

Project Information

Project:

Nitrate Film Vault at UCLA Film & Television Archives

Location:

Santa Clarita, CA

Architect:

SmithGroup

Product:

Atmospheric Barrier & Pressure Relief Vent

Project Overview

The UCLA Film and Television
Archives is one of the largest
collections of media materials in the
US and the largest of any university in
the world. Its combined collections
of classic, current and innovative
film and television represents an
all-encompassing documentation of
the 20th century. Because the gases
produced by aging nitrate stock
will damage other film types, UCLA
constructed a new film vault to house
this film separately from the others.

It was necessary for SmithGroup to design the film vault to include a tightly monitored environment that would safely store the highly volatile nitrate film base. C/S' atmospheric barriers are utilized to help maintain this "closed environment" to avoid extreme temperature and humidity change. And, since nitrate film is able to support combustion even underwater, C/S Explovent* was specified where the nitrate films are actually stored to allow for any necessary explosion relief venting.

