

BUSINESS



Special Photo

The Potts Company played a key role in organizing renovations and additions to the Putnam County Courthouse. The work was completed in December. The company is in consideration for several government projects in Rockdale County.

Potts Construction celebrating 20 year anniversary

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CONYERS — Potts Construction Services, located at 981 E. Freeway Drive in Conyers, celebrates 20 years of business today.

"We are a hometown company that grew up in Rockdale to become one of the largest contractors in metro Atlanta," said Mike Rhinehart, vice president of the Potts Company. "Most of our employees are Rockdale County residents and grew up in this community. We haven't moved to downtown Atlanta like everyone else. We're also all active in the community. There are many different places our employees serve in the community."

Potts Construction started on Feb. 9, 1986, when Mike Potts, the company's founder and CEO, saw the potential for a construction company here in Conyers.

"I'm a native of Conyers," Potts said. "Our family goes back at least three generations in Rockdale County. I started the business when I was 31. For 10 years I had worked in construction, but I saw Conyers and Rockdale County were growing. There was no need to go downtown to work. Why make that trip?"

Over 20 years the company has seen maybe two downturns in the economy that slowed business, Potts said.

"We were always fortunate to keep our employees busy," he said.

Today, Potts Construction Services is considered one of the leading construction firms in the Southeast, Potts said.

The company has more than \$325 million in projects completed, totaling more than 2.5 million square feet. The company has a bonding capacity of \$100 million, which gives it the financial ability to handle most major projects, company representatives say.

Potts reports annual revenues exceeding \$50 million and employs more than 40 workers as staff and



Special Photos

Above, the Potts Construction Services executive team, from right, Vice President Steve Heyward, Vice President Project Development Mike Rhinehart, Chief Executive Officer Mike Potts and President Dave Buser, celebrate 20 years of success in Conyers. The company has completed \$325 million in projects during that time. Right, the Potts Company served as construction manager of risk on the work on the historic Putnam County Courthouse.

professionals. The company boasts a low employee turnover rate and notes the average employee has more than 10 years of loyal service to the company.

Company executives say that in 20 years, Potts has never failed to complete a project and say they have "never been involved in any litigation in any way with any project owner, ever."

Potts specializes in government, faith-based, higher education, health care, historical restoration and corporate building projects.

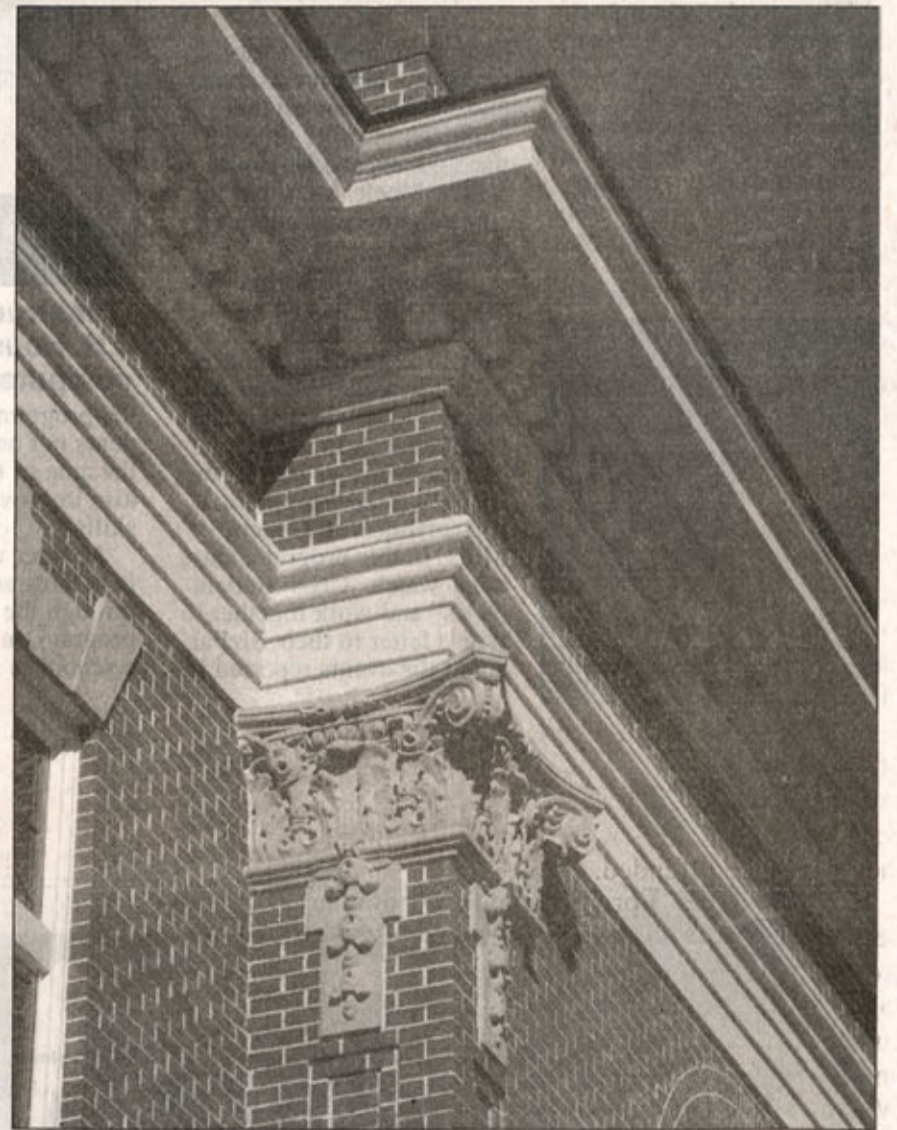
In December 2005, the company completed additions and renovations at the historic Putnam County Courthouse in Eatonton.

The company provided preconstruction services and served as construction manager at risk on the \$4.6 million project.

The project consisted of two three-story, 12,500-square-foot additions to either side of the existing occupied courthouse facility. Renovations were also performed to either side of the existing structure on the interior and exterior to seamlessly blend the additions.

The company has recently been selected to perform as the construction manager at risk in projects in Rockdale County.

"We haven't entered into contracts



with the county, but we have been notified we are the construction manager at risk for several of the SPLOST projects."

Those projects may include work on the Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, J.P. Carr, the Senior Center and two new fire stations.

Potts said the company is not planning anything special for the 20th anniversary.

"We will try to do some celebration

with the friends we have made over the years," he said. "We'll have an event and invite the community. We don't want to flaunt our accomplishment, but we want to get together with friends."

"One phrase I adopted over the years is 'Give more than you take, so what you take will always be more.' It's a phrase I've coined. It's the foundation of our ability to grow."

The Potts Company Web site is located at www.pottsc.com.