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UA1F WKU Archives Vertical File - Rock House

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History Of Campus Buildings

onial entrance, cornice, and is. It is almost perfectly with many windows on side. It is modern and well ed. There are three floors, staff offices, reception and clothing and applied laboratories are on the floor. On the second floor large foods laboratory are on the unit-kitchen, planing room, kitchen, and pan- m another group for foods ation and service. The sc- laboratory is also on this The lower floor contains ge household equipment tory, a lecture room, and ge room.

Home Economics Building is gray stone exterior is imbedded in each Home nics student's heart for e spends most of her time ning 'domestic sciences.

CEDAR HOUSE

y Charles W. Smith
senior class of 1920 orig- the idea of a club house own use and a few years e "Cedar House" became te meeting place for all nd various social activi- ch use it still enjoys. classes of '21 and '22 con- the work begun by the ass, and with the aid of

the student body generally the Cedar House was completed funds for the erection of this hallowed building were raised by various musical and dramatic programs which were entirely arranged by the students.

The Cedar House boasts of three floors; the first is used for a kitchen and storage room; the second for a lobby, which consists of a huge fireplace, ping-pong tables, entertainment devices and a radio; and the third floor is used as living quarters of faculty supervisors and student helbers.

Materials for construction were huge cedar logs cut from the thick and shady cedar grove on the campus. These logs were split and put together with concrete, thus making it one of the most interesting and spectacular buildings on the campus.

In 1923 the college library was moved from its quarters in the wing of Potter College to the Cedar House because the space was needed for classrooms. Arrangements were made with the Cedar House Alumni Association to borrow until a permanent library building could be erected. That building was erected soon and after five year the library gave up the Cedar House and moved into its present permanent building.

1/31/27

ROCK HOUSE

By Jake Evans
Possibly the building steeped in history more than any other on the Hill is the Rock House now used as music studios for Professor Franz J. Strahm and Dr. Hugh Johnson.

The construction date of the building, which is located on the south side of the hill, is unknown. When the Southern Normal School was moved to this hill

the rock house was the home of a family of Negroes. It was then an old structure and in poor repair. The college purchased the property on which it stood in 1909 and for a number of years the structure was left vacant. During this period it became known as the "haunted house" and students shunned that vicinity of the hill after dark.

Later, about 1922 the building was remodeled and it served as an emergency hospital for students. During an epidemic of smallpox students were sent to this isolated building for treatment and it required the name "The Pest House."

When West Hall was completed the infirmary was moved from the Rock House to the third floor of the new dormitory. Another remodeling made the building into a residence which was occupied by Col. Wilford Twyman and later by Mrs. Neil Gooch Treavelstead who lived there seven years, during which time it was used as a rooming house.

A third remodeling in 1935 converted the building into its present-day form of music studios and practice rooms.

OLD MUSIC HALL

By Jake Evans
In the anxiety to occupy the new Music Hall the old Music Hall is frequently forgotten, but from a historic standpoint it is one of the most interesting buildings on the Hill.

The old Music Hall was the first building to be erected on College Hill. It was built before the Civil War as a residence for a wealthy landowner named Underwood. The Underwood family was succeeded by Dr. Frank Thomas' family in the early 1900's. Dr. Thomas was the brother of Judge R. C. P. Thomas, prominent business man of Bowling Green. After Dr. Thomas died, his wife and family occupied the house until 1926 when it was sold to Western Teachers College for \$10,136. Remodeling of the house and an annex cost the college \$10,318.27. The building was used at first as a classroom building for music, Eng-

When the music department moves to the new Music Hall another chapter in the history of "the Old Underwood Home" will have been written. What it will be used for next is still undetermined.

"OLD FORT"

By J. K. Samples

Little does one realize the historical significance that surrounds him when he walks through the "old fort." The fort is the most historical spot in this locality.

General Albert Sidney Johnston began the erection of this fort on October 28, 1861. In the winter of 1861-62 the Confederate army under the command of General Johnston extended from Columbus to the Cumberland Gap. The headquarters were in Bowling Green, where about 22,000 men were stationed.

On February 14, 1862 General Johnston evacuated Bowling Green and started for Nashville. This ended the Confederate control here. Union forces held the fort to the end of the war. Colonel Benjamin Harrison later president, was among the Union officers in command in Bowling Green.

Inside the fort stands Western's flag pole and on the side next to the library building stands a tablet marking the fort and giving information of this historic spot.

The "old fort" is another of the many attractions on Western's campus; a place through which lovers may stroll, scarcely giving a thought to the things that took place there during the Civil War.

Continued In Next Issue

IS!!
The Heights Herald and advertisements appear in
come to College Heights

Students!! Students!!



CH 78

Purchase Of Rock House Announced

10-11-46

Western's purchase of the Rock House, at College and Fifteenth streets, for conversion into a men's dormitory, was announced on August 27 by President Paul L. Garrett.

The property has a frontage of 100 feet on College street and extends 112 feet on Fifteenth street. At present there are approximately 35 men living in the house.

During past years Mr. and Mrs. Sam T. Rabold, the former owners, rented rooms in the building to women students of the College.

