



Honorable Mentions

New Becomes Old

The Potts Co.'s expansion of a 100 year-old building means matching both materials and style



Honorable Mention: Construction Management; Renovations; Gross Construction Revenue \$20-50 Million

The building was 100 years old—but, that was not the problem. The problem was that the Putnam County courthouse was no longer big enough, and if expansion was to be the answer, it had to match, it had to be high-tech and it had to flow seamlessly into the existing building.

This \$4.6 million project was technically two buildings because the expansion of the building took place on both sides. Each section was seamlessly attached to the original

building, floor-by-floor, after almost all construction was finished. This process enabled government operations to continue in the central building during the entire project. According to Tony Clark, the Putnam County Board of Commissioners manager, "The project team was able to complete the project all while the original building was occupied with minimal disturbances to daily operations."

The 26,000 square feet of space that was added had to match the style and materials of the 100-year-old building. This proved to be one of the more challenging aspects. The Potts Co. carefully selected the materials and opted for sub-

contractors with experience working on historic buildings.

Throughout the construction process, court remained in session, which required additional safety plans for the jurors, the inmates and the judges. Pedestrian walkways were created around construction activities, as well. No injuries or lost time due to accidents were reported during this project.

As the project took place in downtown Eatonton, the project was confined by streets on all four sides, which by complicated the matter. Potts developed a plan that kept all the traffic flowing and did not block any streets during high-traffic times.