

*Vermont Law School's
James L. and Evelena S.
Oakes Hall*



An Environmental Building for an Environmental Law School



Vermont Law School is recognized internationally for its environmental law programs. The many “green” features of James L. and Evelena S. Oakes Hall are an expression of the law school’s commitment to environmental responsibility and the importance VLS



Oakes Hall offers over 23,500 square feet of furnished space, including eight classrooms, a courtroom, and a student lounge. It was designed with cost effectiveness in mind. At \$110/square foot, it is a reasonably priced model for other institutions to consider. Oakes Hall's daily resource savings, coupled with its durable and flexible design, ensure that it will be economical to operate for years to come.

The amount of resources needed to operate Oakes Hall is significantly less than would be typical of buildings of its size. By requiring fewer materials for construction and ongoing operation, Oakes Hall has prevented generation of the attendant pollution. For example, the reduction in electricity and fuel oil usage has led to the following estimated, annual totals for “*avoided emissions*” (in tons): carbon dioxide (161), sulfur dioxide (0.63), oxides of nitrogen (0.57).





*Five-time Award-winning
Classroom Building*

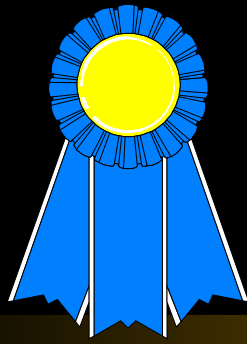




- On June 4, 1998, the American Consulting Engineers Council presented a Certificate of Merit to Engineering Ventures, Inc., Truex Cullins & Partners Architects, and Vermont Law School for engineering excellence in water and waste water permitting for James L. and Evelena S. Oakes Hall as part of the 1998 Awards Competition in Vermont.



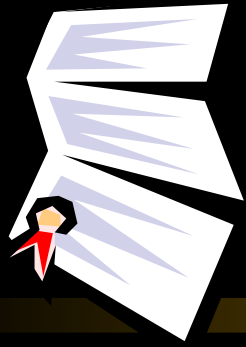
- On November 29, 1999, Vermont Governor Howard Dean, M.D., presented Vermont Law School and Truex Cullins & Partners Architects of Burlington, VT, the Vermont Governor's Awards for Excellence in Pollution Prevention for James L. and Evelena S. Oakes Hall.



- On March 17, 2000, The Quality Building Council of the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association announced the winners of its annual Design Competition that honors excellence in Sustainable Construction Design. The winner in the New Commercial Construction category was the design and construction team for Oakes Hall at Vermont Law School.
- Buildings Program Manager Jonathan Tauer wrote, “...*this building was the clear overall winner in terms of energy and water conservation and a stunning example of new construction that considers its impact on future generations as well as this current one.*”



- The Boston Society of Architects' Committee on the Environment presented the Oakes Hall project a 2000 Green Building Award in the Commercial/Institutional Category. Citing the project team's "Exceptional Leadership & Design," the committee said that Oakes "stands as a beacon of environmental achievement."



- Oakes Hall was a second place winner in the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers' (ASHRAE) 2001 technology awards competition in the Institutional Building Category. This prestigious, international competition honors “innovative designs that incorporate ASHRAE Standards for air quality and cost-effective energy management.”



Efficient by Design

Oakes Hall incorporates an impressive array of environmental features and technologies. Opened in August 1998, it was expected to be exceptionally thrifty in terms of resource needs, and results to date clearly indicate success.

Fiber-Cement Siding Replaces Less Durable Wooden Clapboards

- The siding is very rugged and much more resistant to moisture-driven expansion and contraction.
- The siding has the look of traditional, wooden clapboards.
- The interval between repainting is at least doubled.

