

Northborough Free Library Renovation and Addition
Northborough, MA
March 12, 2009

Copper Siding

The selection of pre-patinated copper used in exterior wall siding was based on the following:

1. Copper is an environmentally friendly material. It is 95% recycled and readily recyclable. (In fact, about 85% of all copper mined in the age of mankind is still in use.)
2. Copper costs a fraction of the cost of masonry veneer construction. The panels were sized efficiently to minimize waste, thus driving the costs down further.
3. Copper was easier to install especially with the limited space on site.
4. Copper was used on the original Gale Library Building, so it was a natural choice for the new addition. Local atmospheric conditions affect the natural aging of copper and color variation over time. The patination process was used to bring the color and appearance of new copper cladding closer to the aged copper of original building.
5. Patina also increases copper's already high corrosion resistance. The color could vary slightly as the patina hardens and matures. However, the color will stay within the aged copper color range – blue-green (Like the Statue of Liberty.).
6. Pre-patinated copper is self-healing and, if scratched, will self-heal over a few months' time. It provides beauty, weather resistance, durability, economy, minimal maintenance and immediate boost to architectural value of the project.