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LE MOYNE

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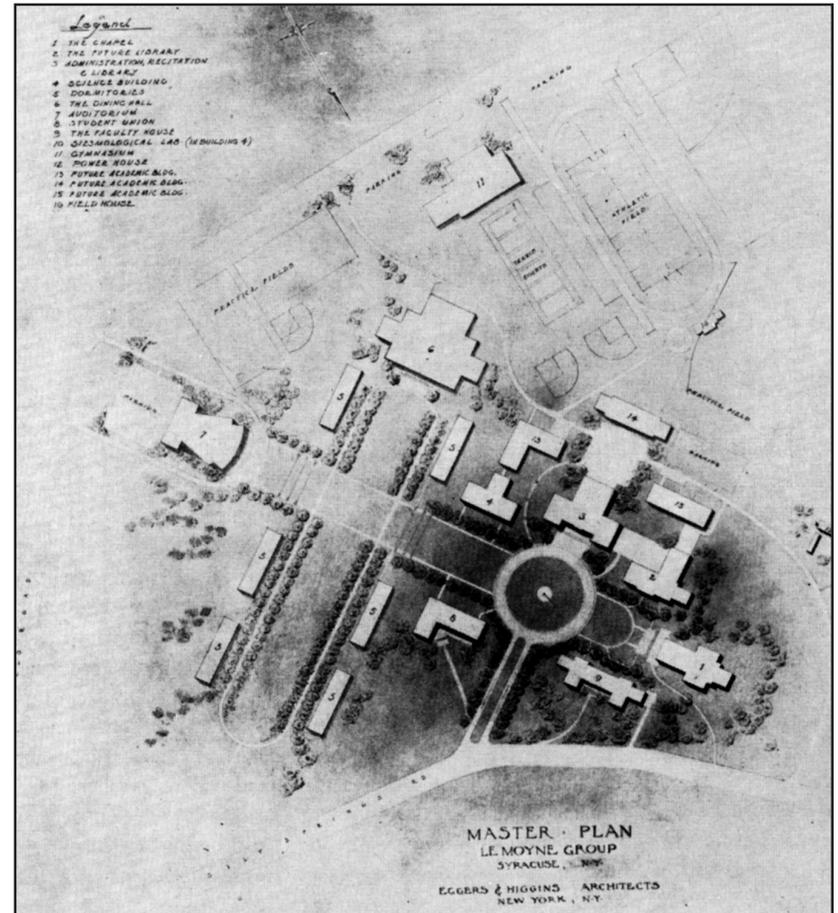
ARCHIVE News

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THE ARCHIVIST'S CREED:

Preserve the Past, Enrich the Present, Protect the Future

BIGGER AND BETTER: The Expansion of Le Moyne College



This issue of the Archive News was written and edited by Alissa Monti '10 during her spring internship in the Archives.

WHERE TO BUILD?

If you returned to the Le Moyne College campus, how much would have changed since your last visit? Considering the recent construction of the turf field, the renovation of Grewen's first floor, the new science center and other projects, it seems apropos to revisit other expansion projects undertaken by Le Moyne throughout its history.

The diagram on the cover represents the original College design, developed in 1946. As anyone familiar with the College knows, however, the actual campus layout is quite different than depicted.

Grewen Hall and the Coyne Science Center were the first buildings. Both were constructed in 1948 on land that was formerly the Gifford family farm. Grewen was originally named the administration building; it also housed a cafeteria, library and chapel, as well as administrative offices. The New York City company

of Eggers and Higgins Architects was awarded a Certificate of Merit in 1949 by the New York State Association of Architects for the building's design. The building was not dedicated as Grewen Hall until 1981, when it was named after Robert F. Grewen, S.J., former president of the College. Grewen was also the first Jesuit assigned to Syracuse since Simon Le Moyne, for whom the College is named, arrived in 1645.

Few people know that even though these were the first buildings constructed, the library actually existed before the College had a name, any students, or any buildings. The first Le Moyne College library consisted of 5,000 volumes donated by Andrew Bouwhuis, S.J., of Canisius, former executive director of Le Moyne.

The Noreen Reale Falcone Library was constructed in 1981, and stands perpendicular to the Campus Center. It was



The rededication of the Administration Building as Grewen Hall, 1981.

VOICE FROM THE PAST

AN INTERVIEW WITH WILLIAM REILLY, S.J.



Father William L. Reilly, S.J., the 5th Le Moyne president (1964-1976), at the groundbreaking of the Academic Complex, 1969. He wisely was always eager to expand the campus.

Fr. Bosch: Another thing you brought up in the past. How about the property on the Northeast corner?

