

Rochester Psychiatric Center

Rochester, New York



architecture+ has been working for DASNY on the Rochester Campus since 1983. Our first project involved the renovation of the south half of Building 2 to house a 55-bed forensic unit. This project included a secure perimeter and state-of-the-art monitoring

Master Plan (1988) architecture+ was commissioned to develop a master plan that would convert a 117-acre campus with a built infrastructure of over 1.3 million square feet into a more compact campus encompassing 15 acres and 500,000 square feet. The primary objective of the planning process was to provide a more humane and therapeutic treatment environment within a configuration that allowed the campus to operate at much higher staffing efficiency.

New Adult Hospital (1995) We were subsequently selected to design the largest new freestanding psychiatric hospital constructed since 1970 by the New York State Office of Mental Health. The facility employs the “hospital within a hospital” treatment model and reflects the emerging understanding of the interaction between environment and treatment modalities. It is designed around a series of courtyards and enclosed park land that allow patients ready access to a variety of secure outdoor spaces.

The hospital, with 330 beds and 412,000 square feet, consolidates the once separated inpatient residential wards, program activities, and support services into a single building. The design has served as a model for three other hospitals in the state. It serves adult, adolescent, and forensic patients.

Consideration was given to creating flexible space that can be reprogrammed to reflect alternate building use in the future. This was done so successfully that nearly half of the project has since been converted into high-security forensic beds at a cost of less than \$100,000 per bed.

Renovation for Forensic Unit (2007-2015) Several years after the completion of the new hospital we were selected to provide services for renovations and additions to a portion of the hospital for the relocation of the initial 55-bed forensic unit that we designed. This included renovations to portions of two floors for patient space. Design and construction to accommodate the growing forensic population continues to date.