James Madison University:
1908-1909 to 1958-1959

An Annotated,
Historical Timeline

Researched and Written
by

L. Sean Crowley
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1908

March 10, 1908. ***"Harrisonburg Gets Normal" • Conditions of Establishment***

"Harrisonburg Gets Normal"

James Madison University (JMU) came into being as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg on Tuesday evening, March 10, at 10:15 p.m.

That evening, the Virginia General Assembly had finally, after a "day of strenuous battle," passed the appropriation's bill which would provide $50,000 for the establishment of a new normal school for teacher training at Harrisonburg.

Passage of the bill (which came without a vote to spare), represented the climax of four years of public and legislative struggle by and on the behalf of the communities of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County to ensure that the proposed school would be located in the small Shenandoah Valley town.

News of the Assembly's decision reached Harrisonburg a few minutes after the vote was taken. Citizens of the town had waited anxiously all day, but by this time most had already retired for the evening. A stalwart few, however, had not, and remained assembled in the downtown offices of the *Harrisonburg Daily News*, home of the local newspaper.

When the good news was received, the entire News-Register building was illuminated in a blaze of lights and the town's fire whistle broke the night silence with a prolonged blast, waking many residents and prompting dozens of inquiring calls to the central telephone office.

The next day, the local paper announced the good news with the headline, "Harrisonburg Gets Normal," and the school was virtually "the sole topic of discussion throughout the town."

Conditions of Establishment

While the state had given the go ahead to establish the school, the appropriation bill set forth several conditions that needed to be met before the school could be considered legally established: acquisition of a suitable location of no less than thirty acres; the appropriation from Harrisonburg and Rockingham County of $5,000 and $10,000 respectively, upon purchase of a site; and the approval of the selected site by the State Board of Education.

These requirements would be met in just over three months.[1]

March 12, 1908. "*General Rejoicing": Keezell & Good Arrive*

On Thursday, two days after the bill providing for the establishment of the school had been passed by the General Assembly, the two legislators who had led the fight for the Harrisonburg Normal School arrived in town from Richmond.

One was State Senator George B. Keezell and the other was Representative P.B.F. Good, of Rockingham County. Upon their arrival, the men were greeted with the biggest public welcome since President McKinley had passed through briefly in 1899, according to the *Harrisonburg Daily News*.

Some five hundred people were waiting at the station when the train arrived and as the two men emerged, "mighty cheers" erupted from the crowd, the band struck-up "Dixie," and all of the town's factory whistles sounded in celebration. As Keezell and Good were escorted – with great difficulty – through the crowd to a waiting automobile, they were "smothered with bouquets."

Once in the automobile, a parade in their honor was begun. Led by the *Daily News* band and including the Harrisonburg Guard, the local Fire Department, and numerous town and county officials, the parade made its way from the station to downtown's Court Square.

Over half of the town's nearly 4,500 citizens turned out to witness this celebration and West Market Street was jammed with hundreds of people waving hats and handkerchiefs as the parade made its way past. The parade wound around the court house and stopped at the southern entrance.

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[1] The same bill also provided for the establishment of a normal school in Fredericksburg (today known as Mary Washington). A copy of the bill is available in, *Board of Trustees Minutes, 1908-1914,* pp. 7-9, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, <http://www.lib.jmu.edu/special/jmuhistorical/documents/BOVminutes1908_1914.doc> [18 January 2006]. Although the paper was called the *Harrisonburg Daily News,* the building which housed the paper's offices was generally referred to as the News-Register building. "Harrisonburg Gets Normal," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 11 March 1908; "General Rejoicing at Winning Normal," *Harrisonburg Daily News*, 12 March 1908; Raymond C. Dingledine, Jr., *Madison College: The First Fifty Years, 1908-1959* (Harrisonburg, VA.: Madison College, 1959), 1, 10-11; Nancy Bondurant Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill on Blue Stone Hill: A History of James Madison University*, 3-4, (Santa Fe, NM and Staunton, VA: Center for American Places in association with the Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, 2004).

Before a capacity crowd in Assembly Hall, a meeting was conducted to give public recognition to the two men who had done so much to bring the school to Harrisonburg. Resolutions of appreciation were read and then adopted with a standing ovation of "three cheers for Keezell and Good."

Mayor O.B. Roller declared this to be "the proudest moment in the history of Harrisonburg."[2]

March 14, 1908. ***Founding Day: Official Establishment of the School***

On Saturday, March 14, Virginia Governor Claude A. Swanson signed into law the Appropriations Act passed four days earlier by the General Assembly. With Swanson's signature, the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg (now JMU) was officially established.

March 14 is considered and celebrated as the founding date of the institution.[3]

April 29, 1908. ***First Board of Trustees Meeting • Searching for Home: First Site Inspection***

First Board of Trustees Meeting

The school's governing body during its formative years was the eleven-member Board of Trustees. Ten members had been appointed by the Governor, Claude Swanson, while the eleventh, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, served as an ex-officio member.

The Board of Trustees held it first meeting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday evening, April 29. Gathering in the News-Register building in downtown Harrisonburg for approximately two hours, the Board elected officers and established committees.

Senator George B. Keezell of Rockingham County was elected Board Chairman; A.H. Snyder, editor of the *Harrisonburg Daily News* was chosen as Secretary; and E.W. Carpenter, Rockingham County Treasurer, was elected as the Board's Treasurer.

Standing committees were established to develop a curriculum, to oversee the grounds and building projects, and to manage the school's finances. A special committee was appointed to direct selection efforts for the institution's first president.

Finally, the Board decided it would "build for the future" with a view to accommodating 800 to 1,000 students.

Searching for Home: First Site Inspection

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[2]"General Rejoicing at Winning Normal," *Harrisonburg Daily News*, 12 March 1908; "Great Ovation to Keezell and Good," *Harrisonburg Daily News*, 13 March 1908; Dingledine, 11-12; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 4.
[3] Dingledine, 11; Fred D. Hilton, "Changing from a College to a University: Madison College to James Madison University, 1971-1977," Master's thesis (James Madison University, 1996), 3.

The exact location of the school had been a major topic of discussion among the citizens of Harrisonburg since the moment the General Assembly had chosen the town as the home of the institution. It was also, naturally, a priority of the Board of Trustees.

Thus, in the afternoon, before the Board gathered for its first meeting that evening, members spent several hours examining possible locations for the new school (including the site that would eventually be chosen).[4]

April 30, 1908. ***Searching for Home: Site Inspection Continues***

On Thursday morning, "riding in a yellow surry [sic] with a fringe around the top," members of the Board of Trustees conducted a second round of site inspections, having made their first the previous afternoon.

At the time, there were at least five sites considered suitable as a home for the school. After inspecting several of the locations, however, rain forced the Board to cut short its efforts and the members retired into a formal business session.

Although it was widely expected they would do so, the Board took no definite action regarding the procurement of a site and made no formal offers. Instead, a special committee (chaired by Senator George Keezell) was established to negotiate with and secure offers from the owners of desirable land.

The committee would submit options and recommendations to the Board at the next meeting, in mid-June.[5]

June 1, 1908. ***Searching for Home: Land Option Secured***

On June 1, the Board of Trustees' special site selection committee secured an option on a tract of land owned by the family of H. M. Newman. The land, encompassing approximately 42 ¾ acres, would soon become the school's home.[6]

June 17, 1908. ***Searching for Home: Site Report Submitted***

After two weeks of work, the site selection committee submitted its report to the Board of Trustees. The report included the "legally executed options" that had been secured on various

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[4] *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, *1908-1914,* entry date 29 April 1908, pp. 1-2; "Normal Trustees Tomorrow," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 28 April 1908; "Normal School Board Holds First Meeting," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 30 April 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944*, Folder 1908-1910, in Public Relations Collection, PU 88-1015, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 13-15. Dingledine, 15, mistakenly cites the afternoon of the 28th as the day of first site inspection.

[5] The site inspection began at approximately 9:30 a.m. Dingledine, 15; *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914*, entry date 30 April 1908, pp. 2-3; "Normal School Board Holds First Meeting," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 30 April 1908; "Meeting of Board Unexpectedly Brief," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 1 May 1908;

[6] "Deed of Sale: H.M. Newman and Wife Lorena Mallie to the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg," 8 July 1908, Deed Book 83, pp. 314-316, Clerk of the Court's Office, Rockingham County Courthouse, Court Square, Harrisonburg, Virginia, (hereafter cited as "Deed of Sale").

tracts of land (including the option on the Newman property obtained earlier in the month) as well as the committee's recommendations.

Following a brief discussion of the matter, however, selection of a site for the school was postponed until the planned meeting the following morning.[7]

June 18, 1908. ***Searching for Home: Site Selected***

At 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, the school's Board of Trustees met for what would be their final deliberations over selection of a site for the new school. Two locations received the most serious consideration.

The first was known as the Waterman property, which consisted of fifty acres. The second was the Newman farm of just over forty-two acres. The Board weighed the cost, the quality, and the location of the land before voting. The Waterman property was the larger and less expensive of the two, but the Newman land was deemed a better location.

In a unanimous decision, the Board selected and agreed to purchase "42 acres, 2 roods, and 37.7 poles" (or roughly 42 ¾ acres) from Mr. Henry M. Newman and his wife Lorena Mallie for the price of $18,500. Located on the property were a brick farmhouse (the Newman's home) and several barns and outbuildings.

Purchase of the Newman property marked the physical beginnings of the institution.[8]

June 26, 1908. ***President Burruss: Elected • School's Opening Date Set • Legal Establishment***

President Burruss: Elected

The special presidential selection committee which had been established by the Board of Trustees in April submitted its report and recommendations on Friday, June 26.

An initial pool of twenty-five candidates had been narrowed to three and their names were presented to the Board for consideration:

- John H. Bader, of McGaheysville,
- E.D. Murdaugh, president of the Maryland State Normal School at Frostburg, and
- Julian A. Burruss, of Richmond.

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[7] *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, entry date 17 June 1908, p. 4.

[8] *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, entry dates 18 June 1908, p. 5, and 26 June 1908, p. 14; "Deed of Sale"; "Rockingham and Harrisonburg Loyally supported Every Move to Launch the Establishment of Teachers College," *Daily News-Record,* 16 March 1928 (this article is the second half of the address made by Senator George Keezell at the first Founders Day exercises on March 14, 1928); "Newman Site Chosen for Normal School," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 19 June 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910; "Land Owned by Madison College," in *University Farm,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 15.

After deliberations the Board unanimously elected thirty-three year old Julian A. Burruss to be the first president of the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg. Burruss, who was in Rochester, N.Y. at the time, received a telegram informing him of his election.

School's Opening Date Set

Shortly before the Board adjourned, it was resolved to have the school "opened for instruction not later than September 15, 1909" (a target date that would be missed by only two weeks).

Legal Establishment

Also on this date, the State Board of Education unanimously approved the Newman site (purchased eight days earlier) as the location for the school, thus fulfilling the final formality needed for the institution to be considered legally established.

(The other conditions set forth by the bill establishing the school – acquisition of a suitable location of no less than thirty acres and the appropriation from Harrisonburg and Rockingham County of $5,000 and $10,000 respectively – had been previously met.)[9]

July 1, 1908. ***President Burruss: First President, 1908-1919***

On Wednesday July 1, 1908, Richmond native Julian Ashby Burruss officially began his tenure as the first President of the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg.

Previously, Burruss had attended Richmond College and Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) in Blacksburg and served as principal of a public school in Richmond for three years. At the time he was elected to lead the Harrisonburg Normal School, Burruss was working towards completion of a doctorate degree at Columbia University in New York and was head of the manual training program for Richmond public schools.

Throughout his administration, Burruss would prove to be a "hands on" and tireless leader, always looking to the future of the institution. His efforts, ability, and zeal would prove an inspiration to students and faculty alike and his leadership in the community would endear him and the school in the hearts of the local citizenry.

By the time he left in 1919, six major buildings had been constructed and the school had been established as one of the state's leading educational institutions.[10]

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[9] According to Burruss, he had initially been interested in obtaining the presidency of the normal school in Fredericksburg (now Mary Washington), not in Harrisonburg. Julian A. Burruss, [Notes for 1929 Founders' Day Speech], p. 1, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Record Group Number RG-2/8, Newman Library, Special Collections, University Archives, University Libraries, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. A synopsis of Burruss's 1929 Founders' Day speech can be found in, "Founders Day Observed as Twenty-First Anniversary," *The Breeze,* 30 March 1929. *Board of Trustees, Minutes 1908-1914*, entry date 26 June 1908, pp. 13, 14; Dingledine, 15-16; "Julian A. Burruss Elected President," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 27 June 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910. "Tate Board Pleased with Newman Site," *Harrisonburg Daily News*, 29 June 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914.