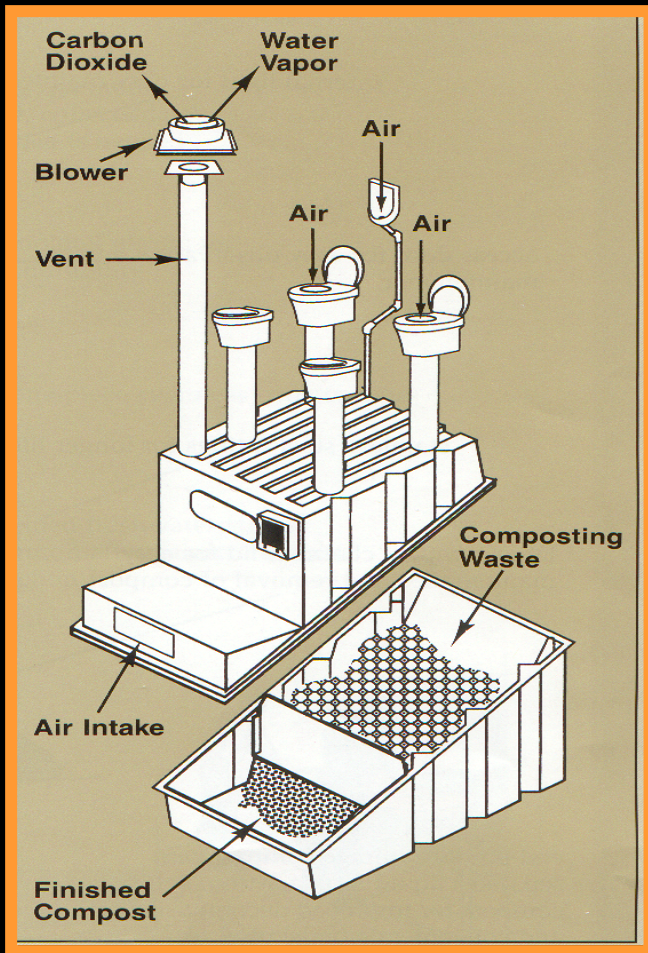


Heating and Cooling are Independent of Ventilation, Producing Substantial Savings

- In contrast with most buildings, Oakes Hall does not send ventilated air to unoccupied rooms.
- Occupied rooms receive 100% fresh, outdoor air, which is heated or cooled within the room; unoccupied spaces heat or cool air already present within the room.
- Ventilating only rooms that are occupied is Oakes Hall's principal energy-saving strategy.



Composting Toilets Save Precious Water



- Oakes Hall is the first public, year-round building in Vermont to make use of composting toilets.
- Campus wide, Vermont Law School now uses less water than before adding this substantial new building.

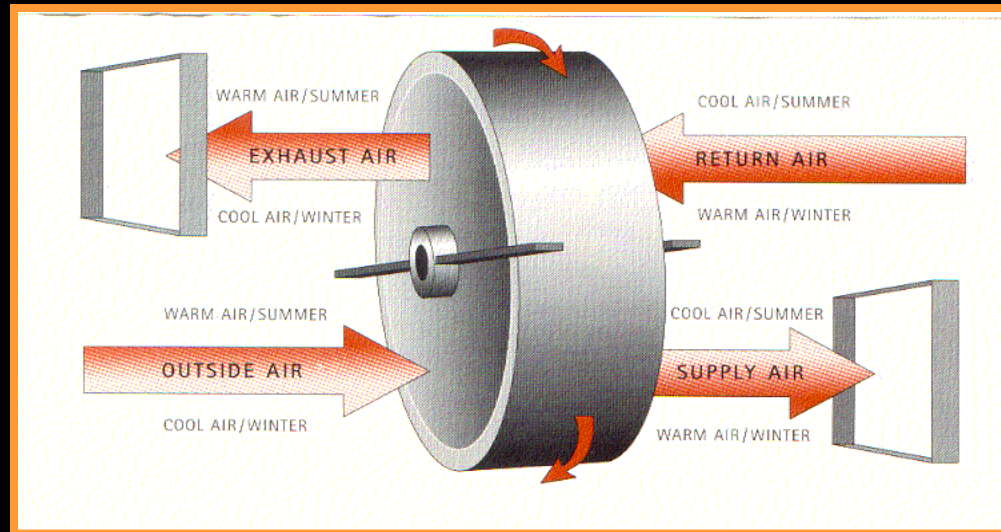
Traditional Linoleum Uses Natural Materials; Outlasts Synthetic Flooring



