

**Rhode Island
School of Design**
(RISD)
Metcalf Refectory
Providence, RI

prepared by
Clevenger Frable LaVallee Inc.



project data	Student Population:	1,000
	Number of seats:	350
	Serving area:	2,500 sf
	Foodservice Equipment cost:	\$100,000
	Total Project cost:	\$500,000

situation analysis The only student dining facility at RISD was operated with a conventional board-plan venue and was unable to attract nonresident students and staff. The facility did not reflect the image RISD wanted to project to existing and prospective students.

the challenge To successfully compete with off-campus options by renovating the facility so that it would attract both nonresidents and staff.

solution Clevenger Frable LaVallee designed a foodservice facility consistent with the world-respected design reputation of RISD. We selected a Market-place concept to enhance the facility's layout and patron flow. In addition, we designed and specified a foodservice equipment package that was ideal for the situation at hand.

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Project Profile Rhode Island School of Design

project strategy Clevenger Frable LaVallee, and the project's architect, Kennedy & Violich Architecture, conducted and participated in a series of focus groups with students and staff to define preferences and determine program direction.

Focus group findings indicated the need for major renovation. But conventional wisdom suggested it simply couldn't be done in light of some daunting time and budget constraints. To complicate matters further, renovation had to occur while permitting continuous kitchen operation.

To succeed, the project team would have to be both decisive and resourceful; therefore, the strategy called for exposed rough construction and expensive yet durable and contemporary finishes—resulting in a unique, dramatically changed environment.

results The new facility supported the institution's quest for a more creative approach to foodservice management. What's more, the renovation transformed the dining-services program into a valuable sales tool in attracting new students to RISD.

*Metcalf Refectory
Providence, RI
300% increase in staff
dining guests, and 150%
increase in non-resident
student dining guests.*



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