July 8, 1908. ***Searching for Home: Land Deed Executed***

On Wednesday, the deed for the Newman property (selected as the building site for the institution in June) was executed. The property was now officially the possession of the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg.

Twenty days later, on the 28th, the deed was received and recorded by the Rockingham County Clerk of the Court's Office.[11]

July 9, 1908. ***President Burruss: Arrival of Citizen Burruss, Burruss Sets to Work***

Arrival of Citizen Burruss

On the morning of July 9, President Burruss arrived in Harrisonburg for the first time. He was given a tour of the school's site by George Keezell and A.H. Snyder, president and secretary of the Board of Trustees, respectively.

Reportedly "delighted" with the chosen location and particularly "charmed" with the town in general, Burruss stated his belief that together Harrisonburg and the Normal School would head into "a bright future." Announcing his and the school's arrival, Burruss proclaimed, "I am happy to call myself a citizen of Harrisonburg from this day."

Burruss Sets to Work

With only fourteen months before the planned opening of the school in September 1909, Burruss set to work immediately. For two months, he traveled to other states, visiting similar educational institutions and looking for ideas and advice on how to best proceed.

Subsequently, Burruss spent a year attending and addressing teachers' meetings across the state, personally overseeing the planning of the campus layout and the construction of the first buildings, advertising and promoting the school, formulating the curriculum, hiring faculty members, and admitting the first students.

All told, Burruss traveled some 6,000 miles, mailed 4,300 letters, oversaw the distribution of approximately 16,000 informational bulletins and circulars, and worked "literally day and night in preparing for the opening of the school."[12]

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[10] Dingledine, 16, 50-51; President Burruss' career is briefly discussed in, "Tate Board Pleased with Newman Site," *Harrisonburg Daily News*, 29 June 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; Ray V. Sonner, "Madison College: The Miller Years, 1949-1970," (Ph.D. diss., University of Virginia, 1974): 18.

[11] "Deed of Sale"; John W. Wayland, "Some Items Relating to the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, Later the State Teachers College, and Now Madison College, with Special Reference to the Several Buildings that have been Erected From Time to Time," 27 March, 12, 13 April 1954, p. 1, in *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

[12] "President Burruss Here to Begin Work," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 10 July 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 June 1909, p.1, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19; Julian A. Burruss, [Notes for 1929 Founders' Day

September 14, 1908. ***Searching for Home: Trustees Receive Land Deed***

On Wednesday, A.H. Snyder, Secretary of the school's Board of Trustees, was presented with the deed to the school's property.[13]

September 15, 1908. ***Campus Layout & Building Design Proposals Adopted • First Buildings***

Campus Layout & Building Design Proposals Adopted

After months of investigation and preparation, President Burruss submitted a twenty-two page report to the Board of Trustees outlining the "policies, ideals, ultimate scope, and equipment" he believed would be best for the new school.

Included in the report were several drawings (prepared by Richmond architect Charles Robinson) depicting Burruss's vision for the arrangement of the school's grounds and the design of its buildings.

The drawings of the proposed campus layout depicted the now distinctive quadrangle arrangement, while the drawings of the buildings showed them constructed out of native-blue limestone with red Spanish tile roofs. These renditions were deemed to "embody the ideals and general policy of the Board" and were unanimously approved.

First Buildings

After approving the plans for the buildings and grounds, the Board selected Mr. Charles M. Robinson as the school's official architect. Robinson was then called upon to begin immediate planning for the campus's first two buildings, a dormitory, referred to simply as Dormitory No.1 (now Jackson Hall), and an academic building to be called Science Hall (now Maury Hall).[14]

October 7, 1908. ***Maury & Jackson Halls: Building Plans Approved***

On Wednesday evening, members of the Board of Trustees gathered at the Richmond office of school architect Charles M. Robinson. Here, at length, the Board considered Robinson's plans for the first two school buildings, Dormitory No.1 (Jackson Hall) and Science (Maury) Hall.

Science Hall would serve as the school's academic and administrative building. On the first floor would be the offices of the president and the registrar. A room in the southwest corner would be dedicated to serve as the school's first library, while one on the northeast side would be home to a "book and supply room" (the first bookstore).

Speech], p. 1, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*; Dingledine, 16-17, 19; Jones, *Rooted*, 8-9; Hilton, 6.

[13] See margin notes in, "Deed of Sale."

[14] *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): 9; *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, entry date 15 September 1908, p. 15; "Normal Board Acts on Building Plans," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 16 September 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910; Dingledine, 17-18.

At the northern end of the second floor, two large classrooms, separated by a removable partition, would serve as the auditorium and gymnasium. Also, a small music room would be provided. Finally, academic classrooms and laboratories (for science, "domestic economy," cooking, sewing, and drawing) would be distributed throughout the building.

The dormitory would provide accommodations for sixty-four students and include a parlor for entertaining and a room for the matron. In the basement, would be the school's first dining hall, complete with adjoining kitchen and pantry. It could seat roughly one hundred.

Satisfied, the Board approved the plans and directed the secretary to begin advertising for construction bids.

Today, Maury Hall is home to the classrooms and offices of the Political Science Department and Jackson Hall is home to the same for the History Department.[15]

November 5, 1908. ***Maury & Jackson Halls: Construction Contracts Awarded***

On Thursday, November 5, the Board of Trustees met to consider the thirteen bids which had been submitted over the previous weeks for the construction of the school's first two buildings, Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) and Science (Maury) Hall.

Bids had been submitted for construction using either brick or stone, but before viewing them, the Board voted unanimously to have the school's buildings constructed of "native stone, with Spanish tile roof," as originally proposed. This decision secured the distinctive and timeless look of the institution's main campus buildings.

The submitted bids ranged in price from a low of $38,695 to a high of $46,900. The Board awarded the contract to the lowest bidder, W.M. Bucher & Son of Harrisonburg (predecessor of today's Neilson Builders, Inc.).

Ultimately, once all the bills were tallied, Science Hall cost just over $26,000 while Dormitory No. 1 cost $25,000.[16]

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[15] *Board of Trustees Minutes*, entry date 15 September 1908, p. 16 and n.d., p. 17; "Adopt Plans for Normal School," [paper unknown, possibly *Richmond Times-Dispatch*], 7 October 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910. Dingledine, 33-34, provides nice, detailed descriptions of the buildings' interiors. See also, *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): 23, 35-37, and *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910):18-19, 43. The second floor auditorium-gymnasium served as the school's first assembly hall. It was formed from two classrooms that were separated by a removable, rolling partition when classes were in session. When assemblies were to be held the partition between the two rooms was simply removed. Wayland, "Some Items," page entitled "Places Where Assemblies Were Held." "Visit Guide – Walking Tour – Bluestone Area," *Office of Admissions,* James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA., <http://www.jmu.edu/admissions/visit/guide/Bluestonearea.shtml> [10 July 2006]

[16] The bids submitted at this time did not include costs for heating, wiring, and plumbing. Contracts for these projects were awarded on January 7, 1909 for an additional cost of $9,750. *Board of Trustees Minutes*, entry dates 5 November 1908, pp. 18-19, and 7 January 1909, pp. 20-21; Dingledine, 18, 135; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 11. As with many statistics and figures from the early years, sources vary. The final cost of the buildings presented here was taken from, "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA," 1 January 1955, in *Buildings, JMU,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University,

November 7, 1908. ***Additional Land Purchased***

At a public sale on Saturday November 7, a special committee of the Board of Trustees purchased a five-acre parcel of land for $3,015.

The land, part of the estate of Capt. Warren S. Lurty and known as the "Lurty lot," bordered the Newman property to the north (encompassing the current S. Mason Street entrance area). It was considered a necessary addition to the school grounds and because of its importance the committee willingly exceeded their original maximum bidding price by more than $1,000.

Purchase of the land (formally approved by the Board on January 7, 1909) increased the size of the campus to forty-eight acres.[17]

November 25, 1908. ***Maury & Jackson Halls: Groundbreaking, Construction Begins***

On Wednesday, November 25, ground was broken for the institution's first two buildings, Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) and Science (Maury) Hall.

Construction of both buildings was being done by the local Harrisonburg firm W.M. Bucher & Sons. Some of the stone used to construct the buildings was apparently quarried on campus from three locations, two on the Quad in the area between Ashby and Spotswood Halls and one in the area where Burruss Hall is today.[18]
Although neither building would be entirely finished when the school opened on September 28, 1909, they would be sufficiently completed to offer comfortable occupancy.[19]

Harrisonburg, VA. Maury was cited as costing $26,676.16. However, another source, George W. Chappelear, "Buildings and Grounds," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 101, provides slightly different numbers.

[17] The Board had desired to purchase the land in June when it bought the Newman property, but for no more than $2,000. The estate, however, was tied up in litigation. The actual size of the plot was "5 acres, 28 poles" which is roughly equivalent to 5.2 acres. See, "Land Owned by Madison College." For information on the "Lurty lot" purchase, see, *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, pp. 6, 19, 20, 23; "Sale of Lurty Property," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 9 November 1908, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; and Dingledine, 18.

[18] *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (February 1909): 10. In 1943, Dr. John Wayland, a member of the first faculty, drew a map showing the location, as best he could recall, of the two quarries on the Quad. See, *Campus Maps,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. Wayland writes that he thought it possible that some of the stones for Maury and Jackson (and possibly Ashby, Harrison, and Spotswood,) might have been quarried there. Dingledine, 71, when discussing the state of the school at the end of the first decade, writes that stones quarried on campus were used to build large portions of "the three newer buildings" (presumably referring to Hillcrest, Harrison, and Spotswood), but does not indicate if they were used for Jackson and Maury. The resulting depressions caused by the quarrying were largely filled in by 1919.

[19] The primary reason the buildings were not complete in time for the opening of the school revolved around troubles with subcontractors and issues regarding the cement work for the dormitory. President Burruss discusses these issues in, Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 November 1910, pp. 1-2, in, *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19.

1909.

January 1909. ***First Student***

On January 2, 1909, fifteen year-old Eleanor Beatrice Marable, of Prince George County, became the first young lady to inquire about attending the State the Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg.

President Burruss, who personally handled all student inquiries and applications to the school, responded to Marable's letter the next day. "I shall be pleased to send you a copy of our Prospectus," wrote Burruss, "as soon as the same is published" (hopefully in February). Burruss added that he was "glad to know [she] was thinking of becoming a student" at the school and invited the young girl to correspond with him further should she have any more questions.

Sometime in the days and months following this exchange, Marable became the first student to submit her application and to be accepted into the school.

When Marable arrived at the school in September, she was sixteen years old. She attended through the school's second year (1910-1911) and then again in 1915-1916. After a prolonged absence, she returned in 1943 and graduated *cum laude* in the summer of 1945. She was fifty-two.

Although there would be other "first students" (the first to arrive on opening day, the first to formally register for classes), because Marable was the first to apply and be accepted, she is often referred to as "Bluestone Hill's First Daughter."[20]

January 8, 1909. ***First Curriculum & Departments of Instruction • First Faculty & Staff***

First Curriculum & Departments of Instruction

The school's first curriculum, compiled and recommended by President Burruss and the faculty Committee on Course of Instruction, was adopted by the Board of Trustees during a Friday meeting.[21]

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[20] Prince George County is located in south east Virginia. The title of "Bluestone Hill's First Daughter" apparently originated with Marable herself. Julian A. Burruss, Letters to Miss Marable, 3 January 1909 and 20 August 1909, in *Jones, Nancy B. Collection,* SC# 5013, Box 1, Folder 4, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; W.J. Gifford, Letter to Beatrice Marable and Myrtle Virginia Earman, 28 November 1949, in *Jones, Nancy B. Collection.* John W. Wayland, "Sundry Items Relating to Madison College, Gleaned from the Personal Diary of John W. Wayland," p. 14, in *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscence,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; "The First Student," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/firststudent.shtml> [24 April 2006]; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 13.

[21] An historical note of interest: the school did not start using the term curriculum until the 1927-1928 school year. Dingledine, 148.

Far from the expansive liberal arts education provided by the University today, the primary goal of the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg was the preparation of "competent teachers." The institution also sought to train "competent homemakers" and, to a more limited extent, provide a "good, practical education" beyond teacher training for those who were interested.

The Harrisonburg Normal School (H.N.S.) curriculum offered four years of high school level work and two years of post-high school work. To attend the school, prospective students had to be at least 15 years of age, have completed at least the seventh grade, and be "of good moral character."

