

# LD+A

The magazine of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ILLUMINATING ENGINEERING SOCIETY



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LIGHTING DESIGN and APPLICATION

Energy Trade-offs  
Library Loses Its Stacks  
IES Annual Conference Review

## A Second Chance

For a Frank Gehry Original

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One Five One

The Department Store

Weston Law Chambers

# SECOND TIME AROUND

Old projects get a new lease on life in our roundup of renovation and adaptive reuse from across the globe

By **Samantha Schwirck**

The age of reuse is officially upon us, and the movement isn't limited to consumer goods like straws and tote bags. Today, sustainability activities can include crushing up old toilets to make sidewalks and roads, melting ID and credit cards into sheets of PVC, and transforming used CDs into plastic for the automotive industry. Developers and architects are on board as well, realizing the benefits of adaptive reuse and renovation projects extend beyond the environmental impact. From New York City to London to Ontario, the three case studies that follow show what else these projects can bring to the table, with a focus on lighting's role in each design.



Photos: Jeremy Fischler/The Dural Organization

## One Five One, New York City

When Condé Nast moved out of its midtown Manhattan office in 2014, key elements of the publisher's iconic Frank Gehry-designed cafeteria became unnecessary for the building's other tenants. While the original curved perimeter walls and interior sculptural glass panels were visually striking, the materials had been selected to give the space a private and exclusive vibe for hosting high-level editorial meetings. The dark titanium walls kept light levels low and hindered visibility, and the curved glass surfaces were positioned to contain acoustics.

The cafeteria's transformation into an inviting, communal food hall was unveiled in 2018, following a redesign by Studios Architecture. New illumination, designed by LOOP Lighting, supports the overall transition from a secluded, moody environment to a human-centric hub. John Newman, partner and designer at LOOP, considered existing surfaces and transparent materials in pursuit of lighting that would reveal characteristics of the original architecture in the renovated space. Working with project manager Esra Aras and manufacturer USAI, the

### Bonus Points:

Perforated titanium walls were replaced with plaster and sheetrock that follows the curves of the original wavy glass partitions, now illuminated by reflected light.

team developed a plan that enhances the new building-wide amenity area while also revitalizing the dining room as its centerpiece.

"Limited connection to natural light was overcome using dynamic white LED sources to provide circadian lighting, and colorful architectural accent lighting adjusts during mealtimes to add subtle, complementary color tones," Newman says. Approximately 155 recessed downlight, adjustable and wall-wash fixtures (all by USAI) were used in the new design: **recessed, tunable white accent fixtures with 2200K-6000K LED sources illuminate light-colored task surfaces, while white and colored linear fixtures were integrated behind seating banquettes.**

"The fixtures allow the space to respond more intimately to different use types throughout the course of a day," Newman says. "Warm lighting in the morning, energetic cooler white light during the mid-day lunch, and candlelight glow during the evening cocktail hour, thereby making the space feel distinctly different each time the building occupants visit."