Purchase of the property, along with the Veterans Village and the construction of barracks, is another attempt on the part of the school administration to alleviate the critical housing shortage.

Rockhouse Has Colorful And Unusual Background

By Nancy Maden

Did you know that the Rockhouse is a dormitory for girls owned by Western? It is and has been since 1949. Western bought it as a boys' dorm in 1946. Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Gunderson were house directors. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Clark were directors from 1949 to 1953 after it was changed to a girls' dorm. Mrs. Carolyn Seward, third grade teacher at College High, is now house mother and has been since 1953.

Unusual Background

Did you know that Rockhouse has a very unusual background? It was the first house in this section to use the rock that was blasted from underneath it. The Rev. Roy Mayhew built the house as it is now. The original house was surrounded by a rock wall with large, flat, irregular, oblong stones. In building the basement many small irregular stones were blasted out. Mr. Will Murphy had the idea that a beautiful house could be built with these irregular stones. This idea was carried out and it was the first house to be built of such. Today there are many like it here in Bowling Green including that of Mr. Ed Diddle. The older the houses become the more beautiful the stones will become also. The architect for the house was a Mr. Waller of Hopkinsville and the contractor was the Harris Lumber Company of Bowling Green. It is styled as a type of Spanish mission.

Several Girls Live There

Approximately 150 girls have lived at Rockhouse in the last few years. Many of these girls lived here all the time they were enrolled in college until they were graduated. Some of these girls were: Jean Wimpy, Nancy Grow, Betty Cheff, Doretha Hanson, Patsy Ritter, Doris Garrison, Laura Stuart, Cordelia King, Mary Lee Weir, Pat Winkle, Toy Crafton, Mary Rachel Ramsey, Rita Lynn Woods, Faye Weller, Jennie Lee Bryant, Joyce Wood, Joan Lindsey, Marlene Hendrick, Carol Ann Cheal, Pat Smith, Lucy Brent, and Shirley Ritter. Laura Jane Johnson will graduate in June after spending her four years here at Rockhouse. Twenty-five other girls are now residing here.

Teachers Use It

Many teachers come back to Rockhouse each summer to attend the summer session until they get their degree. Each year they leave their room deposit to hold them a room for the next summer. Mrs. Ruth F. Scott, sixty-eight years old, spent one summer here and earned enough credit to teach on an emergency cer-

tificate for two years until she retired. Her daughter and granddaughter also stayed at Rockhouse that summer.

Through the years Rockhouse girls have been recognized on the campus for honors and awards. This year Anita Lane and Martha Combs were selected for Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Resembles Other Dorms

Rockhouse is very much like the larger dorms except that it is much smaller and there is a closer relationship among the students. Our social director, Mrs. Seward, is quite like a mother to us and a person to whom we can take our problems. We have the same rules and regulations as the other dorms, and they are enforced as in the others. We have three counselors. One of our biggest advantages is our mail service. We get it before noon and just have to walk to the porch for it.

We take the paper and there is always the frantic search for the funnies if they are missing from the living room. We have house meetings and dorm devotions on Thursday night, which is also sheet night.

Hold Parties

We usually have two parties during the year, this semester we had a dinner-dance at Manhattan Towers. We have our annual Christmas dinner and afterwards the decorating of the tree and the dorm. There is also the long standing custom of getting up at 5:00 p. m. and exchanging gifts and then having coffee and doughnuts the morning before we leave for our Christmas Holiday. Home coming is always an interesting time with all the preparation for the decoration and the finishing touches that have to be made. All these little things will always be remembered for making Rockhouse the place that it is.

International students leaving their Western 'home'

By MINKI OLMS TED

Water spots cover the corners. Cracks split the warped walls. Chipped paint and cracked floor tiles add to the atmosphere. Still, Krishnaveen Iyer, a graduate student from India, said, "The Rock House is such a wonderful place... Somehow you feel like a home. But that home is moving. International Student Services will be moving from the

Rock House to former President Dero Downing's home on State Street. International Programs in Cherry Hall will also be moving to the new location.

University Attorney Deborah Wilkins said the offices will be located on the first and second floors of the building before the end of the semester. "They needed more space, more room," Wilkins said. Also, by moving the offices to a nicer location, the university

hopes to draw more international students, she said.

"We want more emphasis on international students," Wilkins said. "The move is designed to enhance international studies and encourage international travel to emphasize the international program." The Board of Regents approved \$40,000 for improvements to the old president's home. Bidding contracts for painting and general cosmetic construction

have not begun yet, Wilkins said.

After the international offices move from the Rock House, the anthropology department will take over the offices, said Richard Pace, an assistant anthropology professor. The laboratory equipment and artifacts previously stored in the basement will be stored on the upper floors, he said. The move has not been publicized because the renovations have not started. International

Student Adviser Kim Diehl said.

"The students are happy because we're still a separate entity... but sad to be losing the Rock House," she said. "It's been a standard for international students for a long time." For many international students, the Rock House has been a place to meet other foreign students, Diehl said. "The Rock House has been their home away from home," she said.