- Linoleum is used as most of the finish flooring in Oakes Hall.
- Traditional linoleum is made from linseed oil, wood flour, and cork, which are heat-cured to produce a resilient flooring material highly resistant to staining and wear.
- Linoleum will far outwear sheet vinyl flooring, its synthetic competition.

Enthalpic Energy Recovery Wheel Controls Humidity, Recycles Exhaust Heat

- The seven-foot diameter wheel, located within the ventilation air ductwork, is coated with a substance which absorbs and re-releases moisture. By transferring heat and water vapor, the wheel keeps the building from becoming too dry in the winter or too humid in the summer. The wheel recovers 80% of the heat in exhaust air, transferring it to the incoming, fresh air.

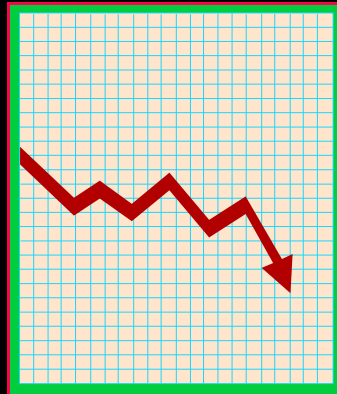


Advanced Learning Technologies



- Video conferencing and distance learning capabilities
- Faculty-controlled “smart podiums” are connected to the campus network and the Internet
- Fully integrated audio-visual and recording equipment is planned for Oakes Hall’s courtroom

Dramatic Resource Reductions



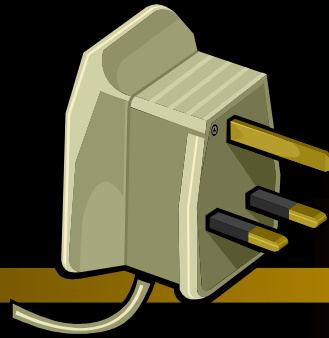


- The State of Vermont's Water Supply Rule lists the design flow criterion for a school building without a cafeteria or a gymnasium to be 15 gallons per person per day. In comparison, Oakes Hall has been averaging only 15 1/2 gallons per day for the entire facility.



Fuel Oil

- For education buildings on college/university campuses in the Northeast, the federal Energy Information Administration indicates an average “fuel oil energy intensity” (gallons per square foot) of 0.89. In contrast, the average amount of fuel oil used in Oakes Hall through September 2001 is estimated to be between 0.181 and 0.128 gallons/square foot. *This represents an 80-86% reduction.*



Electricity

- The Energy Information Administration also indicates an average “electricity energy intensity” (kilowatts per square foot) of 10.2. In contrast, the average amount of electricity used in Oakes Hall through September 2001 was only 4.24 kilowatts per square foot. *This represents a 58% reduction in electricity.*

Lex Pro Urbe Et Orbe
“*Law for the community and the world*”



Vermont Law School’s mission statement is embodied in Oakes Hall, as the needs of building occupants, regional neighbors, and indeed the world itself have been carefully considered.

Academic Programs at Vermont Law School



Founded in 1972, Vermont Law School is one of a handful of independent, private law schools in the United States and is the only law school in Vermont. VLS offers a traditional Juris Doctor (J.D.) curriculum that emphasizes the public-serving role of lawyers, a Master of Studies in Environmental Law degree for lawyers and non-lawyers alike, and a post-J.D. degree, the LL.M. in Environmental Law.



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