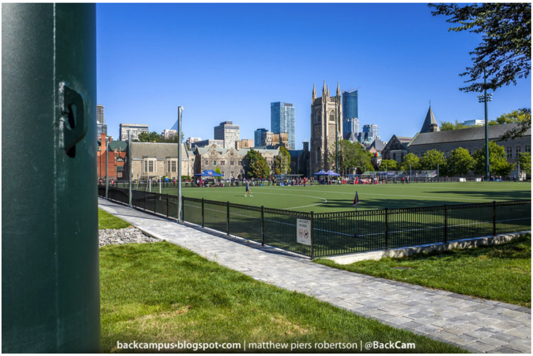
Back Campus Camera

Recording the transformation of a living, breathing field into a plastic surface.

2014-09-07

Sunday, September 7, 2014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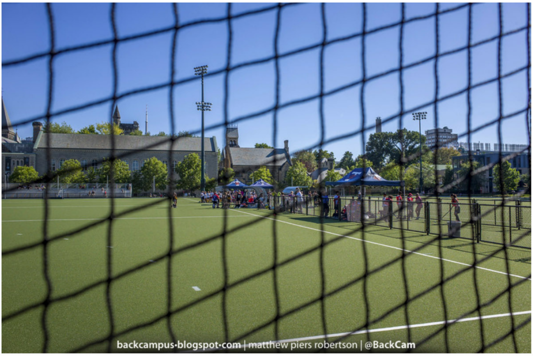
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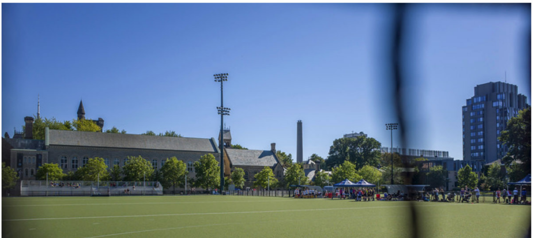

About this site:

"Back Campus Camera" is a personal project by Matthew Robertson, a resident of Toronto's University / Annex neighbourhood. I am not affiliated with the University of Toronto, nor any associated group, in any way.

My goal is to provide a visual record of the transformation of the U of T back campus athletic field from a grass surface into artificial turf. While photography is inherently selective, as a documentary project these images will be presented honestly and generally only be edited to make them a closer match to the scene as we would see it with our own eyes.

I do acknowledge that I am biased; the loss of an open and available green space diminishes my community. It defies my imagination that in this age, and in this city, it's acceptable to replace a vibrant and living field with an expanse of plastic. I expect better from an institution as important as the University of Toronto, and am disappointed in their lack of civic leadership and innovation.

At this time I remain hopeful that all of the promises made will be kept, and that the back campus will once again be an inviting and welcoming space for casual recreation as well as a contribution to the athletics and life of the University and its student body.

Back Campus Camera on Twitter:

Tweets by @BackCam

Most Viewed This Month:

- Sunday, November 3, 2013
- Sunday, September 7, 2014
- Wednesday, April 2, 2014
- Friday, June 6, 2014
- Thursday, September 4, 2014
- Wednesday, July 2, 2014
- Saturday, May 3, 2014
- Saturday, June 14, 2014
- Friday, June 20, 2014

VITRUVIUS CALL
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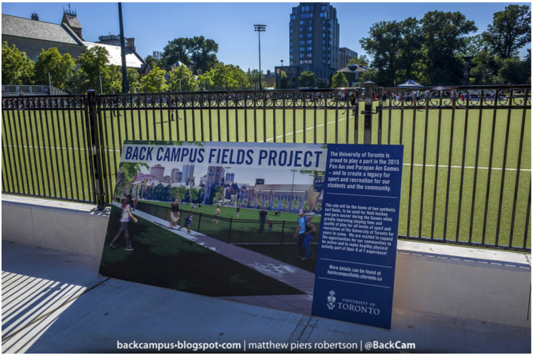
BACK CAMPUS FIELDS PROJECT
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The University of Toronto is proud to play a part in the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games – and to create a legacy for sport and recreation for our students and the community.

This site will be the home of two synthetic turf fields, to be used for field hockey and para soccer during the Games while greatly improving playing time and quality of play for all levels of sport and recreation at the University of Toronto for years to come. We are excited to expand the opportunities for our communities to be active and to make healthy physical activity part of their U of T experience!

