

Mueller Associates' experience in museums, libraries, and galleries includes the following current and completed projects throughout the mid-Atlantic:

- American Visionary Art Museum
- Babe Ruth Museum
- The Baltimore Museum of Art
- Banneker-Douglass Museum
- Delaware Museum of Natural History
- Enoch Pratt Free Library
- Hagley Museum and Library
- The Jewish Historical Society
- London Town Visitor Center and Museum
- Maryland Historical Society
- National Gallery of Art
- Smithsonian Institution (various museums)
- Star-Spangled Banner Museum
- U.S. Holocaust Museum
- Va. Museum of Fine Arts
- The Walters Art Museum
- Winterthur Museum

For more information, including a complete list of projects, visit our recently updated website at [www.muellerassoc.com](http://www.muellerassoc.com).

## Preserving Our Past

### Mueller's Museum Expertise Helps Protect Important Collections

*In a region rich in American history and the arts, Mueller Associates is one of the leading consultants specializing in museums, galleries, libraries, and other spaces that help preserve and celebrate our culture and heritage. For more than 35 years, Mueller engineers have addressed the challenges of these complex buildings throughout the mid-Atlantic, completing modernization work at numerous landmark institutions (see sidebar).*

Today, as museums pursue expanding education, outreach, and research initiatives, as well as technologically advanced facilities in which to display collections, many institutions are embarking upon large-scale renovation and expansion projects. "From an engineering standpoint, museums provide us with some of our most challenging assignments," says Todd Garing, PE, who has overseen a number of museum and gallery design projects for Mueller.

"It's important that we provide well-balanced environmental controls for the comfort of visitors and staff," says Garing. "We also work closely with designers to integrate lighting systems that effectively showcase exhibits. Perhaps most importantly, we must ensure that collections are well protected from sunlight, moisture, and fluctuations in temperature and humidity. Effective environmental systems are clearly paramount to the success of these projects."

### Celebrating Maryland History

For nearly 160 years, the Maryland Historical Society has served as a museum, library, publishing house, and academic institution committed to preserving and interpreting Maryland's heritage. The Baltimore-based museum houses the state's largest collection of artifacts, including an extensive collection of Americana and the original manuscript of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The society celebrated the completion of a major facility renovation and expansion in November 2003, enabling the museum to expand its public outreach, exhibitions, collections, and scholarship programs. Designed by Ziger/Snead LLP, the work includes a 40,000-square-foot addition with a central courtyard and a glass-enclosed visitors' entrance; a modernized and expanded research library; and

exhibit and educational space. The addition significantly expands the facility's original size and creates a dynamic "connector" space linking existing buildings.

"We worked hard as a team to coordinate the museum's requirements to give them ultimate flexibility," says Steve Ziger, a partner with Ziger/Snead.

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**"Mueller has been terrific to work with. They are very creative in their approach to design issues."**

—Steve Ziger  
Partner, Ziger/Snead LLP

The Maryland Historical Society celebrated its 40,000-square-foot expansion with a dedication in November. The new space houses expanded outreach, exhibition, and collection space. For more information, visit [www.mdhs.org](http://www.mdhs.org).

Photo: Robert Creamer





“Mueller’s design meets all of the objectives for the building and allows the museum to maintain a sophisticated system for displays.”

Engineering upgrades included the installation of a chiller to an existing cooling plant—a task complicated by the need to maintain museum operations throughout the process. Mueller worked closely with members of the project team, including construction manager Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, Inc., to ensure a seamless installation

process. “Mueller has been terrific to work with,” says Ziger. “They are very creative in their approach to design issues.”

### A Historic Setting

The region has several other museum projects on the boards or under construction, with Mueller providing MEP engineering services for a diverse range of both gallery/exhibition and interactive spaces. The Babe Ruth Birthplace and Museum, established in 1974, has plans to renovate space at the currently vacant Camden Station in order to accommodate a second location for its popular facility, which will also host exhibits on the Baltimore Orioles and Colts as well as the University of Maryland Terrapins.

Opened in 1856, the historic Camden Station building is a

former train depot located adjacent to Oriole Park and now owned by the Maryland Stadium Authority. The Babe Ruth Museum will occupy half of the 44,000-square-foot modernized space for an interactive sports museum. Cho Benn Holback + Associates, Inc. is the architect for the renovation, with Boston-based museum specialists Chermayeff, Sollogub and Poole, Inc. designing the exhibits. J. Vinton Schafer & Sons, Inc. is the construction manager for the project.

Mueller Project Manager Yancy Unger, PE, notes that the 19th-century construction has impacted the renovation design, which will optimize Camden Station’s historic integrity. “We’re doing everything we can—including using attic space for equipment rooms and distribution systems—to preserve the building and maximize usable space,” says Unger.

◀ The Babe Ruth Museum at Camden Station is scheduled to open to the public in the spring of 2005.

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—Jonathan Fishman  
Principal, RCG, Inc.,  
Architects

## Honoring Old Glory

The Star-Spangled Banner Museum, recently completed by Henry H. Lewis Contractors, is one of Baltimore’s newest attractions. The museum is located adjacent to the Flag House, where the original Star-Spangled Banner, which flew over Fort McHenry during the War of 1812 and inspired the National Anthem, was sewn by Mary Pickersgill in 1813. The 12,600-square-foot, two-level building features a theater, exhibits, event space, and a Children’s Gallery.

A 30- by 42-foot “Great Flag Window” is a highlight of the new museum, designed by RCG, Inc.,

The “Great Flag Window” is a highlight of the new Star-Spangled Banner Museum in Baltimore. The window depicts a life-size replica of the original flag, created in 1813 and now housed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. For more views, visit [www.flaghouse.org](http://www.flaghouse.org).

Architects. Using vibrant bands of colored glass, the window depicts a full-size image of the Star-Spangled Banner at the front of the building. “This is a huge glass wall that faces south and is not insulated,” says Jonathan Fishman, a principal with RCG. “Mueller did a great job of developing a mechanical solution that accommodates the huge heat load, but is also harmonious with the overall design intent. They were flexible and creative.”

Museum Director Sally Johnston agrees: “Mueller was very helpful throughout the process,” she says. “I was concerned about the temperature of the building with all of that glass in front, but we’ve had some really hot days, and it’s been very comfortable.”

“This building is a great success,” says Johnston. “We clearly have a new landmark in downtown Baltimore.”



Photo: Alain Jaramillo