

HEALTHCARE DESIGN

ARCHITECTURAL SHOWCASE

HEART HOSPITAL

Buckl Architects CHERRY HILL, NJ, AND **Francis Cauffman** PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Gagnon Cardiovascular Institute at Morristown Memorial Hospital MORRISTOWN, NJ



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Physicians at Atlantic Health's Morristown Memorial Hospital perform more heart surgery than any other hospital in New Jersey. The client's top priority was to thoroughly improve this cardiology program, which is one of the best in the nation but lacked cohesion functionally, operationally, and physically. The hospital's administrators noted that they were providing "21st-century cardiovascular care in 20th-century buildings."

The team for the Gagnon Cardiovascular Institute (GCI) found a creative way to expand the hospital while keeping the campus consolidated. The second part of a master plan for Morristown, the GCI streamlines and upgrades its previously dispersed cardiology services, integrating them into one state-of-the-art center. It also improves the



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Project category: New construction (completed November 2008)

Chief administrator: Robert Peake
Atlantic Health-Director Facilities
Planning and Construction

Firms: Francis Cauffman, (215) 568-8250; Buckl Architects, (856) 857-0044

Design team: Harry H. Hummel, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP, EDAC, Principal-in-Charge; Erin M. Kelly, AIA, Project Manager; Richard A. Beck, AIA, NCARB, Building Designer; Suzanne R. O'Connell, NCIDQ, EDAC, Interior Designer (Francis Cauffman); Keith A. Kammerer, AIA, Principal-in-Charge; Lee Tamaccio, Design Director (Buckl Architects)

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Total building area (sq. ft.):
189,000

Construction cost/sq. ft.: \$460

Total construction cost (excluding land): \$87,000,000

hospital's infrastructure and circulation, and increases its capacity. Though the hospital initially intended to build a stand-alone structure off campus, the team instead devised a vertical expansion scheme that saved money and allowed the hospital to expand its obstetric services, which was not part of the original vision. Close coordination was critical to the team's success in the seven-year process, which resulted in a cutting-edge facility that is now in the 99th percentile of national patient satisfaction rates.

The GCI building includes a two-story atrium lobby and eight cutting-edge cardiovascular ORs integrated with audio-visual equipment capable of transferring patient information both within the hospital and remotely.



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Additionally, there are 88 cardiac care beds, 10 cardiovascular ICU beds, eight critical care beds, and 14 cardiac PACU beds. The hospital's outpatient facilities include an integrated

medicine department that provides alternative techniques for healing and heart-healthy lifestyles such as massage, yoga, meditation, and cooking classes.



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The architecture and interior design is intended to diminish the clinical nature of the hospital in every detail, and to create a hotel-like setting for the patients, visitors and staff throughout, even in the most highly technical and complex environments. The 'Cardiac Access Unit' (left and below) provides the patient with their first experience within the hospital. The hospital wanted to create a spa-like setting to prepare and recover interventional patients and create a positive, relaxing and long lasting impression of the high quality of the hospital, the staff and the services provided.



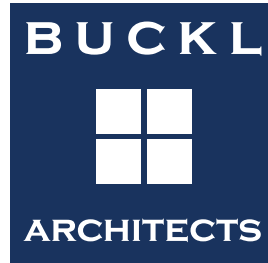
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