

“Pretty much 100 percent of our workplace projects are sustainable”

**Sustainability is a signature** of initiatives supported by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. However, it took FXFowle to inspire president Stephen B. Heintz to try for LEED Platinum at a 23,000-square-foot New York headquarters shared with the Rockefeller Family Fund and V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation. Planning for the long term, Rockefeller Brothers agreed to upgrade the efficiency of planned mechanical and electrical systems, which should pay for themselves in five years. Beneath wood veneers, MDF substrates are Forest Stewardship Council-certified; flooring in the lobby is natural Vermont



## shared assets

firm: **fxfowle** site: **new york**



*From top: At the shared office of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Rockefeller Family Fund, and V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation, a conference room centers on a Louis Poulsen pendant fixture and vintage Max Pearson chairs reupholstered in synthetic suede. The reception area features a Jens Risom chair and a pair of doors found at the Rockefeller estate Kykuit.*





slate; and counters in pantries are a recycled-glass composite. "A little here and a little there, and we were able to push it up a level without spending significant dollars," managing partner Guy Geier explains.

Whether technically LEED-certified or not, Geier says, "Pretty much 100 percent of our workplace projects are sustainable." For this one, the firm emphasized reuse by pulling furnishings out of the Rockefeller's own storage—even a sofa by Florence Knoll and Brno chairs by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. "This is the real stuff, guys," Geier told his clients. (New reissues with a similar feel are by the likes of Jens Risom.) Stately nonfunctioning doors at the entry were

reused as a desk in the Grants Hub. The office space is designed for collaboration and flexibility, with a mix of seating and work areas.



**Opposite, from top:** Beyond reception's custom nylon broadloom, Vermont slate flooring defines the open boardroom. Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's chairs, mostly vintage, sit beneath the bamboo-plywood modular ceiling in the area where grant applications are reviewed.



unearthed at the Rockefeller estate Kykuit in Pocantico Hills, New York, and given a distressed red decorative finish.

Maximizing natural light, Geier's scheme pulls away from the perimeter. West-facing ninth-floor windows frame a spectacular view across the Hudson River to the abundant foliage of the Palisades, enlarged and preserved in perpetuity after John D. Rockefeller, Sr., pledged \$500,000 in 1909.

—Craig Kellogg

DANIEL JACOBY (LEAD DESIGNER); ERICA GODUN; GERARD GEIER; SARA AGREST; STEPHANIE SCHREIBER; VIOLETTE DE LA SELLE: PROJECT TEAM.



**Clockwise from top:** A veneer of stained American walnut hides the Forest Stewardship Council-certified MDF substrate of workstations. Chairs by Lievore, Altherr, Molina surround tables by Charles and Ray Eames in the café. Modular shelving in a meeting area is painted steel. Aluminum signage, cut by water jet, stands out against low-VOC paint.