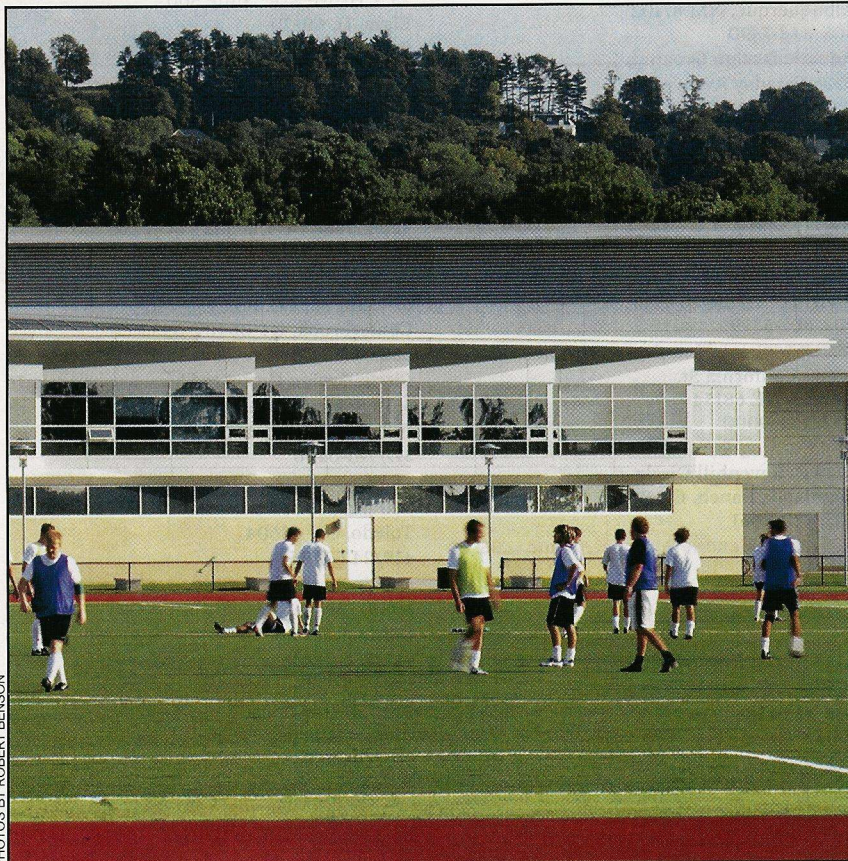


Grumbacher Sport and Fitness Center York College of Pennsylvania

York, Pa.



Exterior aluminum panels lend a sense of machine-like simplicity while subtly evoking the site's industrial past.



A long interior "Main Street" bisects the building, providing a logical continuation of the pedestrian path that connects two campuses.

ARCHITECT OF RECORD:

Sasaki Associates Inc.
Watertown, Mass.

COST: \$32 million

SQUARE FEET: 170,000

OCCUPANCY: April 2006

PHOTOS BY ROBERT BENSON

From the new 400-meter track and playfields, the low-profile building stands out against a vivid green backdrop of hilltop woods.

York College seized an opportunity to address its growth needs by expanding its campus into a former industrial zone, using the key parcel as a link between its main campus to the east and a growing residential campus to the west. Anchoring this new development is the Grumbacher Sport and Fitness Center, which accommodates both the college's student fitness and intercollegiate athletics programs.

A long interior "Main Street" bisects the building, providing a logical continuation of the pedestrian path that connects the two campuses. Students passing through the light-filled building can glimpse virtually all activities taking place. The major two-story spaces — the

natatorium, arena and field house — are situated along one side of the concourse and are capped by a curved roof featuring custom-designed steel trusses and skylights. The unique form of the trusses gives these spaces a distinctive character, while the skylights flood them with natural daylight. Two levels of smaller program spaces grace the opposite side of "Main Street," which is punctuated at its midpoint by a dramatic three-story climbing wall.

Green-building strategies included designing to incorporate natural light, the careful selection of interior materials and the recycling of structural components from industrial buildings that were demolished to clear the site.