



Crispus Attucks Advanced Learning Center

York, Pennsylvania

The planning of the Advanced Learning Center (ALC) marks an extraordinary point as the last major building of the 20-year Boundary Development Plan. It is rare for organizations to follow through with a plan as rigorously as has Crispus Attucks. The ALC complements the Early Learning Center (for children's programs) across the street. The ALC will provide adult and continuing education classes and vocational training. Located at the prime corner of the neighborhood, it serves as a community center, offering a fresh food farmers market and café at the street level.

The building relates to a 100 year old factory across South George Street to create a 'southern gateway to the city of York and a perceptual 'city wall' separating mansions of the first-ring suburbs from the dense grid of townhouses that line the streets of William Penn's original 1743 plat of the town.

The ALC is designed as a Near Net Zero Energy Building. It utilizes a coordinated set of green strategies, including energy piles—a form of geothermal heating and cooling—energy baffles, passive ventilation, living plant filters and low-flow air floors to provide a comfortable, healthy atmosphere. The ALC employs active and passive solar energy to provide a 40% offset in energy use. It harvests and treats water through a system of biowalls and roof gardens, which are planted with edible species. It is planned to achieve at least 57 LEED points, making it qualified for LEED Platinum designation.

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