

THE IMPORTANCE OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING IN HISTORIC RENOVATIONS

WORKSPACE COLLECTIVE SANFORD

Located in Central Florida, the city of Sanford brings a unique, historic vibe to the area. As one of the oldest incorporated cities in the state, Sanford has a rich history. Founded in the late 1870s, Sanford was primarily comprised of wooden buildings encompassing a multitude of businesses. In 1887, a bakery located in Downtown Sanford caught on fire, spreading through nearby wooden buildings. This fire resulted in the city rebuilding structures comprised of brick, a more durable option. These rebuilt brick buildings can still be found throughout Sanford today. Its downtown area is full of different shops and local businesses.

Found in Downtown Sanford at the corner of 1st Street and Sanford Avenue sits a 5,600 square foot, single-story brick building. Due to its historical nature, it is essential to the city that this structure, built in 1914, remains intact. As an alternative to demolishing the structure and rebuilding, TLC is working to help transform this building into a multi-story office building. Our scope began in Fall 2022 with a condition assessment of the building. During this assessment, TLC's structural staff noted any structural issues and made appropriate recommendations. As a result, TLC's scope has expanded to include renovation and expansion.

The building's renovation will address any issues found in the condition survey, including replacing and adding columns, reinforcing walls, and removing and raising the existing roof. The contractor will remove part of the roof structure to expand the structure vertically, creating a mezzanine level. The tenants of the building will be Workspace Collective, a company offering shared, rentable office space. By vertically expanding the structure, Workspace Collective can create functional and spacious office and meeting areas for occupants' use. The future tenants are also anticipating a rooftop area to enjoy. In addition to the internal renovations, a mural honoring the Sanford Fire Department's 150th anniversary will cover an exterior wall of the renovated building.

By renovating this building, the city is able to preserve the history that comes with it. Not only will the building continue to serve its local community, it will also honor the city's local fire department. TLC takes great pride in our contribution to Downtown Sanford and in taking careful measures to preserve this historic building. To learn more, click [here](#) and to view the mural concept watch this [video](#).