When the school opened in September 1909, seven areas of study were offered. All were primarily intended to train women for varying levels of teaching and supervisory positions in Virginia's public schools.

- Regular Normal Course: a three to six year program to prepare teachers to teach in Virginia public schools.
- Training Class Certificate Course: a one year course leading to a license to teach in the lower grades of rural schools.
- Professional Course: a two-year course for four-year high school graduates leading to a full diploma.
- Household Arts Course: a two-year program to prepare women for teaching and supervising of the Domestic Sciences, including cooking and sewing.
- Manual Arts Course: a two-year course to prepare teachers and supervisors in drawing and manual training.
- Rural Arts Course: a two-year program to prepare teachers and supervisors in agriculture, gardening, and nature studies.
- Kindergarten Course: a special two-year program to train Kindergarten teachers.

Successful completion of these courses would lead either to a diploma or a certificate granting the recipient eligibility to teach in the public schools.

Twelve departments of instruction were established: Education, English Language and Literature, Foreign Languages, Geography, History and Social Sciences, Household Arts, Manual Arts, Mathematics, Music, Natural Science, Physical Education, and Rural Arts. Through these departments, 111 classes were initially offered.[22]

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[22] The first six courses of study had been adopted from the outset, but the Kindergarten Course was added to the curriculum in May 1909. The school catalogs for February and May 1909 listed a combined total of 105 academic courses, plus an additional six physical education classes, which were non-credit, but required. Both the number of classes offered and the general courses of study fluctuated during the first years. In 1910, for example, there were only five courses of study and the number of classes dropped to ninety-five. In 1911, both rose significantly, with nine courses of study and 120 classes listed in the catalog. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): 14, 42-49, 59-92; *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 2 (May 1909): 7-11; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910); *Board of Trustees, Minutes,1908-1914,* entry date 8 January 1909, p. 22; "Course of Study Adopted by Board," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 9 January 1908; Dingledine, 24-28, 51.

First Faculty & Staff

After adopting the curriculum, the Board officially hired the first three faculty members:

- Cornelius J. Heatwole – Head of the Department of Education
- Dr. John W. Wayland – Head of the Department of History and Social Sciences
- Yetta S. Shoninger – Instructor in Primary Methods and supervisor of teacher-training

President Burruss was then authorized to hire additional faculty members, contingent upon the satisfactory completion of contract negotiations. They were:

- Althea Loose (Johnston) – Instructor in Physical Education and Foreign Languages
- Sarah F. Sale – Head of Household and Manual Arts Department
- Margaret G. King – Instructor in Geography and Nature Study

By February, Althea Loose had been hired as had the first member of the school's administrative staff, Evelyn V. Liggett, who would serve as President Burruss' secretary through the end of the year. Both Sarah Sale and Margaret King were hired sometime before mid-April.[23]

February 1909. ***First School Publication • First School Seal • First School Motto***

First School Publication

The school's first publication was its catalog, *The Normal Bulletin*. Issued in February 1909, the first volume was a 112 page "Prospectus" for potential students. It provided a wide range of information about the new school to the public for the first time.

The "Prospectus" briefly chronicled the history of the institution's establishment and provided drawings, done by the architect, of the first two buildings (under construction at the time) and of an aerial view of the proposed campus layout.

It also outlined and discussed the school's purpose and functions, its governing standards and principles, as well as its admissions policies and tuition rates and other expenses. At the end of the "Prospectus" was a map of Virginia showing the various railway connections to Harrisonburg. An application form for admission was also provided.

Naturally, the majority of the publication was given over to detailed information on the school's curriculum.

The Normal Bulletin was published four times a year, in January, March, May, and November. The May issued served as the annual catalog while the March and January issues were

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[23] Both Loose and Liggett were listed on the faculty roster in the first school catalog issued in February 1909. See, *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): 6. Liggett continued to be listed in the catalog through the November 1909 issue, but when the next edition was released for January 1910, her name had disappeared. When the Board met on April 14, President Burruss reported that he had hired Sale and King. *Board of Trustees Minutes*, entry dates 8 January 1909, p. 22 and 14 April 1908, p. 24. Dingledine, 28.

announcements for the summer and spring quarters, respectively. The November issue was used as a special edition and focused on different topics.

The Normal Bulletin served as the school's catalog through 1919. The last issue was published for May of that year and in 1920 the *Bulletin* was replaced by another school publication, *The Virginia Teacher*.[24]

First School Seal

The institution's first seal appeared on the cover of the school's first catalog.

Circling the edge of the seal were the institution's name, State Normal and Industrial School, and its location, Harrisonburg, Virginia. An inner circle consisted of the words "Head, Heart, Hand" surrounding a shield. Within the shield, above images of the state seal, a stack of books, a beehive, and a spinning wheel, were the words "State, Literature, Industry, Home."

Except for the change in the school's name in 1938, this seal would remain the same until 1975 when a version of the current seal was adopted. The official seal in use today was adopted in 1977.

First School Motto

The school's first motto was: "That our daughters may be as corner-stones, polished after the similitude of a palace." The motto would be retained until the fall of 1951 when it was dropped due to the rising number of male students attending the school.

Today, JMU uses the motto "All Together One" to reflect the diversity of the Madison community and the special closeness which binds its members to one another.[25]

April 14, 1909. ***First Faculty & Staff: More Hires • First Presidential Home***

First Faculty & Staff: More Hires

Continuing their efforts to secure sufficient staffing for the opening of the school in September, the Board of Trustees announced the hiring of four more faculty and staff members during a Wednesday meeting.

- Elizabeth P. Cleveland – Head of the English Language and Literature Department

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[24] The "Prospectus" consisted of 112 printed pages, however, going strictly by the numbered pages, as is generally proper, the publication shrinks slightly, to 106 pages. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909). Dingledine, 19-24, provides a nice accounting of the contents of the "Prospectus." Jones, *Rooted*, 11.

[25] *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): front cover, 1. For a brief history of the seal, see, "The Seal," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/seal.shtml> [6 June 2006]. The school's first motto was last printed in the 1951 *Schoolma'am* and last appeared in the catalog for the year 1950-51. Dingledine, 21, 271-272. Discussion of the current motto can be found here, <http://www.alltogetherone.org/all_together_one.html> and here, <http://www.jmu.edu/admissions/visit/guide/> [September 2006].

- Natalie Lancaster – Mathematics instructor
- Mattie Speck – part-time Instructor of Manual Arts
- Mrs. Roderich B. Brooke – Matron

First Presidential Home

In April 1909, President Burruss and his wife Rachel were living in two upstairs rooms in a home known as the Smythe House which was located adjacent to the campus along South Main Street in the area between the present-day Music Building and Duke Hall. However, with the school set to open in less than six months, the Board of Trustees was considering on-campus options for the president.

Initially, the Board had intended to use the Newman farmhouse that had been purchased with the land as the president's house. However, during the April 14 Board meeting, President Burruss expressed his desire that the Newman home (called the Cottage at the time) not be used as the presidential residence, but instead be converted into dorm rooms for students. Burruss proposed that he and his wife Rachel be housed in Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) when it was completed.

The Board consented and from the opening of the school until the completion of Hillcrest (the official home of the president) in 1914, the couple lived among the students, occupying two private rooms at the southwest end of the building's second floor. They had a private bath, but took their meals in the school's dining hall located in the basement.[26]

April 15, 1909. Maury *Hall: Institutional Cornerstone Placed*

With trumpets and cheers the cornerstone of the school was put in place in the northwest corner of the institution's first building, Science (Maury) Hall, at 11 a.m. Thursday morning.

"An immense throng of people" was present for the thirty minute ceremony, having come to the school with a large celebratory parade that left Court Square in downtown Harrisonburg at 10:30 in the morning. The processional, led by mounted police, stretched for half a mile and included hundreds of school children, the *Daily News* band, military and civic organizations, and a line of carriages transporting the mayor, numerous town and county officials, and invited guests (including members of the State legislature).

After the laying of the cornerstone by the Grand Lodge of Masons of Virginia, the processional reformed and marched back downtown to Assembly Hall where addresses were made before a capacity crowd. The main address was delivered by Don P. Halsey, a member of the Board of Trustees. Several Senators, including Senator George Keezell who had led the efforts to have the school located in Harrisonburg, also spoke during the occasion.

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[26] In 1923, the Smythe House became the Carter House. The building was razed in the mid-1960's to make way for campus expansion. There is a minor discrepancy in the historical record as to the number of rooms which President Burruss and his wife occupied when they moved into Jackson. Some sources say three, others two. Two was chosen because that is the number most often cited and the one that appears in the minutes of the Board. *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914,* entry date 5 November 1908, p. 19 and entry date 14 April 1909, pp. 24-25; Chappelear, 102. Dingledine, 19, 28, 34; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 18; Moffett, 97.

The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* wrote that the entire "affair was considered one of the most important of decades in the history of the valley."[27]

June - September 1909. *First Faculty & Staff: Final Hires • First Student Assistants*

First Faculty & Staff: Final Hires

During the final months before the school was to open, President Burruss completed the faculty and staff roster with the addition of five more members.

- Annie V. Cleveland – Assistant in English and Foreign Language (older sister of Elizabeth Cleveland)
- Lida P. Cleveland – Instructor of Music (cousin of Elizabeth and Annie)
- Evalina M. Harrington – Head of Kindergarten Education
- Mary I. Bell – Registrar and Acting Librarian
- Mr. P.S. Roller – Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds

When the school opened in late September there were a total of seventeen faculty and staff members.

Fifteen of these individuals comprised the first faculty. Of the fifteen, twelve were classroom instructors (listed above and in previous entries). Two, Mary Bell and Mrs. Brooke, the matron, did not teach, but attended most of the faculty meetings and have historically been considered part of the original faculty (though, in later years, Bell would enter the classroom to provide instruction in library methods). Finally, there was President Burruss. Burruss, who directed the faculty meetings, did not do any teaching for the first year, but in the summer of 1910 he began teaching courses in manual and industrial arts.[28]

First Student Assistants

Since the beginning, student assistants have played an important part in the everyday functioning of the institution. The first student assistants were hired before the school opened and were listed along with the faculty in the August 1909 edition of the catalog. They were:

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[27] "Ceremonies Under the Happiest Auspices," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 16 April 1909, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; "Corner-Stone of School is Laid," *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, 16 April 1909; *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 27; "Laying of Cornerstone," *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 2, (May 1909): 14; Dingledine, 18-19. A copy of the program for the cornerstone laying ceremonies is available in, *Buildings, JMU.*

[28] The final members of the faculty and staff were hired sometime between June 11 and the issuance of a special August edition of the school's catalog. See, Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 November 1909, pp. 4-5, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19; and, *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 3 (August 1909): 4-6. Although Mr. Roller (supervisor of buildings and grounds) had several assistants, they are not listed in the school's catalog and are not counted here as having been among the school's primary employees. For an explanatory discussion of the first faculty, see, John W. Wayland, Letter to President Miller, 22 March 1954, in *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. Dingledine, 28-29, 64, 128. A complete list of faculty members (with dates of employment) from 1909-1930 can be found in, *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 111-112 (please note that some of the dates given in this article are of suspect accuracy).

- Sarah S. Lewis – Music and Physical Education offices
- Amelia Brooke – Home Department office
- Charlotte H. Lawson – Library
- Grace Jackson – Library

After the school opened, students were also employed in the main office, the supply-room, and the dining-hall (in fact, all the dining-hall employees were students). At the time, only students demonstrating a financial need were eligible for these on-campus positions.

Today, through the Institutional Employment Program and the Federal Work Study financial aid program, JMU employs some 2,000 student assistants in a variety of academic, administrative, and service-oriented positions across the campus.[29]

September 22, 1909. ***First Faculty Meeting***

At 11 a.m. Wednesday morning, President Burruss and eight members of the faculty gathered in Maury (Science) Hall for the first faculty meeting.

A relatively brief meeting, the members focused on three goals: getting acquainted, discussing school policy and administration, and establishing necessary faculty committees.

The faculty would hold three more meetings over the next five days before the opening of the school on September 28.[30]

September 27, 1909. ***First Students Arrive • First Meal***

First Students Arrive

On Monday, September 27, the first students began arriving at the school.

Throughout the day students came to Harrisonburg from around the state via train. Some arrived at the Chesapeake and Western (C&W) Railway depot which was only a short distance from campus across South Main Street. Others disembarked at a station located across town, just off West Market Street, which served both the Southern and the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railways.

Faculty members were on hand at the stations to greet the students and see them on their way to campus.

