



CASE STUDY

RESTAURANT + DISTILLERY

EASTERN KILLE DISTILLERY





Just as construction relies on a strong foundation, distillation depends on quality ingredients and precise preparation. The design of Eastern Kille Distillery is deliberate, mirroring the quality and nature of their award-winning whiskey, gin, rum and vodka.

After outgrowing its original tasting room, Eastern Kille settled on building their new restaurant and distillery on a 16-acre property in Michigan. Mathison | Mathison Architects (MMA) developed a plan to guide the current and future development strategies within their new property.

Nestled among the forest of White Pine Trail, the distillery offers stunning views of its surrounding area. A 28-foot-tall glass curtain wall creates visual continuity between the indoors and out. An intersecting breezeway and multi-functional outdoor venue space enhance visitor experience, and other minimalist details such as wood and concrete create a harmonious atmosphere and unify all the spaces.

With a primary goal of maintaining 100% of their production on site, the restaurant and tap room were designed as a unified building, bridging the tasting room and visitors' experience with their distilling production and aging process.

A mixture of design elements enhances the gable expression, transforming the simple pre-engineered metal building into contemporary architecture. A cathedral-style, less conventional 6/12 roof slope provides additional interior volume to accommodate

barrel storage and a larger tasting room, while also creating the desired modern form.

The exterior is finished with dark bronze insulated metal panels and natural wood, while the interior mimics the same aesthetic with contrasting touches of warm details and furnishings.

The partnership between Authorized Builder, Wolverine Building Group, and Nucor Building Systems helped streamline the construction process by maintaining clear, consistent, and timely communication with one another from start to finish. When asked about their partnership with NBS, Wolverine Building Group said, "It is easier to act on project changes when the right team members can consistently communicate. Many trades and project teams rely on us to provide quick information, and we were able to do so with this partnership."

Eastern Kille Distillery was named Distillery of the Year by the judges of the West Michigan F&B Industry Awards in 2023 and won the Metal Construction News 2024 Project Excellence Award for Metal Buildings. These awards are a true testament to everyone's commitment to the project from beginning to end.



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