More details can be found at backcampusfields.utoronto.ca

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

External Links

- Keep Back Campus Green
- U of T Fields Project
- Intention to Designate (PDF)
- Motion PB23.11
- Bruce Kidd in the Globe and Mail
- City Staff Report (PDF)

The posts on this site can be sorted according to the type of lens used to take the photos. My hope is that being able to view only photos taken with similar perspectives will make it easier to find and compare images taken over longer periods of time.

View posts by lens type:

- wide (110)
- long (37)
- standard (17)
- high viewpoint (7)
- mixed (5)
- text (3)
- ultrawide (3)
- panorama (2)
- compare (1)

Most photos are taken with a 28mm-equivalent lens, but the "wide" tag applies to anything between 24mm and 35mm equivalents. Anything "ultrawide" is wider than this, but will be reserved for special occasions.

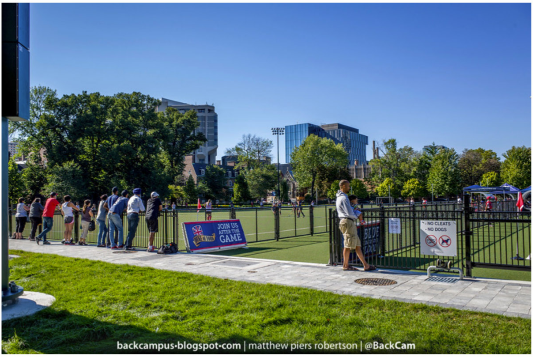
"Standard" photos cover a focal length range from 40mm to 60mm, and "long" telephoto shots can go as far as 300mm. These show details but don't have as much context.

Cameras used to date include the Ricoh GRD4, Ricoh GR, Nikon V1, Nikon D800, Panasonic GH1, Fujifilm XM1, Sigma DP3 Merrill, and Fujifilm XQ1.

Post-processing is done in Lightroom/ACR, with a "Fake HDR" preset using values of Highlights -100, Shadows +100, Whites +25, Blacks -15, and Clarity +10; the results are then tweaked on a per-photo basis. I will straighten skewed images and correct for perspective tilt, but otherwise try to keep as much of the original frame intact as possible.

Blog Archive

- ▼ 2014 (61)
  - ▼ September (5)
    - ▼ Sep 07 (2)
      - Sunday, September 7, 2014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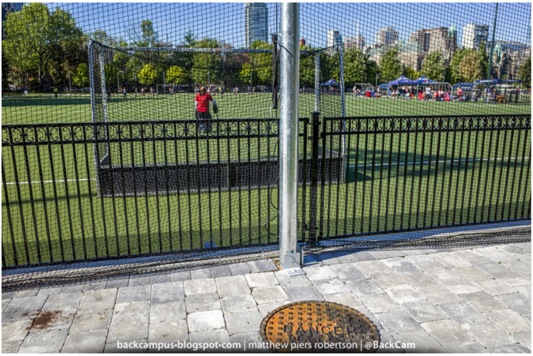
DANGER
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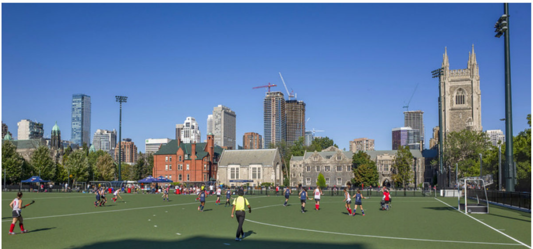

Sunday, September 7, 2014
- ▶ Sep 05 (1)
- ▶ Sep 04 (1)
- ▶ Sep 03 (1)
- ▶ August (5)
- ▶ July (9)
- ▶ June (15)
- ▶ May (10)
- ▶ April (6)
- ▶ March (6)
- ▶ February (2)
- ▶ January (3)
- ▶ 2013 (114)

x-rite
colorchecker
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The synthetic turf seems to confound the white balance on every camera I own. The last photo is a reasonable gauge of its true colour.