Fr. Reilly: Oh yes. Well, as I began the property line ran down from around the present Jesuit residence right across the back of the Henninger gymnasium all the way out to Springfield. Now all the rest belonged to, I think, the Gifford foundation. I guess it was about '66 when wonderful Ed Egan came in to see me one afternoon. He said, "Father, I can't say much but would you be interested in getting that property out to Thompson Road?" I said, "I certainly would be." I had no idea of how it would cost and how much money we had. Then wonderful Father Fingerhut said, "There were such monies." We got it at a marvelous price. So we got the entire property to Thompson Road except for those other houses and except for the reservoir. I will say this: it has been very gratifying to me on recent visits to see how that has developed as athletic facility which cannot be rivaled certainly by any college in the area.

Le Moyne College is reputed to have the largest contiguous campus of the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities, 135 acres.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

New Rat: 28 Days and Counting

By Matthew P. Sicilian

With the opening day targeted for Wed. Feb. 17, the "New Lounge" is the \$200,000 extravaganza it has been hyped up to be.

The painting, renovating, ordering, and labor for the lounge over the last five months will be rewarded by the smiling, beer-toting, pizza-eating, video-game playing students who have longed for a real campus hangout.

Custom Foods, slated to hear the eatery in the lounge, will be backed by new kitchen equipment — pizza ovens, sandwich counters and meat lockers. Basic fast food items and daily specials will attract all epicureans.

New Perlik tap systems at each end of the service counter will delight all those interested in quaffing the sudsy brews. LeMoynes is in contact with local wholesale distributors who are vying for the beer concessions, according to Dr. Michael Yost, Dean of students.

If the culinary delights and hearty beverages don't appeal to the senses, maybe the art gallery turned video arcade might. Atari addicts will have a choice of ten to fifteen games to feed with their seemingly endless supply of quarters.

The presence of pool and foosball tables will be supplemented by the installation of chess and backgammon tables similar to those at Jack Applesseeds and the Library at the Hotel Syracuse.

A brand new stereo system along with a possible large screened T.V., found in most bars, will enhance the already attractive lounge. "It's going to be a nice place to go," exclaimed Yost.

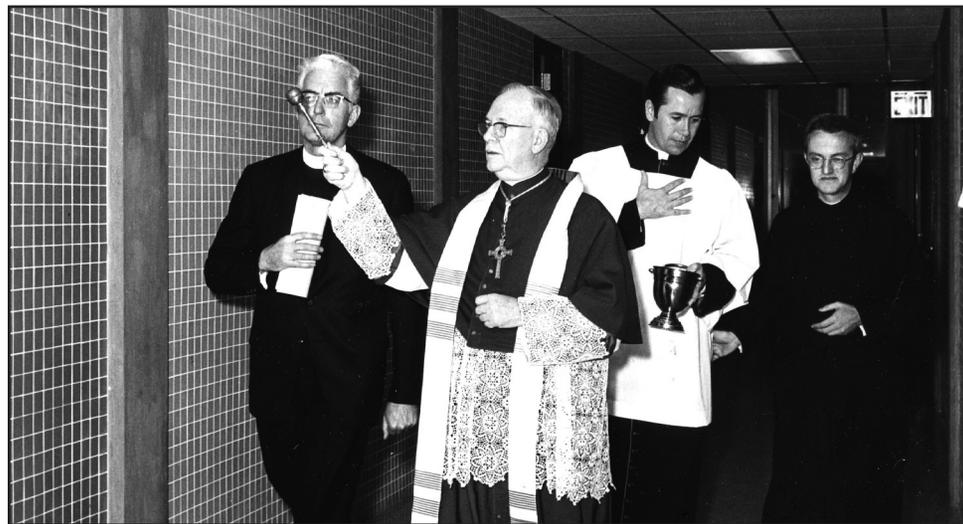
Yost noted the controversy and misunderstandings surrounding the intended "special events" room. "It isn't faculty oriented. It will be open to all on a scheduling basis." Yost hopes it will take some of the pressure off the overused special events room above the cafeteria.

With the final renovations taking place in the next few weeks, LeMoynites eagerly await the arrival of the new lounge.

Assistant Editor's note:

With just a few short weeks left until opening day, no name has been chosen for the lounge. Senate suggestions turned up the *Dolphin Den*. There is no real rush to choose a name at this time, claims Yost.

- *Dolphin*, Jan. 22, 1982, pg. 1



Bishop Cunningham walking through the Academic Complex during its dedication, 1989.

almost constructed near the present site of the Panasci Family Chapel. There was a campus-wide debate over the issue of where to build, with the pros and cons of each site placed before faculty and students.