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[29] Amelia Brooke was the daughter of Mrs. R.B. Brooke, the school's Matron. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 3 (August 1909): 6; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 48-49. For information on the Institutional Employment Program, see, <http://www.jmu.edu/stuemploy/instemploy/>. For information on Federal Work Study, see, <http://www.jmu.edu/workstudy> and <http://www.jmu.edu/workstudy/jobtypes>.

[30] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 22 September 1909, pp. 9-11, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 6, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 30-31.

The first student to arrive at the school that day was twenty-four year old Nannie Sword, a second grade school teacher from Lee County, Virginia. Ms. Sword came in on the C&W and walked across what was then an open field to the campus. Numerous others were not far behind.

In the afternoon, two trains arrived at the Southern and B&O station carrying upwards of two dozen girls. The local paper reported that the "baggage men were swamped" in a deluge of trunks, suitcases, boxes, and umbrellas and that "every available surrey [or carriage] was pressed into service" to take the girls to the school.

In parade-like fashion, this assemblage of students made its way around Court Square and then headed out on South Main Street towards the campus, drawing the curious and interested attention of people on the streets and in their businesses. Meanwhile, it took several trips using a large, two-horse wagon to get all the girls' trunks to school.

By 6 p.m. that evening, approximately forty-five students had arrived on campus.[31]

First Meal

That evening, the first meal was served at the school. Gathering in the dining hall in the basement of Dormitory No. 1 (now Jackson Hall), the girls were treated to what would become a staple item on the menu – baked apples, or "shriveled witches" as the girls called them. The apples had been picked from the campus orchard.[32]

September 28, 1909 - June 17, 1910. ***First Year: Calendar, Expenses, Scholarships, Campus***

Calendar

For the institution's first thirty-seven years, the academic calendar was based on the quarter system. Four quarters, including a summer session, were offered, with completion of any three (even if non-consecutive) equaling one year.

Each quarter lasted approximately twelve weeks.

- The first, or fall quarter, ran from late September to the Christmas holidays in late December.
- The second, or winter quarter, was held from early January to late March.
- The third, or spring quarter, started in late March (a few days after the end of the winter quarter) and carried on until commencement in early or mid-June.

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[31] Lee County is located at the extreme southwestern tip of Virginia. Dingledine, 29-30, 32; Nannie Caldona Sword, Registration Card No. 60, Student Records Manager, Office of the Registrar, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.; "Pretty Normal Girls Arriving," *Harrisonburg Daily Times*, 28 September 1909; M'Ledge Moffett, "The Beginning of Student Activities at Harrisonburg," *The Virginia Teacher* 14, no. 5 (May 1933): 93-94; *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 3 (August 1909): 13-15; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 14.

[32] At the time, there were two orchards on the campus grounds. One, consisting primarily of apple trees, was located to the "northeast, east and southeast" of Maury Hall. The other, an assemblage of apple, cherry, and pear trees, grew in the area in front of Moody Hall. The approximate locations of both orchards are shown on a map drawn by Dr. Wayland. See, *Campus Maps,* or Wayland, Letter to President Duke, 21. Dingledine, 29-30, 33.

- The fourth, or summer quarter, was divided into two terms of about six weeks each. The first term began in June (a week after graduation) and lasted until the end of July. After a two to three day break, the second term started and carried on until the end of August or early September.

The inclusion of a full twelve-week summer quarter was a first for a Virginia school and meant that the school would be open nearly year-round.

The school switched to the semester system in 1947.[33]

Expenses

One of the main goals of the school when it opened was to keep student costs to a minimum.

Tuition rates were $2 per quarter or $6 for one year. However, for those students who had previously taught in Virginia's public schools or who had received a state scholarship, tuition charges would be waived.

For the first quarter, room and board was furnished at *actual cost.* A furnished room plus meals, light, heat, and laundry, cost students no more than $14 per month and if costs turned out to be less than the student had paid, a refund would be made. Beginning in 1910, however, a firm, flat rate of $42 per quarter ($126 per year) was charged.

With regards to textbooks, the school's policy in the early years was to furnish them "*at lowest possible cost,* and entirely without profit to the school or anyone connected with it." Thus, textbooks could be purchased at cost or rented from the school bookstore (then located in Science [Maury] Hall) for $.50 to $1.50 per quarter, with a $3 deposit.

The rental option was popular with the students, but seems to have been available only during the first quarter (but possibly the second as well). After this, students had the option of buying used books at reduced cost. Overall, students could expect their total costs for a year's worth of textbooks to be between $6 and $8.

Other expenses included: $6 for the required gym suit; $.75 for a graduating certificate; $1.50 for a diploma; and any necessary materials fees for classes such as sewing and manual arts.[34]

First Scholarships

Student scholarships were made available from the very beginning. The legislative act of March 1908 establishing the school had provided for state-funded scholarships to be awarded to a

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[33] The quarter-based system was replaced by the semester-based academic year beginning with the 1947-1948 school year. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): 38-39; Dingledine, 22.

[34] Beginning in 1911, all students were required to pay $3 tuition for the summer quarter. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no.1 (February 1909): 38-41; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no.3 (May 1910): 45-47; Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 November 1909, p. 9, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19; Dingledine, 23, 65.

certain number of select students each year. Recipients of these scholarships would get a full tuition waiver as well as preferential consideration for dorm room assignments.

To receive the scholarship, students had to obtain the nomination and support of their local Division Superintendent of Schools and declare their intention to teach in Virginia's public schools for four years after leaving the school.[35]

The first non-state funded scholarship was provided by the Industrial Educational League of the South, a Washington, D.C.-based women's group. This scholarship covered the entire expenses "of a worthy young lady" at the school for one year. The recipient of the scholarship for the first year was Myrtle Harvey of Tye River, Virginia.[36]

Campus

When compared to the size of the school when it opened one hundred years ago, today's sprawling 647 acre campus with its 105 buildings resembles a small city.

In its first year, the school occupied only forty-eight acres and consisted of two school buildings, "a cottage, an orchard, and a cat" (the latter reportedly moving into the cottage in January 1910).[37]

September 28, 1909. ***First Day: Registration • Library: First Library, First Books***

First Day: Registration

Tuesday, September 28, 1909 was "the beginning of the beginning" for James Madison University, then called the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg. This was the first day of the first school year and it was set aside for student registration.[38]

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[35] A copy of the appropriations bill is available in, *Board of Trustees Minutes, 1908-1914,* pp. 7-9. See Section Four of the bill, p. 8. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (February 1909): 26, 47; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 49; Dingledine, 23, 65.

[36] A discrepancy exists regarding what expenses covered by the Industrial Educational League's scholarship. According to a report submitted to the Board of Trustees by President Burruss in November 1909, the scholarship covered all expenses. However, according to the May 1910 catalog, it covered only the students "living expenses." It is possible that the scholarship's coverage changed between that time. The duration of this scholarship is not known, but it probably lasted only one or two years. After publication of the May 1910 catalog, it disappears from the list of available scholarship opportunities. Tye River is located in the Charlottesville area. Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 November 1909, p. 10, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 49.

[37] The acreage presented here includes one acre University Farm. James Madison University, Office of Institutional Research, "James Madison University, 2005-06 Facts and Figures," 3 March 2006, <http://www.jmu.edu/instresrch/statsum/2005_06/FactsFigs.pdf> [12 June 2006]. The two buildings were Jackson Hall (then Dormitory No. 1) and Maury (Science) Hall. The Cottage was the old Newman farmhouse. Mary Louise Seeger, "Madison College Reminiscences," 15 March 1954, Address at Founder's Day Program, Madison College, 1954, p. 2, in *History: Misc. Reminiscences,* Vertical File; *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 34.

[38] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 29.

Myrtle Virginia Earman, of nearby Keezletown, was the first student to officially register at the school. By the end of the day, 110 students (out of the 130 who had arrived) were registered.[39]

Library: First Library

"The library of a new institution must necessarily be comparatively small," stated the school's first catalog, issued in February 1909. Indeed it was.

The school's first library was a single classroom measuring 28' by 24'. It was located in the southwest corner of the first floor of Science (Maury) Hall. Bookshelves lined the walls and twelve tables provided seating for approximately forty students.

At the start of the school year, the library staff consisted of one "acting librarian" (Mary I. Bell) and two student assistants. However, by early November, heavy use of the library necessitated the addition of two more student assistants.

First Books

The task of cataloging the school's library books began on opening day. A total of 225 volumes, consisting of 142 distinct titles, were recorded in the library's accession book.

The first book to be entered into the "Harrisonburg Normal School Library" collection was a copy of the Holy Bible, which had been donated by Mattie Cocke, President of the all-female Hollins Institute (now Hollins University) in Roanoke.

The majority of the books, which were primarily collection building volumes such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, and academic titles, had been purchased, although a considerable number (such as the Bible) had been donated by faculty members and friends of the school.

By the end of the first quarter in December, the number of volumes in the library had risen to 1,512.[40]

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[39] Myrtle Virginia Earman, Registration Card No. 1, Student Records Manager, Office of the Registrar, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va. See also, *Jones, Nancy B. Collection*, letter dated 29 November 1949 by W.J. Gifford. The number of students who registered on September 28 was provided by Carrie Moyers, Student Records Manager, Office of the Registrar. Dingledine, 32-33, discusses the arrival of the first students. "130 Now at Female Normal," *Daily Times,* 29 September 1909.

[40] According to the library accession book (volume 1), during the opening session of the school books were entered into the collection on only three occasions – September 28 and 29 and October 15. Curiously, no further additions were recorded until August 20, 1910. It is not definitely known if more volumes were added during this period. However, the school's May 1910 catalog (*The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 22) gives the number of volumes as "about two thousand"; Dingledine, 40, also cites this number. While this may seem to suggest that more volumes were indeed added, it is also possible that the school simply rounded up to the higher number. One of the earliest known photographs of the library can be found in, *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911), immediately following page 48. According to Chappelear, 104, the room's number at the time was nine. The exact room dimensions, taken from the building plans, were 28'2" by 24'2". *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 1 (February 1909): 24; Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 June 1909, p.16 in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19; Dingledine, 33, 69; *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, p. 75 (see p. 2 of the financial statement insert dated 2 December 1913); *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 3 (August 1909): 6; *The Normal*

September 29, 1909. ***Second Day: 150 Students Registered for First Session***

Wednesday, the second day of the first school year, included more student registration while classes were organized and students adjusted to their new surroundings.

By the close of registration that evening, a total of 150 students had registered. The average age of these first students was nineteen-and-a-half. They represented thirty-eight counties and five cities in Virginia. Only two students were from outside the state.

Accommodating such a large number proved challenging as the dormitory and Cottage (the old Newman farmhouse) could only house seventy-three. Many students were therefore placed in off-campus accommodations with local families.[41]

September 30, 1909. ***Third Day: Classes Begin, First Assembly, First Student Regulations***

Classes Begin

Classes met for the first time at 8:30 a.m., Thursday morning. All classes were held in Science (Maury) Hall, which was the institution's only academic building at the time.

First Assembly

Later, at 10:15 a.m., the students, the faculty, President Burruss, members of both the Board of Trustees and the state General Assembly, as well as local functionaries, gathered at the northeast end of the second floor of Science Hall for the school's first assembly.

With song, reading of scripture, prayer, and speeches, the official opening of the Normal School was spiritedly marked. According to Professor John Wayland, it was an event "vibrant with joy and hope."

First Student Regulations

In the late afternoon, the faculty gathered for its fifth meeting. The principle topic of discussion was "student welfare" and the result of the meeting was the first set of rules governing student conduct.

The "young ladies" were not to be allowed to "accept invitations to spend the night in town" or to leave the dorm to go to town for any reason without permission. They could go to Sunday morning church services unescorted, but for evening services a chaperone would be required. Finally, no secret student organizations would be tolerated.[42]

Bulletin 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 4; Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 November 1909, pp. 4, 10, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19; *Library Accession Books, 1909-1937,* v. 1, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 31.

[41] *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 7; Dingledine, 32.

[42] Dingledine, 35, 42; John W. Wayland, *Historic Harrisonburg* (1949; reprint, Harrisonburg, VA: C.J. Carrier Co., 1990), 247; John W. Wayland, "Significant Incidents in the Early Life of the School," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no.

October 8, 1909. ***First Student Organizations • First Social Function***

First Student Organizations

At the end of the second week of the first school year, students established their first organizations – two literary societies.

