

Augusta's Granite Mill earns LEED Gold

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Press Release

Granite Mill awarded LEED Gold

Sustainable Developer brings LEED to Augusta

(AUGUSTA) — Granite Mill, part of the Enterprise Mill commercial and residential complex, has achieved LEED Gold status for the historic interior and exterior renovation and build-out of residential and commercial space which features a rooftop solar panel, adaptive reuse of granite, and on site recycling.

Enterprise Mill has two hydro turbines located next to the Augusta Canal, currently providing electrical power to the entire complex — including residential apartments and local businesses — generating enough electricity to sell back to the grid. The entire hydroelectric station is capable of producing over six million kwh of electricity per year and Enterprise Mill uses around four million kwh annually.

Construction of the 15,000 square foot Granite Mill was completed in 2008, while the remainder of the mill was renovated in 1999. Melaver Construction and Development provided the LEED construction management and Melaver Sustainability Consulting set the goals to achieve, and provided the LEED guidance and documentation. Capers & Associates of Augusta was the general contractor for the project.

Granite Mill is different from typical construction, as over 100,000 gallons of water will be saved per year now that new low flow fixtures have been installed. Indoor air quality has been improved for future tenants by using low VOC (non toxic) paints and sealants. Other sustainable features which added to LEED certification include the use of salvaged and local recycled materials, Energy Star appliances, ceiling fans, and lighting fixtures, and no ozone chlorine based chemicals were used in cooling and refrigeration units.

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ is a standard for Melaver, Inc., a Savannah based sustainable developer who developed the first LEED retail shopping center in the nation, Abercorn Common.

“Buildings are a prime example of how human systems integrate with natural systems,” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. “The Granite Mill project efficiently uses our natural resources and makes an immediate, positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit future generations to come.”

Sustainable Fellwood in Savannah is part of the USGBC LEED for Neighborhood Development pilot program. Melaver Inc. is the master developer for Sustainable Fellwood, which is a mixed-use, mixed-income redevelopment project on 27 acres, just west of the historic district. Phase one, which includes 110 residential apartment units, is nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy in May. www.SustainableFellwood.com

About Melaver Inc.

Melaver, Inc. is a third-generation, family-owned business based in Savannah, Georgia. The sustainable real estate developer currently has nine LEED certified projects in their portfolio and developed one of the first LEED certified buildings in the U.S. which is also on the National Register of Historic Places. Melaver Inc. also developed the first all-retail LEED shopping center in the country, Abercorn Common, including the first LEED McDonald's worldwide. Contact: (912) 236-0781

www.melaver.com

www.MelaverConstruction.com

www.MelaverConsulting.com

About LEED®

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ is a feature-oriented rating system that awards buildings points for satisfying specified green building criteria. The six major environmental categories of review include: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality and Innovation and Design. Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels of LEED green building certification are awarded based on the total number of points earned within each LEED category. LEED can be applied to all building types including new construction, commercial interiors, core & shell developments, existing buildings, homes, neighborhood developments, schools and retail facilities. Incentives for LEED are available at the state and local level and LEED has also been adopted nationwide by federal agencies, state and local governments, and interested private companies. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org/LEED.

