Grand Valley State University's Mary Idema Pew Library sets the precedent with a LEED Platinum designation.

Dwyer Marble and Stone was honored to take part in the supplying of the exterior and interior natural stone. The stone is the foundation for the building’s symbolic relationship to Great Lakes Region. Therefore, all materials selected were indigenous to the Midwest. It features Cambrian Cream limestone, Michigan Fieldstone and Rainbow Beige limestone.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT
GVSU - Mary Idema Pew Library - Allendale, MI

PROJECT PARTNERS
ARCHITECT: Stantec (formerly SHW Group)
GENERAL CONTRACTOR: Pioneer Construction
STONE/TILE: Dwyer Marble & Stone

AWARDS
U.S.G.B.C. (U.S. Green Building Council) LEED Platinum designation which is the first LEED Platinum library in the state.
EVERY SEAT IS A GOOD SEAT

Grand Valley State University’s (GVSU) Mary Idema Pew Library, Learning and Information Commons represents a true shift in library design. Inspired by the changing needs of today’s students and the evolving skill sets required in the workplace, the new 150,300 SF library, is designed not only to meet its users’ current needs, but also to bridge the gap between the classroom and the workplace.

Accomplishing a LEED Platinum designation makes this building the only one in Michigan of its kind in a higher education facility.

Natural stonework is used for the majority of the building, echoing a deep appreciation for Grand Valley’s rich architectural context and symbolically protecting the books within. The stone is reminiscent of the lost characteristics of the location: a once heavily wooded site cascading through deep ravines to the banks of the Grand River. Set in a random pattern, the custom blend of Cambrian Cream limestone and Michigan fieldstone speaks to the inherent care and craftsmanship necessary for construction. The natural face of the stone encounters a rigid metal grid in which it is framed, offering a dialogue between tradition and contemporary, man and nature, and craft and machine.

The building's interior is as impressive as its exterior. To create a seamless transition to bring the outside environment indoors, both the Cambrian Cream limestone and the Michigan fieldstone appear in prominent areas of the interior spaces. Interior walls copy the exterior module and Rainbow Beige limestone tiles is an obvious regional choice for the floors and main staircase.

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