One, the Lee Society, was named after Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The other, the Lanier Society, was named in honor of Sidney Lanier, a famous Southern poet. Each had twenty-five initial members and each chose representative colors. Lee chose gray and gold, while Lanier adopted violet and white. These colors would soon be combined to form the school's colors.

The Lee and Lanier Societies held debates and sponsored readings, talks, and musical events and were a major part of the extra-curricular life of the students for over thirty years (they were discontinued in 1942).

First Social Function

The first social function to be held at the school was a faculty reception for the students that evening at 8:30 p.m.[43]

October 16, 1909. ***"House-Warming At the Normal"***

The school's second social function was an open house. From 3 to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, hundreds of local citizens from Harrisonburg and the surrounding counties inspected the campus and toured the buildings.

Visitors were met at Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) by Mrs. Burruss and Mrs. Brooke, the matron. Dorm rooms were opened and students gave guided tours. Tea and cookies were served in the reception hall by students in the Household Arts program.

At Science (Maury) Hall, visitors were received by President Burruss and faculty members gave tours through the building's library, classrooms, offices, and labs.

According to the local *Daily News*, all who attended were "impressed" and the "occasion [was] a happy and memorable one" for all.[44]

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4 (April 1931): 87. The faculty meeting began at 4:30 p.m. and adjourned at 11 p.m. *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915*, entry date 30 September 1909, p. 19.

[43] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 30, 34, 40-41; Moffett, 95; Dingledine, 43-44, 242; "Purple and Gold," Centennial Celebration, website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/purple_gold.shtml> [25 April 2006]; *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915*, entry date 25 September 1909, p. 15; *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 12.

[44] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 34.; "Many Visit Normal School," *Harrisonburg Daily News*, 18 October 1909; Dingledine, 36; *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 12.

October 18, 1909. ***Governor Visits • First Student Regulations Officially Adopted***

Governor Visits

On Monday, Virginia Governor Claude Swanson (who had signed the bill establishing the school in March 1908) visited the school. An assembly was held where the Governor gave a speech and was personally introduced to each student by President Burruss. The governor was then given a tour of the campus.

Adoption of Regulations

That evening, during a lengthy five hour meeting, the faculty officially adopted the first regulations regarding student social privileges and conduct. Reflecting the times, guidelines were established which focused heavily on the students' interactions with the opposite sex.

- Phone calls from men were strictly regulated;
- students were only allowed to receive "approved" male visitors on campus in the dormitory reception area between 8 and 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; and
- students could not leave campus "in the company of young men" without a chaperone.
- More mundane regulations included establishment of study hours from 7 to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Such restrictions would slowly be eased over the years and eventually abandoned all together.[45]

October 21, 1909. ***School Colors Adopted • First Religious Organization • First Music Event***

School Colors Adopted

When the school's two literary societies had been established in early October, each had chosen its own representative colors: the Lee Society selected gray and gold while the Lanier Society adopted violet and white.

On Friday, October 21, one color was taken from each – violet from Lanier and gold from Lee. Together these colors were officially adopted as the school's colors. A few years later, violet would be replaced by the easier to procure color purple, and from then on it was purple and gold.

First Religious Organization

On the same day, students established a campus chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA). The organization had an initial membership of seventy-two (representing nearly half the student body) and by the end of the school year the number had grown to 100.

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[45] *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 12; Dingledine, 36; *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915*, entry date 18 October 1909, p. 25.

The group held its first meeting on October 28 in Assembly Hall in the downtown courthouse and adopted as its motto a verse from the Old Testament (Zechariah 4:6): "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

In its first year, the YWCA organized seven Bible-study classes and a mission study class with eighteen members. It also established a tradition of holding weekly devotional meetings and sponsoring informal social events and entertainments for the students.

The YWCA was the school's first student religious organization, but not the last. The "Y", as it was later known, remained an important part of student life for over sixty years, but disappeared from campus in the early 1970s. By this time, however, several other religious groups had arrived.

Today JMU is home to a diverse family of sixteen student religious organizations, including Campus Crusade for Christ, the Muslim Student Association, and the Freethinkers.

First Music Event

Another important event of that fall Friday in 1909 was the *Daily News* band's serenade to the students, the first musical event to be held on campus.[46]

October 30, 1909. *First Off-Campus Outing*

During the early decades of the school, off-campus excursions to local historical and scenic sites were common and much anticipated by the students. Led by members of the faculty, these trips could take the form of simple afternoon walks (perhaps with a picnic lunch) to sites in the Harrisonburg area or could be more involved all-day trips to locations more distant, such as New Market.

The first of such trips was made on Saturday, October 30 when history professor John Wayland led a group of students on a short walking trip to the nearby monument for Confederate Brigadier General Turner Ashby. Ashby, a cavalry commander serving under "Stonewall" Jackson during his 1862 Valley Campaign, was killed in a skirmish with Union troops on June 6 of that year.

Students had so thoroughly enjoyed the outing that it was included in the 1910 yearbook's timeline of important dates. The entry read: "Trip to Ashby Monument. Three Cheers for Dr. Wayland!" [47]

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[46] The Y.W.C.A. was last pictured in the 1970 yearbook. *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 34, 38-39, 43, 47; Dingledine, 45. A list of the sixteen religious groups can be found at <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/college/directory/brief/drextras_3721_brief.php> [4 August 2006]; Wayland, "Significant Incidents," 88; "Purple and Gold"; "Music at the College," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 119.

[47] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 34. Brief, general discussions of excursions, including trips to Ashby Monument, can be found in Dingledine, 87, 126. The Ashby Monument was unveiled on June 6, 1898. Wayland, *Historic Harrisonburg,* 231, 245.

October - November 1909. ***First Sports Teams Organized***

The first sport to be organized at the school was tennis. Although no specific dates of organization are known, the Racket and the Pinquet Tennis Clubs were organized sometime in October or early November.

The two teams had planned to play each other in the school's first tennis tournament in June 1910 as part of the commencement festivities, but bad weather forced the game's cancellation and it was not played until November 1910.

The Racket and Pinquet clubs were replaced in 1927 by Class tennis teams and a varsity tennis team was started in 1928.[48]

November - December 1909. ***First Student Musical Organization Formed: The Glee Club***

Sometime during the latter part of the fall quarter, the school's first musical organization was established. Called the Glee Club, this student vocal group was comprised of nineteen members who were under the direction of the music instructor, Lida P. Cleveland.

The Glee Club began performing in 1910, making appearances at school assemblies and special events and singing with local church choirs. One of the first recorded performances by the Club was at the school's 1910 Arbor Day celebration in April.[49]

November 2, 1909. ***First Lyceum Event***

Just over a month after the school had opened, the first lyceum program was held with Henry Southwick, Dean of the Emerson College of Oratory in Boston, giving readings from Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*.

Introduced by the faculty as a means of providing the student body, as well as the community, with diverse cultural experiences, the annual lyceum program would bring to town and campus lecturers and performers of social, political, and cultural significance.

Mr. Southwick's appearance launched what has now become a one hundred year tradition.[50]

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[48] The two teams were certainly established prior to November 10. See, Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 10 November 1909, p. 9, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19. Photos of the tennis teams appeared in the first issue of the school yearbook, *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 56-59. Dingledine, 45, 105; Carroll, 18. Althea Loose Johnston, "Athletics at the College," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 124. Johnston and Carroll erroneously cite the date of the first tennis tournament as November 1911. *The Schoolma'am* (1928): n.p., contains a photograph of the first varsity tennis team.

[49] Interestingly, no exact date of organization for the Glee Club appears to be known. Most secondary sources say it was established during the first quarter, in 1909, but no primary source documentation of this was found. However, it seems likely that it would have been established during this period. If so, the author's research would indicate that it happened sometime after November 10. Further, it is possible that the group was formed as late as January 1910. *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 48; *The Virginia Teacher* 2, no. 2 (February 1921): 54; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 7, 40, 103; Dingledine, 47.

[50] Assembly Hall, located in the downtown courthouse, was the venue for many of the lyceum numbers until 1915-1916 with the construction of the auditorium in Harrison Hall. Dingledine, 47, 92; *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 34.

November 12, 1909 - February 28, 1910. ***First Basketball Teams Organized***

Sometime between late November 1909 and late February 1910 the first basketball teams were organized. There were three – the Scalpers, Tip Top, and the Tomahawkers.

Class basketball teams were inaugurated the following year (which led to the dropping of the descriptive names) and interscholastic competition began in 1921 with the establishment of a varsity basketball team.[51]

November 30, 1909. ***Grading System Adopted • First Serious Incident of Student Misconduct***

Grading System Adopted

During a Tuesday evening faculty meeting, the school's first uniform examination and grading system was adopted. Final examinations would count as one-third of a student's final grade while regular class-work would count for two-thirds. Students' overall academic achievement would be charted using the letter grades of "A" (very good), "B" (good), "C" (passable), "D" (conditioned), and "E" (failure).

The dreaded "F" for failure would not be introduced until the 1920-1921 session and the use of quality points, such as "A" = 4 points, did not begin until 1928.

First Serious Student Misconduct Incident

Most of the meeting, however, was devoted to consideration of a "serious offense" which had been committed by a student. Found guilty of stealing $2-3 dollars from a roommate, it was decided to help the student overcome her "weaknesses" rather than expel her.

Two days later, on December 2, the case was explained to the student body during the daily assembly in Maury (Science Hall). Their help was called for in aiding the "fallen [student] to rise in greater strength." The student remained to finish out the year.[52]

December 1909 - January 1910. ***First School Song***

During a morning assembly in early December, President Burruss expressed his Christmas wish: "I wish Santa Claus would bring us a school song," he told those assembled.

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[51] As with the tennis teams, pinpointing an exact day of organization for the basketball teams is difficult. It is possible they were organized in late 1909, but no documentation on this apparently exists. However, the teams were certainly established by 28 February 1910 due to the fact that they are mentioned in the faculty minutes for that day. See, *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry dated 28 February 1910, p. 59. Photos of the three basketball teams appear in, *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 52-54.

[52] *The Virginia Teacher* 1, no. 4, Supplement no. 2 (May 1920): 32. The misconduct case and another issue relating to the same student were considered by the faculty on several occasions throughout April 1910. See, *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* 33, 35-39, 45. The misconduct case is also discussed in Dingledine, 43. For the grading system, see, *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915*, 33.

A few weeks later, shortly before the session ended for Christmas break, two songs – "Shendo Land" and "Blue-Stone Hill" – mysteriously appeared in the president's mailbox, the anonymous submission of one "Sandy Claws." (The songs had in fact been penned by Dr. John Wayland, head of the History Department, though this would remain unknown for at least a year or two.)

While both songs proved to be very popular, it was "Blue Stone Hill," set to the music of "Juanita," that was chosen as the school's first alma mater (with the decision presumably being made sometime in January, after the holiday break).

"Blue-Stone Hill," with the chorus "Mater, Alma Mater, Though afar we bless thee still; And may Love forever, Smile on Blue-Stone Hill," would remain the school's official song until the early 1930s.[53]

December 23, 1909. ***End of First Quarter***

On Thursday, the first quarter of the first year ended and students headed to the trains for the trip home.[54]

1910.

January 4, 1910.

The second, or winter quarter, of the first school year began.

February 15, 1910. ***Yearbook: Origin***

The origins of the school's yearbook date to a late Tuesday afternoon faculty meeting in Science (Maury) Hall when a recommendation by the faculty Committee on Publications that the students be encouraged to publish a yearbook by the end of the school year in June was approved.[55]

February 28, 1910. ***Yearbook: Plan Submitted***

In late February, the faculty's initiative to have the students publish a yearbook came into solid form when the Committee on Publication submitted its plan for the election of yearbook staff

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[53] The primary account of this event comes from Wayland himself, albeit several decades later. Wayland gives December 1 as the approximate date of the assembly. No sources could be located stating exactly when the song was chosen as the school song. See, John W. Wayland, "Anent the Song, Blue-Stone Hill," in *Alma Mater (and Other Songs)*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Wayland, "Significant Incidents," 88. For discussion of the first song and subsequent school songs, see, Dingledine, 44, 198, 241, and Janet T. Wendelken, "School Songs Change with Times," p. 12, in "James Madison University, 1908-1983," Special to the *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1983.
[54] *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 3 (August 1909): 2.
[55] The meeting began at 4:55 p.m. in what was then Room 11 of Maury Hall. *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 15 February 1910, p. 55.

and the establishment of oversight authority.[56]

March 1, 1910. ***Yearbook: First Editorial Staff Elected***

As per the plans suggested by the faculty, the student body elected the first editorial staff of the as yet unnamed yearbook.