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answering for his death. No one is apologizing and, according to the law, no one is guilty.

Officers Sean Carroll, Kenneth Boss, Edward McMellon and Richard Murphy hugged each other and silently left the courtroom last month after the jury acquitted them of second-degree murder.

Not so silent, however, was the world outside of the courtroom. Immediately, people began to respond to the verdict. Some whispered. Some shouted.

How did Western Kentucky University react?

Campus police are instructed to direct all questions from the media to their public relations officer.

Capt. Mike Wallace, who handles public relations for campus police, had very little to say on the subject.

According to Wallace, the campus police don't have any opinions on this case.

The bullets that hit Amadou Diallo ripped through his spinal column, severing the main artery to his heart. His nearly lifeless body spun around and around like the heads of his family and friends when they heard the news of the acquittal.

Diallo fell to the ground. And he died. "The courts have spoken," Wallace said.

There are 24 sworn officers on campus. None of them have anything to say? "There was an exchange of gunfire," Wallace said. "A life was lost. It's unfortunate."

Wait a minute ... an exchange of gunfire? Given enough time, just about anything can be found on the Internet. A new car, a better job and any kind of wallet. There are chain wallets, wallets with badges, digital wallets used to order items over the computer.

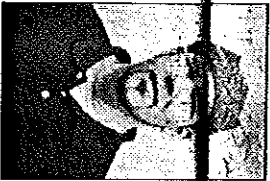
There are no wallets, however, that are designed to exchange gunfire with the NYPD. Criminology professor James Kanan said he had a feeling of "mixed surprise." Kanan said that he wasn't surprised the officers were acquitted of second-degree murder, however he was surprised they weren't convicted of anything.

Not involuntary manslaughter. Not involuntary manslaughter. Nothing.

Kanan pointed out that it is hard to make a judgment without sitting in the

turbine." How can the police have so much power to begin with?

Kanan explained that in the past 40 years there has been a shift toward giving the police more authority, because society has viewed crime as one of our top



Taylor Loyal
commentary

The criminology professor said that we have created a climate where excessive police force is more tolerable so long as they are arresting the bad guys.

In Room 106 of the fine arts center, Carl Kell, communications professor, sits at his desk. He is deep in thought.

According to Kell, for the police to respond in an extreme manner is commonly understood in American culture.

"This is just another example of police overreacting to a perceived problem," Kell said.

Justin Dobring, a 22-year-old theater student, is another of perhaps many on campus who admits he knows very little about the case.

"I didn't really see anything on the news."

But he said he knows about the verdict and he wonders what type of precedent it will set.

"They can get away with anything they want to," Dobring said.

Mehboob Aslam is a 31-year-old student working on his MBA. Like Diallo, Aslam is a Muslim and an immigrant.

Like Kell, Aslam admits he doesn't know much about the case. Like Dobring, he worries about what type of message this verdict sends.

Aslam said he is apprehensive that the court decision is telling the community that they can't trust the police and telling the police that they can get away with anything.

The concept of the peace officer coming to get a cat out of a tree has been far removed from society. Even uninformed, unaware citizens are coming to the conclusion that the police and the courts are no longer friends working in their favor, but people and systems they should fear.

"...very, very disturbing," Kanan said. "It's like you are at their mercy," Aslam said.

"It just doesn't seem fair," Dobring said. "This is just another example," Kell said.

Taylor Loyal is a junior print journalism major from Roanoke, Va.

EVERYBODY
IN
FORUM

*** - funnier than TIDALC!

DEPARTED TO KEVIN SMITH!

Save the Rock House, history

Dear President Garry Ranzosell,
Rumor has it that you intend to make a decision that would result in the demolition of the Rock House. I ask you to consider several ideas:

- ♦ You would not hold your position if it were not for the students. Your Board of Regents would not exist. Your administrative boards, your secretaries, your very career would not exist if it were not for the students. In your everyday life, you are impounded by all of these people who want your attention. But they want something in return for what they give you. Your students, your staff, your faculty, your people want something else.



Dennis W. Pennington
commentary

I urge you to consider the importance of the Rock House to this university. I will also urge you to understand that it is unacceptable for some students to accept the ideology that you actually have the power to determine which historic landmarks will stand

and which will fall.

♦ I also understand that you actually want to do everything in your power to make this university the "place to be." I also understand that you spend an inordinate amount of time for this university. I believe in your loyalty.

♦ There are enormous areas of concern regarding the Rock House: its historic significance and the ability for this university to forge ahead with a plan that both brings us into a new world and at the same time treasures our past.

♦ There is a trend among today's students that suggests we discard all that came before us because it is useless. I do not agree with this ideology, nor do I agree with the idea that the Rock House has become something old that is simply in the way.

♦ There is a difference between progress and progression.

♦ Finally, there is the idea that suggests to us that people are more comfortable when we honor events than when we dedicate events that remember loss alone.

As a student, I urge you to reconsider the demolition of the Rock House. As a citizen, I urge to remember that you are not the only one voting.

Dennis W. Pennington is a senior history and anthropology double major from Sonoma.