



In order to accommodate Harvard University's music program rejuvenation including professional quality recording and teaching studios, HMFH is renovating a portion of historic Paine Hall. The Studio for Electro-acoustic Music Composition has very stringent acoustical requirements that call for vibration control, reduced sound transmission, precise volumetric considerations, and appropriate surface treatment. The renovation included replacement of existing light fixtures with silent alternatives and a virtually noiseless replacement heating and cooling system that is mounted on vibration isolators atop a new structural system. Within the studios, the recording room is a ventilated, vibration-isolated, acoustically neutral, room-within-a-room, with an adjacent control room.

All of work was completed with minimum impact to the prominent, historic building. Operable double glazed windows to seal out external noise were installed on the interior so that historic windows remained intact. Historic moldings were removed and reinstalled, new exhaust fans duplicated the originals and a new louver was located within an existing architectural recess.