

# Rolla Building

## University of Missouri-Rolla

Peckham & Wright loves a good challenge and a project like the historic Rolla Building offered no greater challenge. This 125-year-old building had been modified over the years to the point of inefficiency. There are people who might be ready to relegate the graceful structure to the wrecker's hammer, but there are those who can recognize value and quality (along with potential) in an older building. Peckham & Wright has this ability.

To give this historic building new life, the entire interior was gutted, down to the basement floor. Entire floors were removed, some raised or lowered to make room for the



*The front entrance was lowered to provide easy access.* Photographs by Deanna Dikeman



*The basement storage room was dark and damp before it was renovated into a classroom.*



*The basement classroom adds educational space to UMR's Math Department.*

technologies and safety codes of today. New stairs, elevators, air conditioning, and all the other amenities, which make today's buildings functional and comfortable, were incorporated into this renovation.

This nineteenth-century building is now prepared to proudly face its third century of service. Many of today's buildings may not be able to match this record, which adds support to the old axiom - they don't build them like they used to!

*"I have found Peckham & Wright Architects responsive, competent and dedicated to complete the project correctly and on schedule."*

*Beth Asbury, Design Project Manager, UMR*

