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## Buildings & Grounds

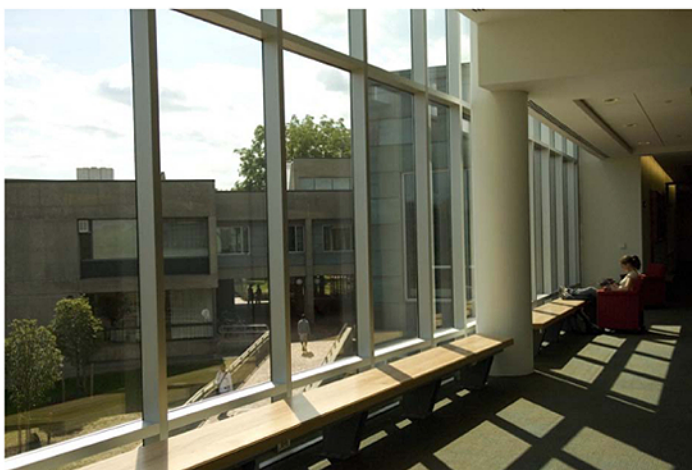
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January 05, 2010, 12:00 PM ET

### Renovation of 1968 Hamilton College Building Earns LEED Gold

By Lawrence Biemiller



*Hamilton's Kirner-Johnson Building was originally constructed for Kirkland College, a women's institution. (Hamilton College photos)*

Hamilton College's \$37-million renovation of a 1968 building to house social-science departments has [earned gold-level certification](#) from the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program. The renovation, planned by Ewing Cole and Belson Design, was intended to reduce the facility's energy use by 25 to 28 percent.

The structure, the [Kirner-Johnson Building](#), was originally constructed as the main building of Kirkland College, a women's college, which merged with Hamilton in 1978. As renovated, Kirner-Johnson houses classrooms, a writing center, and other programs.



The focal point of the building is a two-story atrium (*left*). Its water feature has four small waterfalls that create both visual and acoustical interest.

Among the building's sustainability features are solar panels on the roof, a low-volume ventilation system, and thermostats in every room.


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