

MIT Museum

Cambridge, MA

Architect for Expansion

The MIT Museum's existing facility presented several particularly complex challenges. The building suffered from serious humidity and temperature control issues, poor collection storage areas, a limited amount of exhibit space, and a minimal connection to street level. Working closely with the museum staff, we established a multi-phase strategy which allows the Museum to develop and expand their building as the institution grows. The first phase of work created an inviting exhibit space on the street level, resolved the museum's humidity and temperature control issues, and established a strong presence on the street. This exhibit space meets MIT's specific needs as a flexible multi-use space, incorporating a multimedia presentation area, changing exhibit gallery, a new entry and ticket area, and an expanded museum store. Since the completion of this phase of work, the Museum has seen a 50% growth in attendance, a 400% growth in retail sales, and has gone from hosting two educational events each month to now hosting two each week.

