

GENERAL BUILDING DATA

Building name

URBN Center & URBN Center Annex

Location and Site

URBN Center

3501 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19104

URBN Center Annex

3401 Filbert Street

Philadelphia, PA

Building Occupant Name

URBN Center

Occupancy or function types

The occupants of the building primarily consist of the students and faculty of Drexel University. The URBN Center houses 13 programs in the Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design. Not only will this structure bridge the gap between the most creative and imaginative minds on campus, but it will also be open to the community.

Education | Theater | Art Gallery | Conference

Size

145,917 ft²

Number of stories above grade | Total levels

URBN Center

4 stories above grade (Roof Level – 56 ft.) | 4 total

URBN Center Annex

1 story above grade (Roof level – 16 ft.) | 1 total

Primary Project Team

Owner: Drexel University

<http://www.drexel.edu/>

Architect: Meyer Scherer & Rockcastle Ltd <http://msrltd.com/>

Venturi, Scott Brown
and Associates (Existing)

<http://www.vsba.com/>



General Contractor:	Turner	http://www.turnerconstruction.com/
MEP Firm:	PHY Inc.	http://www.phyinc.com/
Acoustical Design:	Walters-Storyk Design Group	http://www.wsdg.com/
Structural Engineer:	O'Donnel & Naccarto	http://www.o-n.com/OdonnellNaccaratohome.asp
Fire Consulting Firm:	Summit Fire Consulting	http://www.summitfire.com/fire_consulting/index.htm

Dates of Construction

Start: August 2011

Finish: September 2008

Actual Cost information

\$31 Million

Project Delivery Method

Design-Build

ARCHITECTURE

Architecture

The original architecture within the building has been completely redone. Contrastingly the Exterior has been lightly modified with new windows making use of natural daylight. There are various murals throughout the building site which have all been incorporated into the design of the new URBN Center. The main entrance positioned on a slant away from Market Street works to help ease pedestrian traffic. The interior is very modern and tectonic. In fact all of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems have been left exposed without drop ceilings. The atrium is the main attraction within the interior. The floor levels from one side to the next are offset. This design makes for a lot of interesting points of view, literally. The open floor layout encourages interaction between different departments. The Annex is composed of three main rooms, a black box theater, an art gallery, and a large screening room. The floor layout is also quite open similar to the URBN Center.

Major national model codes

2006	International Building Code	IBC
2007	Philadelphia Building Code	
2005	National electric Code	NEC
2006	ICC Electrical Code	ICC
2006	International Energy conservation Code	

2006	International Existing Building code
2006	International Fire Code
2006	International Fuel Gas Code
2006	International Mechanical Code
2006	International Plumbing Code
2003	ICC/ANSI A117.1-2003 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities Standard

Zoning

URBN Center

Property Zoning C-4; 61,913 ft²

URBN Center Annex

Property Zoning C-3; 71,172 ft²

BUILDING ENCLOSURE

Building Facades

Nearly the whole existing façade will be left untouched while the core of this structure will be stripped to the structural steel. The south façade adjacent to Market Street is the crown jewel for the URBN Center. Originally designed by the Architects of Venturi, Scott Brown and Associates is composed of square brick veneer. The individual bricks are glazed different colors and porcelain panels are laid out in a symmetrical pattern across the entire south façade. Newly installed windows on the north and east side allow daylight to penetrate the spaces within the building. The facades of the Annex have also been lightly renovated. The Annex façade consists of brick and corrugated metals panel systems.

Roofing

The main roof is constructed with an EPDM roof membrane on a lightweight insulating concrete of which is on a polystyrene insulation on a slope metal deck system. The estimated R-value of the roof is close to 19. A new skylight has been installed above the newly incorporated atrium. The Annex Center is quite similar, but it has 16 square glass skylights.

SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES

The skylight above the atrium allows for this building to make use of daylight harvesting. Also the offices lining the sides of the atrium make use of half walls. This feature allows the daylight to penetrate into the offices, which makes for a better work environment as well as reduces the lighting/electrical load. Large windows have been installed upon the north side, which contributes as well to the daylight harvesting. Moveable walls in many of the floors let the daylight penetrate even further into the building reinforcing the daylight harvesting.