No comments:

Lens type: wide

Sunday, September 7, 2014

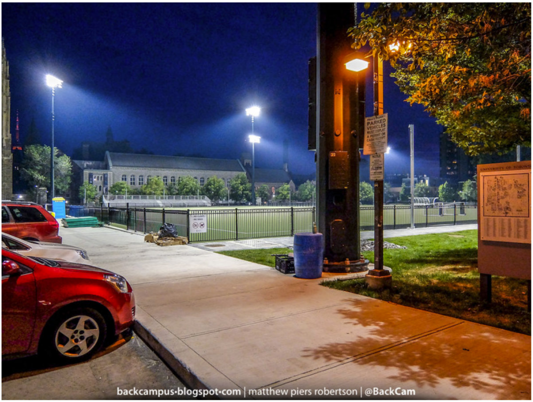
Sutton Place

No comments:

Lens type: long

2014-09-05

Thursday, September 4, 2014


PARKED VEHICLES MUST DISPLAY A PERMIT OR CASH RECEIPT
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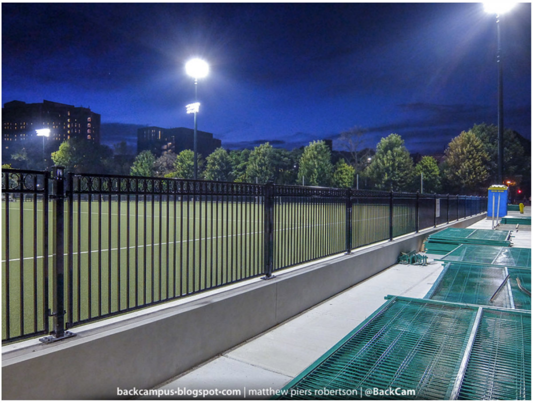

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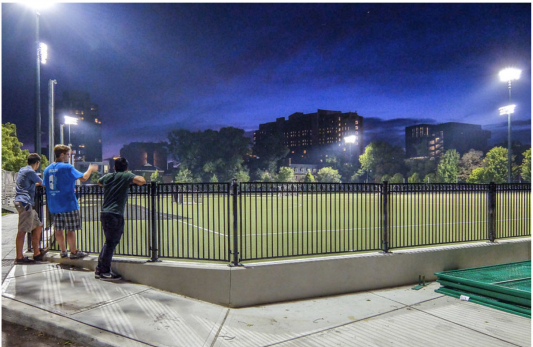

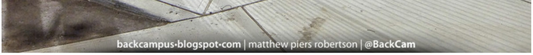

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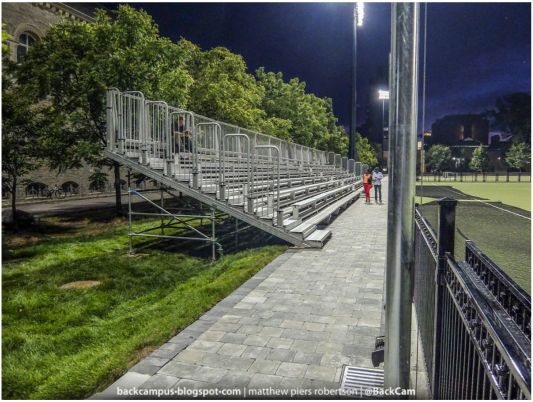

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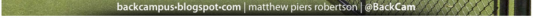


No comments:

Lens type: wide

2014-09-04

Thursday, September 4, 2014

120 degrees from the bleachers.

360 degrees from between the fields.

180 degrees from the middle of the west fence.

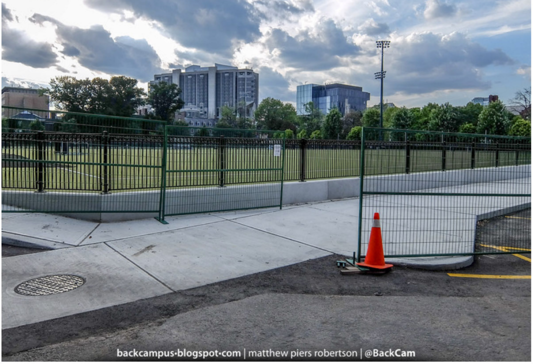
120 degrees from the north-west corner.

No comments:

Lens type: panorama

2014-09-03

Wednesday, September 3, 2014



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No comments:

Lens type: wide

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