

# VIRGINIA'S FAVORITE ARCHITECTURE



## DOVETAIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY



City: Richmond  
Date: 1907/2010  
Architect: Walter Parks Architect  
County: Richmond

Image Credit: Lee Brauer

Categories: [Uncategorized](#) Tags: [central virginia](#), [commercial](#), [historic](#), [piedmont](#)

### 24 RESPONSES TO DOVETAIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY



**Philip W. Hill** says:  
November 20, 2013 at 11:18 am

Remarkable accomplishment

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**Julie Weissend** says:  
November 21, 2013 at 6:06 pm

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dan on Rotunda, University of Virginia  
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Sandra Cox on Belmead

#### Total Vote Count

29518

Thanks Philip! That means a lot!

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**Bailey** says:

November 20, 2013 at 9:23 pm

A beautiful Building

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**Paul Weissend** says:

November 21, 2013 at 6:13 pm

It's the first building in the country to be on the National Register of Historic Places, LEED platinum and Net Energy Zero.

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**Peter** says:

December 19, 2013 at 9:05 pm

Could you tell me where this is. I get to Richmond from time to time. It's hard to understand how it could be LEED Platinum and net energy zero if it is, as the photos seem to show, sheet metal construction with no insulation.....I'm not arguing, I really want to know about this accomplishment, and to have the chance to visit it next time I'm in Richmond. Thanks,  
Peter

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**Sheri Page** says:

November 21, 2013 at 7:23 pm

SPECTACULAR – LOVE IT!

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**Brenna Harrigan** says:

November 21, 2013 at 8:29 pm

Gorgeous! I would love to see this building, if only from the exterior!

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**Anne Marie Riordan** says:

November 21, 2013 at 10:58 pm


A wonderfully appealing blend of function and style!

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**Michael Oblinger** says:

 November 22, 2013 at 3:10 pm

My vote goes to Dovetail Construction

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**Pat Hargest** says:

November 22, 2013 at 8:00 pm

Beautiful Bldg.

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**J.B. Lundrigan** says:

November 27, 2013 at 2:13 pm

Beautiful buildings

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**Ruth P Roberts** says:

December 4, 2013 at 3:34 am

Wonderful inspiration for present and future architects!!

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**Gray Parks** says:

November 23, 2013 at 2:01 am

I have been in this building and found it to be a modern office and storage building for the construction company. The use of the old street car maintenance shed for a modern office building, while maintaining the feel of the car maintenance was a very clever way to restore the building. My hat's off to WPA.

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**Gray Parks** says:

November 23, 2013 at 2:03 am

A beautiful application of restoring one of the old buildings of Richmond.

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**Barbara M. Cook** says:

November 23, 2013 at 2:43 am

A wonderful use for one of the old buildings of Richmond. The room shown looks very modern.

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**Thomas Hendry** says:

November 26, 2013 at 5:24 pm

Lovely building

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**Jim Hudson** says:

November 27, 2013 at 1:06 pm

looks like the post frame buildings we used to build 25 years ago for commercial and agriculture. No big deal, no real interest unless the photo does not do it justice. They used steel which is far more costly with a poor fire rating.

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**Julie Weissend** says:

December 13, 2013 at 7:58 pm

The building was an electric railway car barn built in 1907. It was one of the first steel buildings that was built in the area. "Carnegie 1903" is embossed in some of the steel. It was arguably one of the least efficient buildings anywhere and now there is a state of the art "building within a building" that is one of the most sustainable anywhere. It is net energy zero with solar power, LED lighting and geothermal heating and cooling. The utility bill is a \$14 administrative fee. It's on the National Register of Historic Places, it's LEED Platinum and it won AIA Inform Magazine's: "Best Interior Design Award" in 2011. <http://readinform.com/inform-awards/2011-inform-awards/>

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**Paul and Jeanne Bennett** says:

November 27, 2013 at 11:14 pm

A very practical and attractive remodeling of a historic site

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**Arthur P. Deverill, Jr.** says:

December 1, 2013 at 6:05 pm

A stunning interior makeover to one of Richmond's most historic building.

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**Joshua Coleman** says:

December 4, 2013 at 12:51 am

I can't wait to see it in person! It looks amazing!

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**Margaret Goff** says:

December 4, 2013 at 7:23 pm

Beautiful Building

[Reply](#)



Wendy Martin says:

December 12, 2013 at 9:03 pm

This one gets my vote for both the past and future of VA architecture! 😊

It's the nation's first nationally registered historic building that's both net-energy zero and LEED platinum certified, the highest ranking for environmental construction standards.

It used to be a former trolley car barn for the Richmond-Ashland Railway Co. Today it's the HQ of Dovetail Construction and an inspiration for scores of current and aspiring young architects. They give tours to scout troops and aspiring architectural students on a regular basis. I visited this building after reading about it in Style Weekly:

<http://www.styleweekly.com/richmond/the-beauty-of-zero/Content?oid=1787173>

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Wendy Martin says:

December 16, 2013 at 9:40 pm

This one gets my vote for both the past and future of VA architecture! 😊

It's the nation's first nationally registered historic building that's both net-energy zero and LEED platinum certified, the highest ranking for environmental construction standards.

It used to be a former trolley car barn for the Richmond-Ashland Railway Co. Today it's the HQ of Dovetail Construction and an inspiration for scores of current and aspiring young architects. They give tours to scout troops and aspiring architectural students on a regular basis. I visited this building after reading about it in Style Weekly:

<http://www.styleweekly.com/richmond/the-beauty-of-zero/Content?oid=1787173>

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*Virginia's Favorite Architecture*