



Griffiss AFB Rome, NY 1997

PROJECT SITE

The study locus is Rome, NY, a town of 34,950 (US Census 2000) at the intersection of the Mohawk River and Erie Canal in Oneida County, 40 miles NE of Syracuse. "Because of its location as a portage point, the city was strategically important during the French and Indian Wars and the American Revolution".

Griffiss Air Force Base, established in Rome in 1941, was inactivated following the 1993 round of BRAC base closures. Griffiss had operated at different scales as both local and regional employer as well as a critical node in the US global defense network.

Griffiss AFB hosted a range of military hardwares, including fighter interceptor squadrons, B-52 Stratofortress bombers, Air Launched Cruise Missiles, and the agency that directed the engineering of ground communications equipment around the world. In 1991, with more than 8,000 employees, Griffiss AFB was the largest employer in Oneida County, with an economic impact on the five-county area of \$800 million.



Griffiss Business and Technology Park Rome, NY 2005

Although Griffiss AFB's last runway closed in 1998, its renown Air Force Research Laboratory, founded in 1951, remains as a stand-alone facility on a 110-acre campus in the new Griffiss Business and Technology Park. The Technology Park's "award winning" masterplan, covering 3500 acres, superseded the air base footprint with "development districts for residential development, educational enterprises, office buildings, high-tech research, heavy industry and public recreation".