

June 15, 2005

### 19th Century Construction an Inspiration for Rockwood Park Visitors Center

FOLLANSBEE, WV... The adaptive reuse of a carriage house and barn at Rockwood Park, Wilmington, DE, into the new Visitors Center was designed to match existing features of the Park's historic 19th century Mansion Museum. Follansbee's [TCS II®](#) roof was specified to match the original terne roof that was installed on the mansion in the late 1970s.

"TCS II is an excellent material for restoration or new construction projects that require an historic or traditional look because it replicates older Terne roofs which have survived many decades," notes Edward Thomas, Follansbee Vice President and General Manager.

Approximately 7,800 square feet of the Park's original barn and carriage house were renovated to serve as the new Visitors Center – complete with a museum gift shop, reception area, visitor orientation classroom and archival storage area and workshop. A three story, 10,600 square-foot addition, was carefully added to the west side of the barn and carriage house to preserve views from the mansion. Construction began in early 2003 and was completed in early 2005.

The Visitors Center roof was completed with 11,000 square feet of Follansbee's TCS II in 1" double lock standing seam profile. To maintain consistency with the Mansion's color scheme, the roof was painted with Follansbee's Rapidri paint in a customized yellowish/gray color.

"Follansbee was able to customize the exact roof color we were looking for," explains project coordinator, Will Hurd from Moeckel Carbonell Associates. "The color, Gray Mirage, was selected from a palette and was just perfect for this application."

"In addition to our efforts to match certain design features, we also tried to remain clear about which portions of the project were new construction and which were renovation," continues Hurd. "We maintained the integrity of original materials, such as wood and metal, for the renovation and typically left new materials with their natural finishes for the addition."

The carriage house's interior finishes include exposed wood structure, stone walls, brick and wood flooring and were all preserved during the renovation.

Another 19th century inspiration was to construct the roof using pole gutters, which were made from Follansbee's TCS II material and soldered into the roof. This unique application, typical of the era, channels water and acts like an internal gutter. "There were also some complex roof joints in spots and drainage pans were built and formed out of the metal in corners to catch water," concludes Hurd.

Moeckel Carbonell Associates served as the architect for the project, EDiS Company as the construction manager, and Tri-State Roofers as the roof installer, all located in Wilmington, DE. The distributor for Follansbee's materials was Bradco Supply, Exton, PA.

The 72 acres of Rockwood Mansion Park, owned and operated by New Castle County Parks Department, includes the mansion, Porter's Lodge, Gardener's Cottage, Visitors Center and a 6-acre historic garden. Rockwood Mansion was built between 1851 and 1854 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

TCS II is an architectural stainless steel coated with Follansbee's patented [ZT® \(zinc/tin\) alloy](#). As a result of Follansbee's extensive metallurgic research, TCS II does not require painting and is designed to weather naturally to an attractive gray patina and can withstand severe corrosive conditions including industrial, coastal, and salt-water environments. Follansbee offers 9 preformed profiles for metal roofing, including 6 standing seam profiles, but the highly versatile TCS II can be tailored into a variety of design forms, from the traditional standing seam roof to a vertical wall, barrel applications, shingles, and customized sections in flat or spherical shapes. TCS II is solderable and virtually maintenance-free.

Follansbee Steel offers a wide range of metal roofing products for commercial and residential construction including [Terne II®](#), [KlassicColors®](#) and [TCS II®](#). Founded in the early 1800s, the Follansbee, WV, company has been manufacturing in its current location for more than 100 years. Modern alloys developed and patented by Follansbee

have taken the original tin roof to new heights of performance and longevity. For more information call 1-800-624-6906 or visit [www.follansbeeroofing.com](http://www.follansbeeroofing.com).