

A. B. Graham Building

Springfield, OH

Project Description

Construction Completion:	2020 (est.)
Construction Budget:	\$5,160,000
Size:	14,200 SF
	MEP Engineering
Tri-Tech Services:	Structural Engineering
	Construction Admin.

In Springfield, Ohio, stands the A. B. Graham Building. A plaque on the building's side tells visitors that in January 1902, its namesake, A. B. Graham, organized the U.S.'s first boys and girls agricultural club, known today as the 4-H Clubs of America, in this building. When the city looked to move various departments—Auditor, Record, Tax Maps Department, and Treasurer—inside this building, Tri-Tech served to ensure the building was rehabilitated and modernized, while maintaining the building's historical integrity and appearance.

Tri-Tech's in-house structural engineering department precisely evaluated the building's structural integrity. A possible early constraint was the building's limited existing structural drawings. Tri-Tech's structural engineers helped overcome that constraint by providing precise analysis and input in the updating process of the building.

Assisting the project's architect, Tri-Tech determined that the existing elevator shaft needed to be rebuilt to accommodate modern equipment and to comply with current building codes. During construction, Tri-Tech was asked whether lintels were needed to support ductwork penetrations through a non-bearing wall. Rather than needing to coordinate this answer with a separate structural engineering firm, a Tri-Tech structural engineer answered the question.

The building lacked ample space for modern electrical and mechanical equipment. Tri-Tech assessed and evaluated multiple HVAC systems during the design process. This maximized the potential of the designated space for mechanical equipment and stayed within the project's budget. Within its design to maintain the building's historical integrity, Tri-Tech's team coordinated locations for electrical wiring and devices along existing brass rails, the marble on the wall, and the building's custom woodwork.

Tri-Tech offered the architect and building owner many advantages through its structural engineering department, ensuring a successful modernization of the building that preserved its historical precedence and appearance.