Katherine Virginia Rose was chosen as the first editor-in-chief and Vergilia P. Sadler was selected as the assistant editor-in-chief. Ten other students assumed the positions of associate editors, art editors, and business managers.[57]

March 5, 1910. ***First Public Debate***

Beginning a tradition of public debates at JMU, four students, two each from the Lee and Lanier Literary Societies (with one on each side of the debate), faced off over the question of limiting membership in the societies to fifty.

The debate was described by the local paper as an all around "splendid" effort and was said to have been "vigorous" with "well balanced" arguments. In the end, the judges of the debate decided against limited membership.[58]

March 12, 1910. ***First Student Play***

On Saturday, the school's Professional Class presented the first student play. Entitled, *Miss Fearless & Company*, the play follows a group of girls who, after being slighted, make a pact not to communicate with men for a month.

The girls move themselves away from "where 'the boys' are staying." They make an effigy of a man and beat it with a broom. Soon, however, they become lonely and scared and begin sending messages to the men. Ultimately, the girls admit defeat and return.[59]

March 15, 1910. ***First School Garden***

On a Tuesday, the school's Rural Arts class "went forth with stakes and strings" to begin work on the school's first garden. Behind Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) students laid out plots measuring 4' by 18,' tilled the soil, and began planting.[60]

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[56] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 28 February 1910, pp. 57, 59-61.
[57] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 35, 101; Dingledine, 46.
[58] "Splendid Initial Effort by State Normal School Girls, " [paper unknown] 5 March 1910, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910; *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 35, 41.
[59] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 32, 35, 66; Dingledine, 46-47.
[60] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 32, 35; Dingledine 40.

March 23, 1910. ***Ashby Hall: Plans Approved***

At a Wednesday meeting of the Board of Trustees, school architect Charles M. Robinson submitted his plans and specifications for a much needed second dormitory (today known as Ashby Hall). The Trustees approved Robinson's plans and prepared to advertise for construction bids.

The new building would provide accommodations for an additional seventy-two students and would house the school's first real gymnasium.[61]

March 24, 1910. ***Second Quarter of First School Year Ends***

On Thursday, March 24, the second quarter of the first school year ended. Total enrollment for the quarter was 149.[62]

March 29, 1910. ***Third Quarter of First School Year Begins***

On Tuesday, the third (or spring) quarter of the first school year began. Total enrollment was 173.[63]

March 30, 1910. ***Yearbook: Name Adopted***

During an evening meeting in Science (Maury) Hall, the faculty agreed with the recently elected student yearbook staff on the name of the annual – *The Schoolma'am.*

The name had been proposed by faculty member Elizabeth Cleveland of the English Department, and had been chosen by students and faculty over other names such as "Blue Stone Bells" and "Shendo Maid."[64]

March 31, 1910. ***Athletic Association Established***

The distant forerunner of today's Division of Athletics was the Athletic Association (AA). Established on Thursday, March 31 on the premise "that soul helps body not more than body helps soul," the Association's goal was "to promote physical, moral, and mental development" among the student body and the faculty, all of whom were automatically made members.

The Athletic Association, headed by a student Athletic Council, would serve as a supplement to the existing physical education program (administered under the aegis of the Department of Physical Education) and would be in charge of "planning and supervising the physical recreation and intramural sports programs" of the school.

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[61] *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, entry date 23 March 1910, pp. 32-33; *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911): 21; Dingledine, 68; Chappelear, 102.
[62] *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no.3 (May 1910): 126.
[63] *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 1 (January 1910): 2; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 126.
[64] The term "Schoolma'am" is a variation of the word "Schoolmarm," a female teacher, usually located in a rural area. *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915*, entry date 30 March 1910, p. 69; Dingledine, 46.

Over the years, the AA would support and promote both interclass and intercollegiate athletic competition by the school's sports teams (which were placed under the auspices of the Association). Individual and group activities were also stressed.

The Association planned the Field Day exercises which were a prominent feature of early commencement programs. It also oversaw the annual May Day celebrations for a number of years. In 1919, the AA began awarding "letters" for significant athletic achievement. In the 1920s, it began cosponsoring the student handbook. The Association also regularly presented entertainments, such as dances, stunts, and movies, to raise money for a variety of causes.

Currently, the Division of Athletics oversees an athletic program with over 500 students competing in fifteen women's and thirteen men's sports (however, in mid-2007, these numbers are scheduled to be decreased).[65]

April 7, 1910. ***First Arbor Day***

At 9:30 a.m., an assemblage of some 300 people, consisting of the student body and faculty and local high school and kindergarten students and teachers, began planting trees around campus in observation of Arbor Day.

Each class and the faculty planted a tree, with approximately eleven, including oak, black walnut, ash, and sugar maples, being planted during the hour-long celebration. This marked the initial effort of the school-body to turn the barren farmland-campus into the shaded, tree-lined campus it is today.

Along with other occasions, Arbor Day would continue to be celebrated each year with tree plantings around campus until 1931, by which time trees and shrubbery were plentiful. While many of the trees planted in the early years remain standing today, many were removed over the years due to campus expansion and construction needs.[66]

April 12, 1910. ***Ashby Hall: Contractor Selected***

The Board of Trustees met at 4 p.m. on Tuesday to consider bids for the construction of Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall).

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[65] In September 2006, the Board of Visitors voted to eliminate seven men's and three women's athletic programs in order to be in compliance with the requirements of Title IX. This change will take effect on 1 July 2007. The Department of Physical Education was one of the twelve departments established at the opening of the school. Students were required to engage in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, including walking, running, light weight lifting, marching, tennis, basketball, and gymnastics. Establishment of an athletic association was first advocated by the faculty Committee on Literary, Religious, Athletic, and Other Organizations on September 25, 1909. See, *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry dated 25 September 1909, p. 13. *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 51; Dingledine, 30, 45, 145, 182, 217, 218. James Madison University, Office of Institutional Research, "James Madison University, 2005-06 Facts and Figures," 3 March 2006, <http://www.jmu.edu/instresrch/statsum/2005_06/FactsFigs.pdf> [12 June 2006]. General information on sports at JMU can be found online at, <http://www.jmusports.com/GeneralInfo/> [20 August 2006].

[66] "Arbor Day Observed at Normal School," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 8 April 1910, in *Tree Planting*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 32-33; Dingledine, 47, 106-107, 204;

Six bids had been placed and the contract was awarded to W.M. Bucher & Son, the lowest bidder. Bucher & Son was the company that had built the school's first two buildings, Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) and Science (Maury) Hall.[67]

May 2, 1910. ***Ashby Hall: Construction Begins, Stone Quarried on Campus***

When construction of Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall) began on Monday, May 2, the plan was to have the building completed by late December and operational for the start of the winter quarter in January 1911. However, slow progress would push completion back until February.

Dormitory No. 2 was the third building to be constructed for the school and like its predecessors Science (Maury) Hall and Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall), much of the stone used in its construction was quarried from two pits located on the campus grounds. Because of this, during its construction, it was not unusual for students to be rudely roused from their daydreaming during class by the rumble of dynamite blasts.[68]

May 18-19, 1910. ***Shakespeare: The Coburn Woodland Players***

On Wednesday and Thursday, the Shakespearian troupe the Coburn Players performed *As You Like It* and *Merchant of Venice.*

While intended to be performed at the school's open-air amphitheater, located behind Science (Maury) Hall, poor weather forced the event indoors and since the school's indoor auditorium in Science Hall was too small, the event took place in Assembly Hall at the courthouse.

The Coburn Players performed annually for the first five years as part of the school's lyceum program. Their last performance was in 1916 as fame on Broadway made them unavailable after this. Other Shakespearean troops, however, such as the Ben Greet Players and the Devereux Players, filled the void, performing annually over the coming decades.[69]

May 31, 1910. ***Honor System Adopted***

On the initiative of the students, and with input and consent from the faculty, the first formal Honor System was adopted by the student body and the first Honor Committee was selected.

The honor system mandated "absolute honesty in all oral and written class work, in all examinations," and in all other school work. It also applied to the giving and receiving of "illegitimate help."

All students were required to sign a copy of the rules and pledge to abide by them and the

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[67] *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, entry date 12 April 1910, pp. 33-34; Dingledine, 68.
[68] *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May, 1910): 11; Dingledine, 68See hand-drawn map by Wayland showing location of the quarries in, *Campus Maps*; Seeger, 1.
[69] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 35; Dingledine, 47, 110; *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* 65. A list of the dramatic performances at the school from 1910-1930 can be found in, Ruth S. Hudson, "Dramatics at the College," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no.4 (April 1931): 121.

twelve-member Honor Committee was responsible for investigating and adjudicating charges of misconduct (faculty approval was necessary on final decisions).[70]

June 1910. ***Yearbook: The Schoolma'am***

Shortly before the end of the session on June 14, the first school yearbook, *The Schoolma'am,* was issued.

The first issue was 142 pages and only 7 ½ by 9 ½ inches. Today's yearbooks, by contrast, are typically around 400 pages and measure 12 ¼ by 9 ¼ inches in size.

Although "a little shy" at her debut, *The Schoolma'am* would serve as the school's yearbook for fifty-two years, with the last volume being issued in 1961. It was replaced in 1962 by the current yearbook, the *Bluestone*.[71]

June 12-13, 1910. ***First "Commencement" Proceedings Begin***

Unlike today's one-day commencement ceremony, in the early years of the University, commencement proceedings typically extended over a period of several days and included a baccalaureate sermon, field and class exercises, exhibitions of student work, and a campus open house. Following these activities were the final graduation exercises with the awarding of diplomas and certificates for course completion and, beginning in 1919, the conferring of degrees.

Although there would be no regular graduates and no diplomas issued this first year, it was decided to hold full commencement ceremonies anyway and to award certificates for the completion of one year of study.
The commencement proceedings began on Sunday morning, June 12, when, shortly before 11 a.m., students and faculty lined up to begin the march downtown to the local Methodist Church for the baccalaureate sermon. The procession of girls, all of whom were dressed "in white skirts and stiff-collared white linen waists," stretched for blocks. This so-called "Normal line" would become a featured part of future commencement proceedings.

On Monday afternoon, June 13, despite bad weather, a large number of people turned out for an open house and to witness indoor student athletic exhibitions, including calisthenics and folk dances. There were also student demonstrations in cooking, housekeeping, and first aid, and a showcase of students' work, including baskets, rugs, hats, and drawings.[72]

June 14, 1910. ***First "Commencement" & End of First School Year***

On Tuesday morning, June 14, at 10:30 a.m., the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg held its first commencement day exercises. The event was held in Assembly

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[70] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* 83, 85, 86, 87; for a complete list of the Honor System rules see, *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no.3 (May 1910): 30-33; Dingledine, 45-46.
[71] *The Schoolma'am* (1910): 17; Wayland, "Some Items," 9; Dingledine, 46; *Bluestone* (2006).
[72] Please see the following footnote for sources on the first commencement.

Hall at the courthouse in downtown Harrisonburg. The hall was packed, and the students were all dressed in faculty approved white dresses, which reached to the ankles and had long sleeves and high collars.

Virginia Governor William Hodges Mann delivered the keynote address. Following Mann, President Burruss made a few remarks and then read the names of the twenty-five students who were awarded certificates of course completion. There were no graduates this year, but those who received certificates were eligible to teach the specified subjects in Virginia's public schools.

This day also marked the end of the spring quarter and the official end of the first school year and, during his commencement remarks, President Burruss declared it to have been "the best year in the history of the institution."

A total of 209 students had enrolled for the first year.[73]

June 21 - September 2, 1910. ***First Summer Session • First Male Students***

First Summer Session

In 1910, the school became the first in Virginia to offer a full quarter of work – equivalent to any other quarter – during the summer. The summer quarter was divided into two terms of six weeks (June 21-July 20) and five weeks (August 1-September 2).

A total of 207 students were enrolled for the first summer session. In the following years, enrollment in summer sessions continued to climb. In 1911, it reached 306 and in 1922 it hit the highest level for the first fifty years, with 983 students enrolled.

First Male Students

Although the school had been founded as an all-female institution, men were admitted into the summer sessions from the very start. Of the 207 students enrolled in the 1910 summer session, about fourteen were men.

At the time, male students could only attend as day students because dormitory facilities for them were not available. However, for a brief period (from 1927 through 1929), the school did offer on-campus room and board for male students. From 1930-1939, only dining room accommodations were offered, but in 1940, dormitory facilities were again provided.

