

For immediate release

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The Hudson Passive Project is named the first certified passive house in New York State

Designed by Dennis Wedlick Architect, house set records during performance testing and is among the most energy-efficient homes in the country

New York, NY – APRIL 2011—Dennis Wedlick Architect LLC (DWA) is pleased to announce that its first foray into the rigorous passive house standard—today’s highest benchmark for energy-efficient design and construction—has resulted in another first: the conservation project that came to be known as The Hudson Passive Project has just become the first passive house in the state to be certified by Passive House Institute U.S. In addition, the Hudson Passive Project has set a national record for air-tightness among certified passive homes with an exceptionally low score of 0.149 ACH at 50 Pascals. The speed of construction was also remarkable—the house was substantially complete within just four months. www.hudsonpassiveproject.com.

The Hudson Passive Project is located in Claverack, New York on a seven-acre plot in the heart of the Hudson Valley. Designed by a dedicated team at DWA, the house was built by Bill Stratton Building Company, a local green builder. While this was also Stratton’s first passive house, his team managed to exceed the exacting building requirements required to achieve passive status.

Dennis Wedlick is the founder of DWA. Known for a career-long commitment to picturesque, sustainable design, Wedlick took the firm’s green mission to a new level with the Hudson Passive Project. “We set out to show that significant energy conservation could be achieved through architecture alone, without reliance on technological gadgetry. What we have learned is that ‘going passive’ is not only eminently do-able, it is a meaningful response to the energy crisis currently facing our nation.”

Passive houses can reduce energy needed for heating and cooling by a staggering 90%, and are just now becoming more prevalent in the United States. (The passive house—or *passivhaus*—standard originated in Germany, and is more common in Europe). The Hudson Passive Project shows that adopting the basic tenets of the passive house concept—harnessing the power of the sun, adopting a compact and efficient shape, using super-insulation, and minimizing heat loss through the building envelope—can be implemented in any project, regardless of style and climate, making the end result that much more energy-efficient.

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