Project Overview

Melching completed phased asbestos abatement and demolition of the former Muskegon General Hospital campus, a multi-addition medical facility originally constructed in the 1950s. The approximately 300,000-square-foot, multi-story structure consisted of a five-story patient tower with a penthouse from the 1950s, a 1970s emergency room addition, and a 1990s OB addition. The project was carefully sequenced by building segment to support redevelopment planning while safely managing extensive asbestos-containing materials throughout the facility.

MELCHING MAKES WAY FOR BIG PLANS

Approach
- Phased demolition by building segment
- 1990s addition demolished first
- 1970s ER section demolished following asbestos removal
- 1950s patient tower demolished last
- Full interior hazardous material removal prior to demo
- High-reach demolition for multi-story tower removal

Phased strategy allowed early turnover of cleared areas while abatement teams worked in remaining sections.

Material Recovery & Recycling
- Steel (red iron and shred)
- Copper recovery and concrete recycling
- Regulated disposal of ACM materials

Environmental & Safety
- Extensive asbestos abatement
- Floor tile, mastic, pipe insulation, elbows, and spray-applied fireproofing
- Heavy containment requirements and perimeter air monitoring
- Third-party inspection and regulatory oversight
- Universal waste removal (lights, mercury devices, extinguishers, chemicals)

Equipment & Resources
- 550 high-reach excavator
- Multiple 490 and 480 class excavators
- Concrete processing and recycling equipment
- Full in-house abatement and demolition crews

Results
- Zero injuries
- Full compliance with containment and air monitoring requirements
- Successful management of unforeseen ACM
- Site delivered shovel-ready for redevelopment