

BARNUM MUSEUM

Bridgeport, CT

Environmental Master Plan and MEP/FP Upgrades

The Building:

The Barnum Museum is the leading authority on P.T. Barnum's life and work, and contains more than 60,000 artifacts relating to Barnum, Bridgeport and 19th century America. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Barnum Museum is housed in a 3 story stone and terra cotta building with architectural influences ranging from Byzantine to Romanesque. The building was originally contracted for construction by P. T. Barnum himself. The funds and land for the building and museum were provided by Barnum to house the work of the Bridgeport Scientific Society and the Fairfield County Historical Society. The structure was completed in 1893 and still integral to The Barnum Museum today.

On June 24, 2010, an EF-1 tornado struck the Barnum Museum. Tornado force winds slammed into the building, shattering windows and compromising the structural integrity of the dome. The building, collections, and climate control systems were subjected to a burst of shattered glass, debris, and moisture. The damage to the systems was extensive. As a result of the storm, the Museum had to withdraw collections and staff from the historic building while awaiting funds for restoration.



Nature of Firm's Responsibilities:

LFG has had a long relationship with the Barnum Museum. Both pre- and post-tornado:

Pre-Tornado:

Landmark Facilities Group, Inc. (LFG) was commissioned by the Barnum Museum to evaluate the existing climate control systems and prepare recommendations to modernize those systems and provide efficient, precision climate control.

Post Tornado:

In the days following the tornado, LFG was onsite evaluating the impact of the damage to the systems and providing assistance with damage mitigation. Over the subsequent years, LFG has remained a partner with the museum offering engineering guidance as part of a team of architects, engineers and exhibit planners while the Museum plans for a re-envisioned future as a true 21st century museum.

The Museum is now in the early stages of the restoration and re-envisioning program and LFG is providing mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire safety system design services for that program.