

Located in the heart of the Kent State University ‘old campus’, the University Auditorium building had been neglected and was in need of comprehensive modernizations and expansion. Irie Kynyk Goss Architects was commissioned by the University to achieve the following design objectives:

- Reconfigure the auditorium space to provide better sightlines, and to allow the space to be used for lectures as well as concerts
- Relocate the University’s ROTC program from the Auditorium to the former dining area of Terrace Hall, which also required comprehensive renovations
- Create an 18,500 s.f. addition to house the Research and Graduate Studies program, and to create a new ‘main entry’ and lobby area to the Auditorium in keeping with the University’s recently developed master plan
- Renovate the existing atrium space for use by the graduate studies and research programs
- Make the entire facility handicapped accessible, and provide new mechanical, electrical and communications systems throughout the building

Phase I renovations concentrated on the renovation of the existing auditorium space and adjacent dressing and toilet rooms. The \$2.5 million dollar construction project was completed in 9 months. Renovated areas total approximately 22,000 s.f.

Phase II renovations, currently under construction, will complete the comprehensive renovation of the University Auditorium initiated under Phase I. A new addition to the existing auditorium will provide new office and lobby space and create a distinctive entrance to the existing building. The ground and mezzanine levels of the existing auditorium will be completely reconfigured and renovated to house the University’s graduate studies and research programs.



Auditorium existing atrium, under construction



Auditorium atrium, computer rendering