



Clarke Caton Hintz

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Clarke Caton Hintz Announces

Official Dedication of New Jersey League of Municipalities New Headquarters

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TRENTON, NJ, March 20, 2007 –Clarke Caton Hintz is proud to announce the opening of the New Jersey League of Municipalities’ new headquarters in the restored Ferdinand W. Roebbling Mansion at 222 West State Street in Trenton. The nonprofit group retained Clarke Caton Hintz to be the architects for the restoration of this important landmark. Built in the late 19th century, 222 West State Street is the only remaining home of the Roebbling family still standing in Trenton.

The League purchased the building from the City of Trenton so that it could expand its offices in a building close to the Statehouse. According to Bill Dressel, Executive Director of the League, “The building was in such poor condition that it took a real leap of faith to proceed with the project!” Funding came from a combination of low cost loans from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and Wachovia Bank as well as a crucial grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust. The League’s completion of the project is a testament to their commitment to urban revitalization and to the health of the New Jersey’s cities.

The Roebblings were pioneers in wire rope and suspension bridge technology. For more than 100 years, they played an important part in the development of Trenton and in building New Jersey’s reputation for industrial innovation. Originally, there were three important Roebbling Mansions on West State Street, each belonging to one of the three sons of John Roebbling, founder of the company. Two were demolished to make way for the State Complex. This last remaining Roebbling house was also in danger of demolition by neglect when Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer stepped in to save the building. The NJ State League of Municipalities then heroically committed to save and expand the building.

John Hatch, AIA, partner in charge of the building’s restoration, said that, “The structure was in worse shape than we originally thought. Much of the interior floor joists were not salvageable. However, we were able to save more interior details than

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anticipated, including beautiful paneling in the entrance hall and a stained glass window at the grand staircase.”

The preservation of one of the city’s most famous mansions is a true success story. The League, with the help of Clarke Caton Hintz, the builders (Merrell and Garaguso of Swedesboro, NJ) and many others, was able to give back to the city by staying downtown and restoring an abandoned landmark, transforming it into a modern office space which will serve the League for many years.

Clarke Caton Hintz is an award-winning architectural, planning and landscape architecture firm with a 30 year track record of providing clients with a broad multi-disciplinary approach keyed to solving today’s complex design objectives. For more information about our services and capabilities, please visit:

www.clarkecatonhintz.com.