

Courtyard by Marriott Lower Manhattan, New York City

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As part of a new construction project for Courtyard by Marriott Lower Manhattan hotel, Danny Forster Design Studio specified metal mesh to clad the building's podium. The mesh allowed the structural wall to be set back 7 feet from the street, while meeting local zoning laws, which call for a 85-foot-tall wall at street level. The mesh functions as a wall that meets zoning laws. It also works as a screenwall with enough transparency to provide views from guest rooms on lower levels.

The screenwall design had other benefits as well. By setting the structural walls back from the street, more efficient guest room sizes were used. Additionally, due to the building's floor area ratio requirement, the setback freed up 3,600 square feet of space that was redistributed to the top of the building for a rooftop bar.

Danny Forster, principal at Danny Forster Design Studios, design architect for the project, says, "The mesh allowed us to do the seemingly impossible: create a single element that could function as both a solid wall and open window. We were able to satisfy legal requirements, meet the demands of the city, give the developers the rooms they needed, strategically optimize square footage and clad our podium in a unique glowing veil that transforms from day to night."

L&S Erectors Inc. installed 4,107 square feet of Cambridge Architectural's metal mesh in its Mid-Balance pattern with 50 percent open area. It completed the installation with Cambridge Architectural's Eclipse attachment system.

David Zeitlin, sales director at Cambridge Architectural, says, "Our metal mesh looks great and frequently provides aesthetic, environmental and security design solutions, but this was a rare instance when it helped designers meet code and move forward with a concept that otherwise would be rejected."

The 30-story Courtyard by Marriott Lower Manhattan has 317 guest rooms. It is located near the National September 11 Memorial and Museum, One World Trade Center and One World Observatory. The project was completed in June 2017.



Developer:	Hidrock Properties, New York City www.hidrock.com
Architect of record:	Peter F. Poon Architect PC, New York City www.ppaarchitects.com
Design architect:	Danny Forster Design Studio, New York City www.dannyforsterdesignstudio.com
General contractor:	Omnibuild Construction Inc., New York City omnibuild.com
Installer:	L&S Erectors Inc., Litchfield, Ohio www.ls-erectors.com
Metal mesh:	Cambridge Architectural, Cambridge, Md. cambridgearchitectural.com