

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

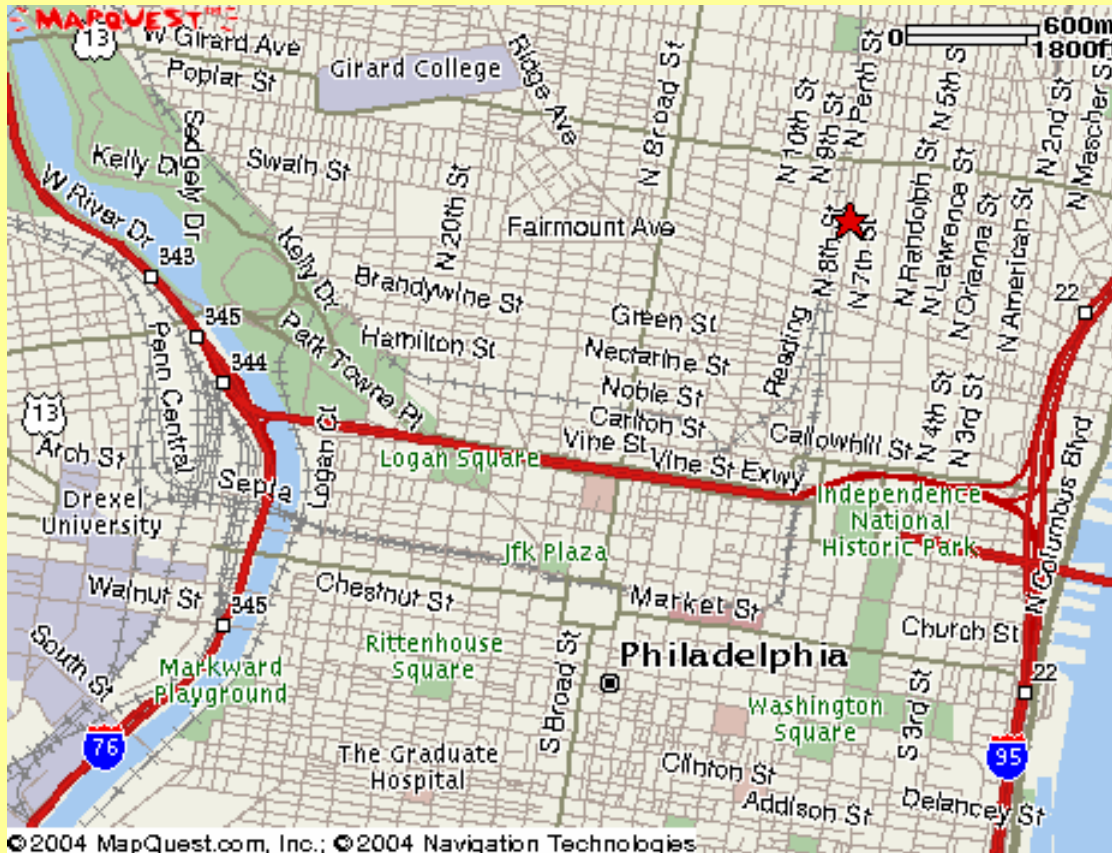


[www.croxtonarc.com](http://www.croxtonarc.com)

Patricia Lazos  
Project Building  
ENVS 634-660  
Green Design & The City  
March 30, 2004

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## LOCATION



Southwest  
corner of N. 8<sup>th</sup>  
Street and  
Poplar Street,  
North  
Philadelphia

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## STRUCTURE BACKGROUND



- 1923 Art Deco public school building – former Mary Channing Wister School
- Unused for nearly 20 years
- Building area 46,000 square feet
- 2.23 acre lot

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## CONSTRUCTION & DESIGN



Architects:

Cecil Baker Architects, Philadelphia

Croxton Collaborative Architects, NY

Design started: 1998

Construction started: December 2001

Construction completed: September 2003

Occupied: October 2003

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## BUILDING USE



- Criminalistics and DNA laboratories for hair/fiber/blood analysis
- Crime Scene Unit for 24/7 crime scene evidence gathering
- Chemistry laboratories for drug analysis
- Firearms Unit including a ballistics analysis shooting range

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## GREEN DESIGN ASPECTS



- Meets requirements for ASHRAE Standard 90.1-1999 – minimum requirements for energy efficient design
- 10kW DC photovoltaic roof – scheduled to installed summer 2004
- Maximizing daylighting by ceiling configurations
- High efficiency heating and cooling equipment

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## GREEN BUILDING ASPECTS



- Low VOC emitting products and finishes result in improved indoor air quality
- Use of reused and recycled materials
- Envelope upgrades resulting in a highly insulated building
- Vegetative swales provide bioremediation of runoff & reduction of stormwater volumes into city sewer

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## COST & SAVINGS

- Total cost - \$13 million – mostly funded by the State
- 20% below the regional average cost per square foot for a Forensics Lab
- The reduction in energy use will payback in less than 3 years
- Beyond monetary - significant decreases in CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## BENEFITS

- Rehabilitated an abandoned building in run-down area – created an uplift in the neighborhood.
- 20% below budget per square foot
- Use less than 50% the amount of energy than a comparable forensic lab of conventional design
- First “Green Building” for City of Philadelphia municipal government

# Philadelphia Forensic Science Center

## TOUR INFORMATION

Friday, April 23, 2004

Green Building Tour of the  
PA DEP Southeast Regional Office Building and  
the Philadelphia Police Forensic Science Center

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Cost:

\$20 for DVGBC members,

\$25 for non-members,

\$10 for students

Schedule:

9:00am

Meet at the AIA Philadelphia Office

(17th and Sansom) for bus

10:00 – 12:00pm

Tour the DEP Southeast Regional Office Building

12:00-1:00pm

Lunch (on your own at a selection of Norristown Restaurants)

1:30 – 4:00pm

Tour the Police Forensic Science Center

5:00pm Arrive back at AIA Philadelphia office

RSVP by April 19 to Pat Schwartz [pat@aiaphila.org](mailto:pat@aiaphila.org) (preferred)

or at 215.569.3186 x105

[www.dvgbc.org](http://www.dvgbc.org)

# References

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