



PORTLAND ART MUSEUM, MARK BUILDING



The purchase, renovation and activation of the aged and obsolete Masonic Temple helped transform this property from an underutilized building with potential, into the Mark Building. This project is a shining landmark that will endure for generations to come.

Owner: Portland Art Museum
Location: Portland, Oregon
Size: 141,000 sf
Finance: Owner financed
Architect: SERA Architects
Contractor: Hoffman Construction Company

The North Wing Project was an extremely complex redevelopment that included the demolition and reconstruction of entire floors, including the floor slabs themselves, and the preservation of historical components of the former Masonic Temple in a tightly confined urban setting. Completed in 2006, the scope included several floors of Class A office space, ballrooms, food service facilities and several large gallery spaces.

Melvin Mark Development Company was brought in midway through the job to complete the challenged project on time and with as few cost over runs as possible. Through an aggressive project management plan, MMDC was able to correct several problem areas help guide the Museum to an on time opening of a building that retained the quality construction the historical structure deserved.

The Mark Building creates the largest gallery space for modern and contemporary art in the Pacific Northwest. The development team worked diligently with the Oregon State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to maintain the historical building elements while, at the same time, attempting to completely modernize and upgrade the important structure. SHPO was intimately involved in each stage of the development. Renovation of the exterior of the building featured a glass four-story “pleat” on the south exterior which allows natural light into a new atrium carved out of existing floors of the building. Day lighting was also extensively used in creation of the fourth floor administrative office space. The reuse and preservation of the former Masonic Temple reflects the ultimate adaptive reuse of an existing building and is the ultimate goal of any sustainable project.

