

Pittsburg State University

Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

William Aaron Brandenburg Collection

William Aaron Brandenburg Collection

2016-12-01

Article, "Great Difference Noted in Campus Over 25 Years"

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/brandenburg_history

Recommended Citation

"Article, "Great Difference Noted in Campus Over 25 Years"" (2016). *William Aaron Brandenburg Collection*. 76.

https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/brandenburg_history/76

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the William Aaron Brandenburg Collection at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in William Aaron Brandenburg Collection by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact lfthompson@pittstate.edu.

GREAT DIFFERENCE NOTED IN CAMPUS OVER 25 YEARS

46

What a tremendous difference has taken place on the College campus since 1913. Thirteen buildings have been added to the meagre two erected before that time.

The original two are Russ hall, looming over the west end of the campus with its massive four stories, and Industrial Arts building, low-lying in contrast. Surrounded by the wide open spaces, the two structures looked larger than they do today. Off to the south were meadows and pastures, to the east more meadows, to the north a cornfield and three or four houses to the west was Broadway, the only residential street in the College neighborhood. And Broadway was by no means overcrowded.

Just east of what is now the center of the quadrangle were wooden bleachers accommodating 300 or 400 persons. The bleachers comprised the only supplementary College structure. Just north of them stood the 3-forked mulberry tree which still helps feed the birds every summer.

A street-car shelter, still standing, was beside a terminal. A car roared every fifteen minutes down Elm, crossed Cleveland, and came to a halt on the edge of the campus. For many seasons in the years to come the terminal was to be extended by temporary tracks to accommodate freight cars loaded with building materials for new College structures.

Broadway of that day was not as wide as it is now. Only three blocks near the campus had residences, the chief group of which faced the campus from across Broadway. Most of the students from out of the city roomed in these houses across Broadway.

What is now the Phi Sigma Epsilon house was already standing across from the southwest corner of the campus. On Cleveland the site of the Horace Mann school was occupied by a residence, soon to be occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Mitchell. The big house, then known as the "Case house" and still a rooming house for women students, stood on Cleveland just off Broadway. In the next block east of the future Mitchell home stood three other residences.

With these exceptions, the residential district that now surrounds the College except to the east awaited future builders. The College had been set out in the country and the city was some years in building out to and around it.

Now for 1938. Fifteen structures, most of them modern, make up the

campus, with the majority of them set in a quadrangle about the oval walk, the others, except for Mechanic Arts at the southeast corner, being placed across the streets which cut their rectangle about the main campus.

Russ hall still towers at the west as the College's tallest building, while at the east stands the high-arched stadium on Brandenburg field, named in 1924 for the man whose quarter of a century in the presidency is being celebrated this week. Between the two limits the buildings are Music hall just south of Russ hall, Porter Library just north, Industrial Arts, Geology building, College cafeteria, Science hall, College auditorium, Mechanic Arts, and the gymnasium.

Across the street south are Willard hall and the heating plant with its towering chimneys. Across the street north is Horace Mann training school. Just south of the stadium is the home management house, a modern residence used as a laboratory in homemaking. Though not on the campus, President and Mrs. Brandenburg's home, the second residence south of the home management house, suggests the collegiate atmosphere by its shady dignity.

Russ hall, massive as it is and good to look at, was built in a day when college architecture was not as closely adapted to college needs as it is now. Science hall at the opposite end of the quadrangle is far more modern, with a handsome lobby that serves as entrance to the auditorium. The auditorium is itself a big "little theatre" with an unusually spacious stage and a capacious balcony.

But the two most beautiful buildings on the College campus are Music hall, the newest of them all, and Porter Library. Their modified English Gothic and their positions near Russ hall make them twin buildings. Each is admirably adapted to its purpose; each has striking interior beauty as well as exterior.

Horace Mann, erected by the city of Pittsburg and entrusted to the College for its operation, is also a fine example of grade school architecture, with its kindergarten, its auditorium-gymnasium and its two rooms for each grade. Then there is the gymnasium at the northeast corner of the quadrangle, massive, admirably planned, and attractive. Its swimming pool on the ground floor, its double basketball court upstairs, surrounded by a roomy balcony, its arrangement of offices, locker rooms and showers—they are all there just as they ought to be. Industrial arts, still about the

same in outward appearance as it was 25 years ago, has had a thorough going-over in the last two years, part of its roof being rebuilt and its lighting being improved, and now it is to receive much new equipment, voted a year ago by the legislature. And one must not forget the cafeteria, the finest building for its purpose in Kansas and provided with an annex that is good either for banquets or parties.

Willard hall, three stories high, is a beautiful home for 113 college girls. Its attractive lobby and parlors, its spacious rooms, its atmosphere of solid comfort—all combine to keep it at capacity.

But the only way to get a clear notion of the College which has grown up since 1913, when Dr. Brandenburg first took charge is to stroll leisurely over its campus and through its buildings. The next best way is to see an airplane photograph of the College. Either gives an impression, not of mushroom growth, but of a steady development solidly based on the fundamental purposes of higher education.