The current-day Chapel site was preferred by many because of its close proximity to Grewen and Coyne (Reilly Hall had not yet been constructed). The library's present site was eventually chosen because it is close to the dormitories and the parking lots, and was considered generally more accessible. In 2011, the Noreen Reale Falcone Library will celebrate its 30th anniversary.

One of the newest buildings also has some interesting historical notes: the Panasci Family Chapel. Dedicated in 1994, it was the result of donations by the Panasci and Cordon families. The main section of the building, the Madonna della Strada Chapel, or Mother of Our Way, was named by Henry A. Panasci Jr. He chose the name after the first Jesuit church given to the Jesuit order by the pope in 1542, the Santa Maria della Strada in Rome. Visitors may

take note of the stained glass windows, which are meant to symbolize the rose as a sign of Mary, the cross for Jesus, and also "upward meandering of the rose briars, reminding us that we are pilgrims on a journey to God," according to Robert Mitchell, president from 1993 to 2000.

The W. Carroll Coyne Center for the Performing Arts is another of the newest additions to the campus, constructed in 1999. As with the library, several different sites were suggested before its current placement alongside the library was chosen, with an open field on the other side. It serves as a replacement for the former firehouse theater which was across the street at the intersection where Springfield Road and Salt Springs Road meet. Plans for an expansion were suggested in 2006, but were not acted upon.

Le Moyne College has expanded greatly since its early years, and not always in the direction anticipated. As the proposed plans for the coming years indicate, this expansion is still ongoing. ■

WHERE TO LIVE?



Mrs. H. Paul Nelligan at the groundbreaking for Nelligan Hall, 1955.

Of greater concern to students, perhaps, than other construction, was the creation of dormitories. Le Moyne was primarily a commuter, or “day-hop” college, for its first several years of existence, until it was feared that by not offering housing to students, the College was losing its competitive edge and many potential students.

To counteract this perceived loss of students, Nelligan Hall was constructed as the first dormitory. The majority of the funds for construction were donated by Mrs. H. Paul Nelligan in honor of her late husband, a Syracuse industrialist and a member of the Le Moyne College Advisory Board of Regents. Today Nelligan is home primarily to freshmen males; it also houses the Le Moyne Security Office. Nelligan Hall has undergone renovations

since it was first opened, but still bears the name of its benefactor.

Aside from student housing, however, it was also considered important to have adequate faculty housing for the Jesuit community. Loyola Hall was constructed in 1957 after a planning process involving visits to other college campuses to study their faculty housing. Loyola Hall became available for student housing much later, in 1990, as the College’s needs continued to grow. Today it is known as Mitchell Hall.

As Le Moyne continued to expand, its student population outgrew having just one dormitory, and the administration recognized the need for female housing. Two new dormitories were added in 1963: St. Mary’s Hall and Dablon Hall. Harrison Hall was built as a senior women’s dormi-

tory, and celebrated its 40th year since construction in 2010.

Foery Hall, named for Bishop Walter Foery of Syracuse who was instrumental in the College’s founding, has the distinction of being the first Le Moyne College dormitory to feature suites, which were steadily gaining popularity in the 1960s. Suite-style living was said to offer residents the chance for both self-sufficiency and group interaction.

When Le Moyne decided to add more housing in the form of townhouses, which were popular in the 1980s, controversy arose from two different areas. First, the location behind today’s Mitchell Hall was chosen. Nearby residents feared there would be an increase in noise from having large numbers of upperclassmen closer to their houses than before. These neighbors wanted the College to select an alternate location; however the townhouses were built at the location selected.

Dean of Women Margaret Dwyer laying the cornerstone at St. Mary’s Hall, 1963.



The second major controversy arose over the names chosen for the townhouses. These names: Brebeuf, Chabanel, Daniel, Garnier, Jogues and Lalemont, which might seem innocuous enough to the casual observer, resonated deeply in the consciousness of the local Native American community. These were the names of six Jesuit martyrs killed by Native Americans. The College stated that these names were chosen to help recall the Jesuit roots of the College, to honor the Jesuits and to reaffirm Le Moyne’s commitment to building on excellence.

Detractors desired alternate, less offensive names. This request was also not taken up, and the names remain today. In response, however, Le Moyne did host a Native American relations study day, and invited a variety of speakers to campus to discuss Jesuit and Native American history and culture. It should be noted that aside from the townhouses, as they are known, the names of Le Moyne, Dablon, and Chaumonot also reflect the College’s Jesuit roots.

As colleges will, Le Moyne continued to expand, and now offers a host of corridor, suite and apartment-style living options to its resident students, including the Le Moyne View and Heights as well as those discussed here. The question remains, however: where, when, and what kind of new housing will Le Moyne construct if expansion continues? ■