

LOCATION

West Haven, CT

OWNER

University of New Haven

DELIVERY METHOD

Construction Manager

ARCHITECT

Charney Architects

MAXCY HALL ELEVATOR

An elevator so well installed and with such minimal disruption it's as if it had been there all along

In 2017, Maxcy Hall became accessible to all people for the first time in its 100+ year history. Built in 1909, it is one of the original three buildings on the University of New Haven campus; it serves as the main campus hub and houses administrative offices, student resources and classrooms and while it is a lovely building, there is nothing plumb, square or level or about it. Our goal? Install with such stealth and precision that people would assume the elevator had always been there.

Work began by demolishing the main stairwell and constructing core walls from the basement to the third floor as well as platforms for each floor opening. It also included excavating and installing an elevator pit — through what turned out to be solid rock at the base — to house rails and associated equipment for its operation. A faux chimney, built to accommodate and hide the pulley system above blends with others on the roof.

Excavating took place on the third shift to avoid disturbance during operating hours. As work progressed, work began early and sometimes required weekends, additional night shifts and holidays to limit the impact on operations. With the building's core accessible, Milestone was also able to provide m/e/p upgrades and put infrastructure in place to accommodate future equipment and improvements.

