

Newcomers Will Find Many Spots of Interest on Campus

By Richard H. Hoenig

Known as one of the most beautiful college sites in the east, the Penn State campus is dotted with many points of general interest to the sight-seer and of special interest to the student who expects to live and study in the community for three years.

The main campus is composed of about 235 acres of flowing foothills of the Allegheny Mountains. From the western side on College Heights, the campus slopes to the College avenue level of the borough of State College.

Mt. Nittany

The traditional geographical symbol of the College since its founding has been green-topped Mount Nittany, overlooking the front campus. The 2,000-foot mountain is famed in Penn State song and tradition.

The nickname of College athletic teams, Nittany Lions, was acquired from Mount Nittany. Once privately owned, the 517-acre mountain was bought in recent years by Lion's Paw, a senior honor society, to insure its retention as a College landmark.

Old Main Tower

Originally built as a wooden structure on top of the College's first building, the present Old Main tower has been rebuilt three times. It was designed by Charles Z. Klauder and finished in 1932 at a cost of more than \$800,000.

The tower view covers many miles of Nittany Valley and the crest of Mount Nittany itself can be seen. The clock in the tower was a gift of the Class of 1904, while the Westminster Chimes that toll class hours was a gift of the Class of 1937.

Lion Shrine

The most photographed spot on the campus the gathering place for student rallies, and the spot most often viewed by visitors is the Lion Shrine. Modeled after a lion which once inhabited the Nittany Valley, the full-sized statue was carved by Heinz Warneke, famous sculptor.

The Shrine, a gift of the Class of 1940, symbolized the well known Nittany Lion emblem of College athletic teams since 1907. Situated at the intersection of Burrowes and Curtin roads,

across from the entrance to Recreation Hall, the Shrine is a landmark with which new students become familiar early in their campus life.

Geology Monument

The Geology Monument, another well known spot on the campus, is a polyolith erected of 281 samples of commercial building stones from all over the state. Thomas C. Hopkins, an assistant professor of economic geology in 1898, had the monument built to test the ability of the stones to withstand weather conditions in this climate.

Except for the base, each stone in the obelisk is arranged in its proper geologic age, oldest at the bottom. Over the half century some of the stones have cracked, some are badly discolored, and yet some are still in the same condition as the year the monument was built.

The Geology Monument is between the Armory and Main Engineering, directly off the Mall.

Fresco

Henry Varnum Poor's Land-Grant Fresco is the best known work of art on the campus. A gift of the Class of 1932, the painting is a true fresco, painted directly on wet plaster. The Class of 1946 and the All-College Cabinet contributed towards the extension of the fresco which will be completed along the two sides of the main lobby of Old Main, where it is situated.

The figure of Abraham Lincoln dominates the mural because of his historic signing of the Morrill Land-Grant Act and because the artist wished to make him a "symbol of hope and faith." Poor's purpose was to portray the relation of the College to the ag-



THE NINE VIEWS of buildings on the campus are, top left, Grange Hall; center left, Dairy Husbandry; lower left, Power Plant; top center, Buckhout Laboratories, the botany building; center, Armory Tower; lower center, Chemical Engineering Building; top right, McAllister Hall; center right, the Infirmary; and lower right, Dairy Barn.

ricultural and mechanical life of the state.

The Willow

"The Willow" has been described as an inseparable part of Penn State tradition. The original tree, planted by a professor of horticulture and agriculture about 1859, was a marker in a dirt road leading up to "The College" (Old Main).

The slip from which the tree was raised was brought by Dr. Evan Pugh, first president of the College, from a willow on the grounds of the poet Pope at Twickenham, England. It later became the subject of many pieces of poetry.

In 1923 the tree fell, but a cutting which had been taken two years earlier was eventually planted near where the first willow stood. A stone with an engraved plaque and a water fountain now mark the original spot on the Mall.

Atherton Grave

Dr. George W. Atherton, president of the College for almost a quarter of a century, from 1882 to 1906, is buried on the north side of Schwab Auditorium. It was his desire to be buried on the campus. The site was chosen because the Auditorium was constructed during his administration. The student body grew from 87 to 898 and the faculty from 17 to 65 during the years of his presidency.



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