



Materiality and Reclaimed Wood

We wanted to ensure the trees from the Tykeson Hall construction site at the University of Oregon were sustainably salvaged and repurposed for the new building. Our aim was to avert the fate of the 'Back Forty' lot, which "holds a stockpile of valuable trees that were removed from campus... and are only sporadically reclaimed," stated the Daily Emerald university newspaper in April 2016, just before we commenced design of Tykeson Hall. OFFICE 52 Architecture successfully led the repurposing effort and worked with the design team, contractor and client to attain cost-effectiveness within project budget and efficiency for project schedule, a challenge considering protocol for project cost-estimating included more conveniently procured ready-made lumber. The revised strategy reinforced university and student support for sustainability leadership and environmental consciousness.



We designed the building so the salvaged Pin Oak was fabricated into slats for ceilings of interior public spaces and localized custom wall panels. The Port Orford cedar was milled for custom furniture. Oregon-based Urban Lumber Company milled/kiln-dried the lumber, and nearby 9Wood fabricated/finished the ceiling slats. The result is an ecologically intelligent and elegant application of the salvaged wood to create a rich experience within the building, which will be complete in August 2019.

