The Turner Group was selected to perform a site analysis in order to identify potential locations for building additions for Hampton Academy. Hampton Academy is the public middle school (grades 6-8) located in Hampton, NH. In 2018, the Town passed a $25M warrant article to renovate and add on to the school.

The building committee selected a design that included a 70,000 square foot renovation of the preserved structure and a 50,000 square foot addition that replaced a substandard building wing with new classroom space, STEM spaces, a gymnasium, and auditorium. Parking was relocated and redesigned to increase the number of parking spaces, as well as increase safety by providing separate bus and parent drop-off loops. New HVAC, plumbing, fire suppression, and electrical systems are included throughout the entire school. Building security was also improved with passive and active measures.

The new and renovated facility provides space for the school’s future needs, enhances the student environment, and preserves the historic nature of the building. A senior center was part of the design, which included a separate entrance to enhance multi-generational socialization in a safe, controlled environment. The work was coordinated to be completed as much as possible when the students were not occupying the building.

The largest engineering challenge on the project was part of the old gymnasium’s conversion to an auditorium. This part of the project included the removal of the gable end of the building while the roof framing remained in place. The large steel frame along the location of the gable end wall provided support for both the new and original roof framing members as well as provided lateral resistance. The frame was connected to a second steel framing at the stage provided the structural support required for both the original building and the addition. The structural steel was left exposed and incorporated into the architectural space.