



Student Center/Union
Renovation/Addition/
Restoration

CANNON MOSS BRYGGER & ASSOCIATES

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Todd Moss
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DESIGN TEAM

Todd Moss, AIA,
Principal-in-Charge

Brent Koch,
Intern Architect, Manager

Michele Rosenboom, LEED AP

OWNER/CLIENT

Northwestern College
Orange City, IA

Greg Christy, President
712/707-7100

Type of School and
Grades Served:

College, Post-secondary

Capacity: 1,500 students

Size of Site: 2.7 acres

Area of Building:
40,166 square feet

Volume of Building:
764,370 cubic feet

Space per Student:
27 square feet

Cost per Student: \$3,968

Square Foot Cost: \$124

Cost of Construction: \$5 million

Total Project Cost: \$6 million

Contract Date: July 2006

Completion Date: Sept. 2007

Percent of Completion: 100%

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Northwestern College— Rowenhorst Student Center

Orange City, Iowa

Cannon Moss Brygger & Associates



ROWENHORST STUDENT CENTER

Northwestern College's Rowenhorst Student Center began life as a factory. In the late 1970s it was converted to a student center, which had unique, high-quality materials and was widely used.

In the 21st century, however, video games have more appeal than pool tables and the big screen is replaced by plasma screens and personal computers. The building became highly underused. The largely vacant and lifeless building was made worse by low ceilings, circuitous paths, and dark colors. Even the facade was so anonymous that most people drove by not knowing the building existed.

CMBA's solution began with a vibrant, colorful facade with a clear entry statement. The facade was designed to include materials and colors common to other buildings on campus.

Inside, all 44,000 square feet were entirely reconstructed. A simple, straight, clerestory-lit spine was cut through the roof and the core



ROWENHORST PATIO



CAFE

of the building. All spaces inside were reorganized and given new functions that generated more student traffic. The building has become the antithesis of its former self. Once low, dark, circuitous,

and lifeless, it is now voluminous, filled with light and student activity. CMBA values the opportunity to have worked with Northwestern on a challenging but rewarding and successful project. ■

PHOTOS: PAUL BROKERING