

Canaan Valley Institute Headquarters

Location: Davis, West Virginia
Client: Canaan Valley Institute
Size: 3,200 acres
Cost: \$32 Million
Status: Construction Documents completed 2007



Section through entry drive and wetland basin.

Viridian Landscape Studio, formerly Rolf Sauer & Partners, designed and documented a new headquarters facility for the Canaan Valley Institute, a nonprofit organization whose mission is the improvement and preservation of the natural resource watersheds and local communities in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia.

VLS is lead the design team in solving the challenge of building and project infrastructure siting to minimize visual and environmental impacts. The design team holistically studied these issues as well as the building systems, which include composting toilets, wind energy, natural ventilation, green roofing technologies and no night sky pollution.

A key landscape initiative was to repair and replant the site with soil and vegetation harvested during the construction process. All stormwater was infiltrated or reused in cisterns. Stormwater swales were designed to weave around walks and terraces creating lush habitats for local flora and fauna and viewing opportunities for building users. Throughout

the site, these technologies will be on display to serve as an educational exhibit to all who visit.



Plants identified for harvesting and reuse.



Above: Sketch for entry court and wetland.

Right: A pedestrian walk system provides both short and long hiking opportunities.

