

## PROJECT FACTS

Owner: Department of Veteran Affairs, Wade Park Architect: Westlake Reed Leskosky Location: Cleveland, Ohio Construction Type: General Contractor Building Area: 50,000 SF Project Value: \$12.4 Million Cost/SF: \$248 Completed: September 2011



## **KEY FEATURES**

his project included a 50,000 square foot building addition and the infill of an existing courtyard. The two-story addition was designed to house the hospital's warehouse functions in the basement level with new loading docks and a freight elevator. The first floor was an open shell space for future expansion. There are also renovations to several areas of the existing building, which included an autopsy suite including 2,244 square feet of labs, autopsy room, viewing room, storage and support rooms.

One of the largest challenges we encountered on this project was the unsuitable soils, which required us to install caissons deeper than shown on the drawings as well as grade beams. This foundation system was designed to support the extreme weight of the addition that was composed of poured columns and structural slabs. During the excavation of the foundation system we encountered an existing fiber optic line that fed the entire hospital. The location of this line interfered with several of our caissons. We had to ensure the line was not damaged during the excavation work as well as to install the caissons and grade beams as close to the structural design to ensure proper support of the structure.

Another challenge was working with the other contractors building the hospital's new offices across the street as they were building a skywalk to connect the two facilities. We coordinated with these contractors to ensure our entrance would line up with their final installation.



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