

Weir Farm National Park Service

Ridgefield, CT

The Building:

Weir Farm National Historic Site is a 60 acre farm, which includes the Weir House, Weir and Young Studios, barns, gardens, and Weir Pond. The site was home to three generations of American artists. Julian Alden Weir, a leading figure in American art and the development of American Impressionism, acquired the farm in 1882. After Weir, the artistic legacy was continued by his daughter, painter Dorothy Weir Young and her husband, sculptor Mahonri Young, followed by New England painters Sperry and Doris Andrews.

Nature of Firm's Responsibilities:

LFG was commissioned to assess the existing mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire protection systems in the Weir House, Weir and Young Studios and barn, and provide recommendations and cost estimates for restoration or upgrade. Upon selection of the available options by NPS, LFG designed new MEP/FP systems for the buildings. Minimizing visual intrusion and disturbance of historic fabric was a special design challenge that required close coordination with NPS architects.

The designs included new wet pipe sprinkler system using nitrogen pressurized storage tanks in the Weir House with underground supply pipes into the Young Studio. The Weir Studio had a self contained high pressure (1000 psi) water mist system.

New boilers were designed for the Weir House and the existing historic radiators were reused. Underground hot water pipes supplied heat to the other buildings.

A site wide fire alarm system was designed with the main panel in the Weir House with underground conduit and cables to devices in all other buildings.

A new electric service was brought into the Weir House and electric power was distributed to all other buildings via underground conduit and cable.

LFG provided support throughout construction with shop drawing reviews, field inspections and testing with reports, review of applications for payment, and final punch list.



Weir House



Weir Studio



Young Studio