Minnesota building and, nationwide, the first National Register building to use chilled beam technology for cooling.

The article writer also highlights Welcome Center features that reflect Morris's rural landscape within its modern design. She quotes the lead designer for the renovation project, Josh Stowers of Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, as saying, "This is not just another college admin building....This is the new heart of the school."

The article can be read [online](#).

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