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OTTAWA TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

Classroom Addition, Votech Building and Remodeling

Category: Commercial

Building Type: Addition, Remodeling and Athletic Field Development

Project Location: Ottawa, Illinois

Client: Ottawa Township High School District #140

Building Area: 40,000 Square Feet new
306,000 Square Feet remodeling

Cost of Construction: \$19.4 Million

Date of Completion: August 2004

Architect: Basalay, Cary and Alstadt, Architects, Ltd



Project Description:

Extensive structural restoration and rehabilitation of the existing 306,000 square feet of buildings, added 40,000 square feet of new agricultural, auto, and wood shops and 15 new classrooms, including extensive site work.

The site work included:

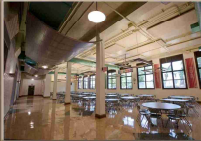
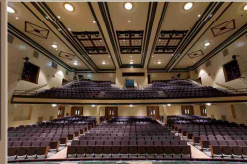
- Renovation and re-grading of the existing football field
- New football, baseball and soccer field lighting
- New softball, baseball and soccer fields
- New 400-meter track
- New parking lots and lighting
- New handicapped drop-off areas

The existing structures were built in 1916, 1936, and 1970. The client wanted to update the existing structures with technology, HVAC and lighting systems while maintaining the existing architectural image.

The high school recently went to a closed campus lunch program, which caused problems with the size of the cafeteria. The old cafeteria was located in the basement and was too small to handle the 1,600 students. The old auto, agriculture and wood shop area was outdated and in need of major renovation. The design solution created a new free-standing building to house the agriculture and auto shop classrooms. The existing shop area, which had skylight monitors, 17 foot high ceilings and 13 foot high windows, was remodeled into the new kitchen and open cafeteria. The new kitchen provided a food court type of food service with a variety of seating areas, a great deal of natural light and a seating capacity of 670 people.

The 15 general and art classrooms addition was a two-story addition of approximately 23,000 square feet that shared street frontage with the original 1916 Main Building and the 1936 Manual Arts Building. The architectural framework and masonry elements that were incorporated in the 1916 building were studied and developed into the new imagery, without direct replication, in order to create a unified street frontage.

This was a complicated project that was completed on time, within budget and with the achievement of the Owner's stated project goals.

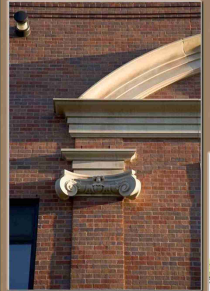


Jury Comments:

"I was impressed by how even-handed the design was with its care for both the exterior and interior. The transformation of the auto shop to cafeteria was really impressive."



"The existing building was enhanced with the new additions. Expanded use of daylight and relocation of major program spaces was beneficial to expand the lifecycle of the existing high school."



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