

Jesup Hall



Architect: George Tilden
Date completed: 1900
Project cost: \$40,000
Most recent major renovation: 1984
Renovation cost: \$1,960,500
Function: Computer center, offices, campus servers
Energy use in 2006: 1,431,520 kWh
Square footage: 24,885 ft.²
Energy use per square foot: 57.53 kWh/ft.²



Jesup Hall History & Design^{1,2}

Since its construction in 1900 by architect George Tilden, Jesup Hall has undergone tremendous change in both form and function. Originally designed to mimic the architectural style of the Thompson Laboratory buildings, Tilden's gold brick building featured a brick arch above its entrance, a porch with sentinel columns guarding the main door, above which was mounted a large stone

College seal, and dormers with prominent chimneys and two cupolas sat atop the roof. The early Jesup suffered from structural problems, and was quickly renovated in 1908 by Williams alum John Oakman (class of 1899), who significantly changed the style of the exterior, resulting in the colonial Jesup Hall of today. Over the years, Jesup has been renovated many times, severely damaged by fire, and has served as a religious life center, a student center, offices for alumni relations and development, and once included an auditorium used for lectures and debates. Jesup was converted to a computer center in the 1980's and currently houses staff members of the Office for Information Technology, student computer labs, and most of the computer equipment that runs the College network.

Jesup Energy Use^{3,4,5}

Jesup Hall currently earns the dubious title of second greatest electricity use per square foot of all the Williams College buildings, second only to the College's cogeneration heating plant. Jesup contains about 200 computers in labs and in offices, high-end media equipment, plasma screen monitors, appliances for the staff, among a plethora of other devices one may (or may not) expect to find in a college computer center. On the more technical side, Jesup also houses an old chiller that provides A/C for the building, a server room with its own cooling equipment that provides all the computer services and maintains the network for the entire campus, and a large UPS (uninterruptible power supply) that temporarily powers the server room in the case of an electrical failure before Jesup's backup generator kicks in.

¹ <http://www.williams.edu/library/archives/buildinghistories/jesup/timeline.html#1980>

² Whitney S. Stoddard, *Reflections on the Architecture of Williams College*, Williamstown, Mass.: Williams College, 2001.

³ Don Clark: Facilities, Utilities Program Manager; Mike Tillou, PE: ETC Group, Inc., Williamstown, MA.

⁴ Luce Foundation Energy Audit, Jared Powell '06, with Helena Harnik '07, Carolyn Reuman '06, and Emily Russell-Roy '06, guided by Stephanie Boyd, Amy Johns, Chris Warren and David Dethier, Summer 2006.

⁵ http://www.williams.edu/admin/facilities/propertybook/const_proj.php, 2006.

Photos:

Top: Present day Jesup Hall: Jared Powell, '06; Bottom: The original Jesup Hall (1903):

http://www.williams.edu/library/archives/buildinghistories/jesup/photo_archive_pages/exterior_westpersp_c1903.html.