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TAT creates biophilic dementia care facility in Massachusetts

Séan Thurgood 06 Sep 2022

Moss walls and indoor gardens add to therapeutic design of the Cordwainer building

Situated near Wompatuck State Park, the design focuses on the use of biophilia and the effect this can have in encouraging sensory experiences, especially for neurological conditions.

The designers have also created a natural environment of living moss walls, indoor and outdoor gardens and have used wood finishes to create an environment that connects patients with a lush and calming space.

Studies have shown that light sensitivity can have a significant impact on dementia, so the design focuses on bringing as much natural light as possible into the facility through light wells and clerestory windows. The light provides sensory-stimulation year-round and penetrates through to the center of the community's floorplate.

In addition, the design includes living and dining facilities on each floor to provide easy access for all residents and promotes engagement by allowing residents to watch meal preparation and chef demos. All classrooms and activity spaces are located directly outside residential suites.

The facility also features a salon, barber shop, fitness room, wood workshop and roof terrace. Once open the facility will also feature electric vehicle charging stations to promote sustainability.