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[73] The main sources on the first commencement are the following Harrisonburg *Daily Times* articles: "Commencement at the Normal," 11 June 1910; "Fine Sermon to Normal Girls," 13 June 1910; "Large Number Attend Exhibit," 14 June 1910; and "School Ends with Honors," 15 June 1910. See also, Dingledine 47-48 for a brief accounting of the event. An original 1910 commencement invitation and schedule can be found in, *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940,* Annual Events Office Collection, AN 93-0916, Box 1, Folder 2, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no.3 (May 1910): 126; Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 26 March 1914, p.1, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*.

Men would not enroll in the school's regular sessions until 1946 and the institution did not become fully coeducational until the mid-1960s.[74]

July 23-25, 1910. ***Student Trip to "Washington City"***

The school prided itself on providing its students with a variety of entertainments and excursions and the school's catalogs routinely listed areas of interest, both local and more distant.

One of the first long distance trips provided for students was a late July weekend trip to the nation's capital. After taking a ride on the Southern Railway, Dr. John Wayland, head of the History Department, led six summer session students on their first tour of Washington, D.C.[75]

September 27, 1910. ***Second Year Begins, 1910-1911***

On Tuesday, September 27 registration for the fall quarter of the second school year began. On the 28th, registration continued and classes were organized. Classes began on September 29. A total of 196 students enrolled for the fall 1910 quarter (up from 150 in 1909).[76]

October 10, 1910. ***Ashby Hall: Cornerstone Laid, But Construction Behind Schedule***

By the time the cornerstone for Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall) was laid on Saturday, October 10, construction of the building was already off schedule.

When work on the dormitory had begun in May it was planned to have it completed by the end of December to ensure it would be ready for occupancy at the start of the winter quarter in January. However, by the end of September, the Board of Trustees had become frustrated with the slow progress being made.

The Board notified the contractor, W.M. Bucher & Son, of its dissatisfaction and urged "the importance of pushing said work forward more rapidly." Despite this, the building would not be ready on time.[77]

November 12, 1910. ***First Tennis Tournament***

Two tennis teams, the Pinquet and Racket clubs, had been established in 1909. A tournament

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[74] This first summer quarter was divided into two terms of six and five weeks each, running from June 21 to July 30 and August 1 to September 2; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 2 (March 1910): 2, 8-9, 17; Dingledine, 115. Dingledine, 115- 127, discusses summer sessions in detail. "Summer Normal A Big Success," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 16 August 1910, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910; the full 1910 summer school roster can be found in *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no.3 (May 1911): 125-128.

[75] "Southwest Girls Pretty of Course," (paper unknown, likely a Washington, D.C. paper) 27 July 1910, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1908-1910; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 1. Plans for an outing to the capital were first discussed on July 19 during a faculty meeting, see *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 19 July 1910, p. 99; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 2 (March 1910): 11-12, lists D.C. in its discussion of excursion destinations for students.

[76] *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 3; *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911): 134.

[77] The Board of Trustees had complained as early as September 30, 1910 about the slow progress being made on the building, see, *Board of Trustees, Minutes*, entry date 30 September 1910, pp. 45-46.

was planned as part of the first commencement exercises in June, but rain forced its cancellation. The first tennis tournament was thus held during the second school year.

On a cold and windy November Saturday, dozens of high school students and local citizens attended the tournament. The match was a doubles tournament between the Pinquet and the Racket tennis clubs. The Pinquets were the victors.

Following the match, everyone gathered in the assembly room in Science (Maury) Hall where the Pinquets were presented with a trophy called the "loving-cup." Later in the evening, the winners hosted a party for the Rackets and the faculty.[78]

November 14, 1910. ***History Students Dour***

A brief report on campus happenings in the local paper told how history students, envisioning a steep rise in the level of research reading, were sporting "long faces and dolorous sighs" after learning that the library had just received twenty, 386-page volumes of world history covering 200 A.D. to the present.[79]

1911.

January 3, 1911.

The second school year's winter quarter, began. Total enrollment for the quarter was 203, up from 149 in 1910.[80]

February 1, 1911. ***Yearbook: First "In Memoriam"***

On Wednesday night, February 1, former student Garnett Catherine Oden died of typhoid fever at her home in Covington, Virginia. Oden, who had celebrated her nineteenth birthday that very day, had attended the school during the spring and summer quarters of 1910.

In recognition of her passing, the 1911 edition of *The Schoolma'am* ran an "In Memoriam" page, its first. Such pages would, unfortunately, be a common component in the school's yearbooks up to the present day.[81]

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[78] *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 15, 101, photo of cup, 102; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 22; Dingledine, 104; Althea Loose Johnston, "Athletics at the College," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4, (April 1931): 124. Johnston erroneously cites the year of the tournament as 1911.
[79] "Normal Breezes," [paper unknown], 14 November 1910, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1910-1914.
[80] *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911): 134; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no.3 (May 1910): 126.
[81] "Death of Miss Oden," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 3 February 1911, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1910-1914; *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 152; the 2006 *Bluestone* includes an "In Memoriam" page for four individuals, p. 405.

March 1, 1911. ***Ashby Hall: Opens***

On Wednesday, March 1, two months later than originally planned, Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall) was finally opened.

The new dormitory, which cost just under $38,000, had accommodations for seventy-two students (with two to a room), a couple of faculty members, and an assistant matron. It also housed the school's first real gymnasium.

The gymnasium, located in the basement, had an indoor basketball court and an array of exercise and drill equipment, such as dumbbells, medicine balls, jumping apparatus, wands, and Indian clubs. There were also showers, dressing rooms, and lockers. Plans were developed for the inclusion a bowling alley, but they were never fully realized.

In May, the school's heating plant would be relocated from Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) to the new building.[82]

March 29, 1911. ***Measles! Quarantine! Call in the Normal Girls!***

At the request of the local school board, the Normal School faculty began arrangements to have some of its students substitute for several Harrisonburg city school teachers who were being placed under a three week quarantine after being exposed to the measles during a city-wide outbreak.

By the 31st, Normal girls were in the classrooms and would serve until April 11, when the quarantine was lifted.[83]

April 1, 1911. ***Ashby Hall: Party in the Gym***

One month after Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall) opened, a "house warming" party was held in the basement gymnasium. According to the 1911 *Schoolma'am,* a "general good time" was had by all.

Beginning in the late 1920s, the gymnasium would be referred to as the "Little Gym" to distinguish it from the "Big Gym" that was built in Reed (Keezell) Hall.[84]

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[82] Construction of Ashby Hall had been completed in February and by the end of the month students were moving in. It was not until March 1, however, that the move was complete and the building formally opened. Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 28 February 1911, p. 4, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19. According to a 1955 document signed by the school's Business Manager, the exact cost of the building was $37,938.61. See, "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA." Dingledine, 68, apparently used this source, for he wrote that the building cost "about $38,000." While this is likely correct, another document - Chappelear, 102 - puts the total cost at $40,996.20. *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911): 13, 21; *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 16; Dingledine, 68; Wayland, "Some Items," 9; Johnston, 124.

[83] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 22 March 1911, p. 133; "Measles Quarantine Is On," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* 31 March 1911; "Normal Girls See Tantalizing Sight," *Harrisonburg Daily News,* [day unknown] April 1911, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944*, Folder 1910-1914.

[84] Wayland, "Some Items," 9; *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 16, 95; Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 22.

April 12 & 19, 1911. ***New Student Regulations Adopted***

At faculty meetings held on consecutive Wednesday evenings, new regulations for students living on and off campus were adopted.

Generally similar to the ones adopted in 1909, the rules stated that:

- students could not go out at night unless properly chaperoned;
- students must register *anytime* they left the dorm or residence where they were living;
- study hours were from 7 to 10 p.m. Monday thru Thursday, during which time no visiting between dorms was allowed;
- young men could call only on Friday and Saturday evenings, with prior permission of the girl's parents and the matron or lady of the home;
- "driving with a young man" was prohibited.[85]

April 24, 1911. ***First Senior Privileges Granted***

Not long after the faculty had implemented a new set of student regulations, it granted the graduating class of 1911 special privileges. Members of the Class of 1911 would be allowed to:

- leave campus anytime without permission;
- be accompanied by "gentleman" to and from church and social events;
- attend social functions in groups of two or more without a chaperone;
- visit during study hours as long as they did not interfere with the work of other students.

The granting of Senior Privileges subsequently became a regular practice and beginning with the next school year these privileges would be granted in the fall.[86]

June 9, 1911. ***First Senior Class Play***

As an opening to the 1911 commencement festivities, the Senior Class performed its first play, "Esmeralda," on Friday in the downtown courthouse's Assembly Hall.

While intended to be performed at the school's open-air amphitheater, poor weather forced the event indoors and since the school's auditorium in Science (Maury) Hall was too small, the event took place in Assembly Hall at the courthouse.

The presentation of Senior plays before commencement became a school tradition and beginning in 1912 the plays were usually presented in the school's outdoor auditorium, then located behind Science (Maury) Hall. This open-air amphitheatre could accommodate about 500 people.

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[85] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry dates 12 and 19 April 1911, pp. 137-138; Dingledine, 74.
[86] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 24 April 1911, p. 136; Dingledine, 75.

After the completion of the Wilson Hall auditorium in 1931, the plays moved indoors. Today, the area that was home to the outdoor theatre is the parking lot and driveway behind Maury Hall.[87]

June 10-12, 1911. ***First Graduation Commencement Begins***

In June 1910, the school conducted its first commencement exercise, despite there being no graduates. A year later, however, the school was ready to graduate its first students.

The first graduation commencement exercises began on Saturday, June 10, when the Lee and Lanier literary societies held an end of year celebration in Science (Maury) Hall. On Sunday, the commencement sermon was delivered at the local Presbyterian Church.

Field Day exercises were conducted on Monday the 12th in the gymnasium of Dormitory No. 2 (now Ashby Hall) and included folk dancing, high jumping, an "Indian club drill," and a basketball game. Also, exhibits of work done by the various classes during the year were on display in Science Hall for public viewing.

The final commencement exercises would be conducted the next evening.[88]

June 13, 1911. ***Alumni Association Established • First Graduating Class***

Alumni Association Established

On Tuesday morning, June 13, Class Day exercises were held as part of the ongoing commencement activities. There was a talk by the president of the Class of 1911, a reading of the class history, reading of poems, and singing. As part of the exercises, the soon-to-be-graduates organized the Alumnae Association and elected Minnie Diedrich as the Association's first president.

In 1953, the Association changed its name to the Alumni Association in recognition of the growing number of male graduates.

First Graduating Class

At 8:30 p.m., that evening, in the courthouse's Assembly Hall, the school's first graduation exercises were held and the first diplomas were issued to a class of twenty.

Thirteen diplomas for completion of the Regular Normal Course were awarded, as were three Kindergarten Training diplomas, two Household Arts diplomas, and two Manual Arts diplomas.

Twenty-seven other students were awarded certificates making them eligible to teach or supervise in public schools.

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[87] *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 17; Dingledine, 111, 219.
[88] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 17.

In 1912, a survey of these first twenty graduates showed that seventeen had remained in Virginia, seven of them in Harrisonburg. Of this seven, five were teaching kindergarten through fifth grade classes at local public schools while the remaining two were still affiliated with their alma mater – one working as an assistant to the matron and the other as a post-graduate student.

Next year's graduating class was more than double, with forty-three students receiving diplomas, and at the end of the school's first decade, in 1919, the graduating class had grown to ninety-nine.[89]

June 14, 1911. ***"At the Station": End of the Second School Year***

With the second school year officially over, students flocked to the train stations to begin their journeys home.

Total enrollment for the second school year, 1910-1911, was 249, up from 209 in 1909-1910. The students represented sixty-five counties (up from 38) and eight cities (up from 5) in Virginia, while six students came from out of state (up from 2).[90]

1912.

March 30, 1912. ***First Hike Up Massanutten Mountain***

At ten o'clock on a spring Saturday morning, three teachers and about twenty-five or thirty students hopped a train to Keezletown and from there began the first school hike to the top of "Peaked Mountain" (Massanutten Mountain).

After a picnic lunch in the "Kettle" around 1:30, the group headed back. However, slow progress required some to run ahead and have the train held for the others. By 5 p.m., all had made it to the station at McGaheysville and the train carried them back to Harrisonburg.