Moreover, it is not to be forgotten that the Russ hall which Dr. Brandenburg first looked upon in 1913 is not exactly the same building that one sees today. The original Russ hall was gutted by flames one summer night in 1914, a year after the new president came. His and Pittsburg's biggest task during the year that followed was getting the structure rebuilt. The determination and energy he and Pittsburg citizen's threw into the task was in itself a forecast of the institution that was to be and that now is.

A list of the College's buildings, with the year each was completed, follows:

Russ hall, 1908, rebuilt 1914-15.
Industrial Arts, 1913.

Heating plant, 1913.
Geology building, 1917.
Science hall, 1919.
Auditorium (annex to Science hall) 1919.
Cafeteria, 1920.
Gymnasium, 1921.
Willard hall, 1923.
Brandenburg field stadium, 1924.
Home management house, 1926.
Porter Library, 1927.
Horace Mann, 1928.
Mechanic Arts, first story 1919, completed 1928.
Music hall, 1929.

CONTRASTS IN 25 YEARS

Name.

1913—Kansas State Manual Training Normal School, familiarly abbreviated to S. M. T. N.

1938—Kansas State Teachers College, or K. S. T. C.

Buildings.

1913—Two. Russ hall and Industrial Arts building (unequipped).

1938—Twelve. Russ hall, 1907-08, rebuilt 1914; Industrial Arts, 1912; heating plant, 1914; mine rescue building, 1917; Science hall, 1918-19; cafeteria, 1921; gymnasium, 1922; Frances Willard hall, 1923; Porter Library, 1926; Horace Mann training school, 1927; Mechanics Arts building, 1927; Music hall, 1928.

Faculty.

1913—Forty-three members. De-

partment heads: Education, D. M. Bowen; biology, O. P. Dellinger; geography, Eulalia Roseberry; history, G. W. Trout; industrial arts, domestic arts, domestic science, physical science, mathematics, commerce (Miss Belle Provorse one of instructors), drawing and design, physical education, languages, music and English. Prof. J. A. G. Shirk taught physics. Odella Nation, librarian.

1938—One hundred and thirty-five members. Department heads: Education, C. W. Street (D. M. Bowen, professor in department); biology, O. P. Dellinger; geography, Eulalia Roseberry; history and social science, G. W. Trout; industrial arts and vocational education, William T. Bawden; art, Elsie Leitch Bowman; physical sciences, L. C. Heckert; commerce and business administration, Walter S. Lyerla; music, Walter McCray; English, Mellicent McNeill; home economics, Josephine A. Marshall;

foreign languages, S. J. Pease; speech, J. R. Pelsma; psychology and philosophy, C. B. Pyle; mathematics, J. A. G. Shirk; health and physical education, G. W. Weede and Irma Gene Nevins; librarian, Odella Nation.

Organizations.

1913—Alpha Forensic Club, Agriculture Club, Domestic Science Club (Miss Margaret Coventry was treasurer), Industrial Club, Manus Verez Society, Porterian Society, Polymnia Club, male glee club, Y. W. C. A. (met trains and assisted new students in finding rooms), Y. M. C. A. (helped Y. W. give receptions for new students). Ten organizations.

1938—Christian societies, 2 (Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A.); honorary societies, 13; departmental clubs, 7; musical organizations, 4; athletic organizations, 3; speech organizations, 2; social sororities, 6; fraternities, 3. Forty organizations. Social sororities and fraternities: Sigma Sigma Sigma, Pi Mu Gamma, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Pi Kappa Sigma, Theta Sigma Upsilon, Delta Sigma Epsilon, Kappa Delta Kappa, Phi Sigma Epsilon and Sigma Tau Gamma.

No honorary societies in 1913, twelve in 1938—Alpha Gamma Tau (1924-physical sciences), Kappa Delta Pi (1924-education), Kappa Mu Epsilon (1932-mathematics), Lambda Sigma Kappa (1920-biology), Pi Kappa Delta (1921-forensics), Pi Omega Pi (1930-history), Phi Upsilon Omicron (1920-home economics), Sigma Alpha Iota (1930-music), Sigma Phi Mu (1928-psychology and philosophy), Sigma Tau Delta (1926-English), Sintonia (1928-music).

Athletics.

1913—Football, basketball, baseball, girls' basketball and track. Basketball schedule included Monmouth, Minden, Mulberry, Marionville, Mo., Drury College and Ottawa University. Twenty members of girls' basketball team gave football

men crimson football blankets for Thanksgiving Day game. Outdoor competition included Marionville, Mo., inter-class and Ottawa meets. 1938—Football, basketball, track, golf, tennis. All sports include competition in Central Intercollegiate Conference plus many games, contests and meets outside of conference in many sections of the country.

Administration.

1913—Kansas board of adminis-

tration—Mrs. Cora G. Lewis, Kinsley; Ed T. Hackney, Wellington, and the late E. W. Hoch, former governor of Kansas, deceased.

1938—Kansas board of regents—C. M. Harger, chairman, Abilene; E. F. Beckner, Colby; John Bradley, Wellington; Sam R. Edwards, Blue Rapids; F. M. Harris, Ottawa; Drew McLaughlin, Paola; Lester McCoy, Garden City; Ralph T. O'Neil, Topeka, and H. L. Snyder, Winfield.