Hikes up the mountain became an annual event, usually taking place in the fall. It was not uncommon for groups to consist of well over one hundred students.[91]

June 10, 1912. ***First Alumni Reunion and New Inductions***

Members of the Alumnae (Alumni) Association, which had been established the previous year, returned for their first reunion. During a banquet on Monday evening lasting from 10 p.m. to midnight, new graduates for the year 1911-1912 were inducted into the Association.[92]

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[89] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 17; Wayland, "Some Items," 10; Dingledine, 67, 112. *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* 157-159; *The Normal Bulletin* 4 no., 3 (May 1912): 110; *The Normal Bulletin* 5, no. 3 (May 1913): 100; *Schoolma'am* (1912): 19.
[90] *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 3; *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911): 134.
[91] Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 2. A poetical account of the trip can be found in, "Train Time to McGaheysville," *The Schoolma'am* 1912: 146-147. See also Dingledine, 87, 191.

June 11, 1912. ***Hillcrest: Time to Build a Presidential Home***

Since the opening of the school in September 1909, President Burruss and his wife Rachel had lived among the student body, occupying two private rooms (with a private bath) at the southwest end of the second floor of Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall) and eating in the dinning room.

During an early evening meeting a few hours before the year's graduation ceremony, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to build a permanent residence (later known as Hillcrest) for the president. To pay for its construction, the Board set aside $10,000 from funds recently provided by the General Assembly.[93]

September 1912 – June 1913. ***Highest Enrollment of First Decade***

Total enrollment for the school's fourth year, 1912-1913, was 318. This was the highest number during the first decade of the school's operation.[94]

Fall 1912. ***First Student Handbook • First Field Hockey Teams***

First Student Handbook

The first student handbook was issued for the 1912-1913 session. Sponsored by the campus YWCA, this small 6" by 3.5", twenty-three page booklet was sent to incoming freshman as a greeting and preparatory guide.

The "Student's Hand Book" outlined the structure, purpose, and activities of the YWCA (arguably the most important student organization at the time), contained the school's Honor System rules, and provided information on other student organizations and the Athletic Association.

The handbook included a daily school schedule ("Rising Bell" at 6:30 a.m. . . . "Lights Out" at 10:30 p.m.) and suggested items new students should bring, such as pictures, curtains, blankets, favorite books, and "all the dainty articles usually found on your dressing table."

Finally, the booklet concluded by providing several "pointers" for the incoming freshman: do not be afraid to ask questions, watch the bulletin boards for important information, "take plenty of outside exercise," and "be sure to join the YWCA."

Today the student handbook is issued under the auspices of the Office of Judicial Affairs and is available in print and online.[95]

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[92] Dingledine, 112-113.
[93] *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914*, entry date 11 June 1912, p. 60 (see typed insert); Dingledine, 69.
[94] Dingledine, 66.
[95] *Student's Hand Book,* State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, Young Women's Christian Association, 1912-1913. Dingledine, 99. The most recent Student Handbook is available at, <http://www.jmu.edu/judicial/handbook.shtml> [27 August 2006].

First Field Hockey Teams

Sometime during the 1912 fall quarter the school's first field hockey teams were organized. Adopting the names of Native American tribes, the teams were called the Cherokee and the Chickasaw and competed against each other in inter-group games. A hockey field was laid out approximately where Burruss Hall and its parking lot are today.

In 1914, the Cherokees became the Apaches and a third team, the Shenandoah, was established. Beginning in the fall of 1915, however, the sport, at least in organized form, seems to have dropped from the athletic scene, but was revived during the 1919-1920 school year with interclass competition.

A varsity hockey team first played in the fall of 1924 and the sport reached the height of its popularity during the 1930s when the school became a regular participant in the annual Virginia Hockey Tournament.

Women's field hockey remains a prominent part of the athletic life of JMU today.[96]

1913.

February 14, 1913. ***"Pretty School Girl Elopes From Normal"***

At around 6 a.m. Friday morning, student Lillian Campbell stole out of her first floor bedroom window in Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall) by means of a bed-sheet-rope and ran off with her fiancé (Thomas Berry) to be married in Washington, D.C. The incident caused a sensation, leaving the student body "shocked" and making headlines around the state.

That afternoon the faculty met to consider the case. The meeting, which lasted over seven hours and stretched past midnight, resulted in a unanimous decision to expel Miss Campbell. However, she was not expelled for eloping, as there was no specific rule against it. Instead, Campbell was dismissed for breaking "the specific and emphatic rule . . . that no student is to leave the school without permission."

Also involved in the matter were Campbell's two roommates, one of whom (Eloaise Berry) was the young man's sister. Both were found to have aided in Campbell's escape and were disciplined for their participation. Miss Berry was asked to withdraw "at once" from the school while the other roommate was handed a one year suspension, which began immediately.[97]

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[96] Field hockey teams were not pictured in the yearbook from 1916 to 1920. The only notable game that was apparently played during this period was on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1919 between the Junior and Senior teams. In 1921, the Junior and Senior hockey teams were pictured in the yearbook and hockey teams have been pictured ever since. Dingledine, 217, uses the title - Virginia Hockey Association Tournament - to describe the tournaments of the 1930s. Contemporary sources do not. Dingledine, 105, 204, 217; Johnston, 124; *The Schoolma'am* (1920): n.p.; *The Schoolma'am* (1925): n.p.

[97] The faculty meeting began at 4:50 p.m. and adjourned at 12:07 a.m. Two spellings of Miss Berry's first name appear in the historical record. In the majority of cases it is spelled Eloaise. However, in a couple of instances, it

March 25, 1913. ***Hillcrest: Plans Adopted***

School architect Charles Robinson submitted plans for the proposed president's residence (Hillcrest). The Board of Trustees approved the plans and appointed a committee to secure bids for the building's construction.[98]

May 1, 1913. ***First May Day Celebration • Hillcrest: Groundbreaking***

First May Day Celebration

On Thursday, May 1, the school held its first May Day celebration.

The event began with a student processional from Jackson Hall (Dormitory No. 1) to Maypole Hill (roughly the area opposite Keezell near the east end of Alumnae Hall). Here, seniors, surrounded by the student body, performed the Maypole dance, which consisted of circling the Maypole while intertwining ribbons of green and white (the senior class colors).

The dance was followed with the singing of May Day songs and the crowning of the first May Queen, senior class president Elizabeth Kelley. Then, the class song was performed and the students marched to the gym in Ashby Hall (Dormitory No. 2) to partake of games before heading to dinner.

The May Day celebration became an annual springtime tradition and continued for over half a century, ending in 1971 amid strident changes in social norms and customs.

Hillcrest: Groundbreaking

A special part of the festivities on this first May Day was a groundbreaking ceremony for the presidential home, later known as Hillcrest. The building would be completed in early 1914.[99]

June 1913. ***Jackson Hall: The First Burruss Hall***

Sometime shortly before graduation on June 10, the Class of 1913 received permission from the Board of Trustees to rename Dormitory No. 1 (now Jackson Hall) as Burruss Hall, in honor of President and Mrs. Burruss, the two of whom had been living on the second floor of the building since 1909. To mark the occasion the Class held a "solemn christening, breaking the bottle and performing other fitting ceremonies."

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appears as Eloise. *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 14 February 1913, pp. 255-257. For further (mostly minor) deliberations regarding the case, see pages 259, 260, 261, 263, 271, 273, 273, 325, and 327. "Pretty School Girl Elopes From Normal," [paper unknown], 15 February 1913, and "Two Girls Leave School," [paper unknown], 17 February 1913, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; Dingledine, 80; Jones, *Rooted*, 24.

[98] *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914,* entry date 25 March 1913, p. 67.

[99] Fred Hilton, "May Day's Crowning Glory Couldn't Escape Changing Social Climate," *Madison* 29, no. 2 (Spring 2006): 19; "Bluestone Journal: In the Merry Month of May," *Montpelier* (Spring 1998), <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/issues/spring98/journal.html> [21 May 2006]; "First May Day Held Quarter Century Ago," *The Breeze*, 6 May 1938; *The Schoolma'am* (1913); *The Normal Bulletin* 6, no. 3 (May 1914): 11; Dingledine, 106, 218.

Despite the honor, President Burruss objected to having a building named after a living person and a policy was soon adopted of naming buildings only after persons no longer living. Although the name was never officially adopted, the building would continue to be referred to as Burruss Hall until 1918, when it was formally renamed Jackson Hall.

Today's Burruss Hall was opened in 1953 as Burruss Science Hall and is currently home to the Biology and the Mathematics & Statistics departments.[100]

June 11, 1913. ***Hillcrest: Construction to Begin***

Exactly one year after the Board of Trustees had voted to build a permanent residence for the institution's president the building contract was awarded and construction was authorized to begin.

The building, later named Hillcrest because of its prominent location on the top of a hill, would be constructed by the same firm that had built the school's first three buildings, W.M. Bucher & Son. It would be completed in the spring of 1914.[101]

October 31, 1913. ***Laundry Fire!***

At around 10 o'clock Friday morning, while classes were in session, a boiler in the school's laundry building (a wooden shack located in the area behind where Moody Hall stands today) overheated and caused the roof to catch fire.

Students and faculty quickly rushed to the scene and managed to save all of the equipment – irons, ironing boards, tables – and all of the clothing. Meanwhile, the local fire department arrived in its new fire truck and was able to contain the blaze and save the building from total destruction. Total damages amounted to $368.68, but were completely covered by insurance.

For the students of the all-girl school, however, the most exciting element of the whole affair was the arrival of a large number of "men, real men," who had come "tearing across the campus" from all directions in response to the fire.[102]

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[100] Chappelear, 105; Margaret M. Prufer, "A History of the State Normal School at Harrisonburg," *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (October 1919): 213; Wayland, "Significant Incidents," 90; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 3, 10; Wayland, "Some Items," 2; *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entry date 9 June 1917, p. 176, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 6, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (September 1918): 257; Dingledine, 70; "Visit Guide."
[101] *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914,* entry date 11 June 1913, p. 71.
[102] Dingledine, 69, 91; "Normal Girls Write Story of the Fire," *Daily News-Record,* 31 October 1913, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1910-1914; *BOT, Minutes,* entry date 2 December 1913, p. 72; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill,* 24; "Fire at Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 1 November 1913; *The Schoolma'am* (1914): 21, 161.

1914.

January 31, 1914. ***Stratford Players Organized***

On Saturday, January 31, ten members from the Lee and Lanier Literary Societies joined together to form the core of a new student organization – the Stratford Literary Society.

A drama group, Stratford adopted the motto "All the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players" and soon began to give readings and performances of Shakespeare plays. The first was a program from *As You Like It* on February 21. This was followed in March by the group's participation in a joint presentation with the Lee and Lanier societies of *Alan a' Dale.*

In 1919, the society changed its name to the Stratford Dramatic Club and began presenting a theatrical performance each year at the New Virginia Theatre in downtown Harrisonburg.

The group officially became the Stratford Players on April 4, 1950 and continues to perform as part of JMU's School of Theatre and Dance. The Stratford Players represent the oldest student-run organization at JMU.[103]

February 15 - March 16, 1914. ***"The Dark Age"***

On Sunday night, February 15, a thirteen by five foot hole opened up in the dam of the city's hydro-electric plant. Located on the Shenandoah River, the plant was Harrisonburg's only source of electricity. When the dam burst, the plant shut down and the city, along with the school, was plunged into darkness. The school was without electricity for nearly a month, leading some students to dub the period "the Dark Age."

When the students learned that it would take some time to make repairs, they hopefully wondered "if study hours were to be abandoned" for the duration of the outage. To their chagrin, however, early the following morning, the school's matron, Mrs. Brooke, hurried to town to buy lanterns and lamps for the dormitories.

Evening studies and other school activities continued largely uninterrupted during the outage, thanks to the employment of some 200 oil lamps, many lanterns, and an untold number of candles. As one student lamented only two weeks into the affair, "We have not succeeded in getting out of one bit of school work." At night, lanterns were used to illuminate the campus' walkways and driveway.

Bad weather and the difficulty of the repairs delayed the restoration of power until the evening of March 16.[104]

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[103] *The Schoolma'am* (1914): 22, 23, 96; "Normal Student Writes Composition on 'Lights Out' in Womans College," *Daily News-Record,* 27 February 1914, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944; Scrapbook, 1932-1967,* entry date 4 April 1950, p. 168, Stratford Players Collection, SP 98-0211, Box 1, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 100.

March - May 1914. ***Hillcrest: Completed***

Sometime between the end of March and the end of May, Hillcrest, the presidential home, was completed and occupied.

Built at a cost of $14,800, Hillcrest would serve as the presidential home until 1977 when a more private off-campus residence was purchased.

Today, the historic building houses the offices of the Honor's Program and the General Education Program.[105]

March 7, 1914. ***"Snowball Warfare"***

On a snowy March afternoon students from the two dormitories engaged in a spirited snowball battle on campus.

For the confrontation, forts and defensive walls were built and ammunition (snowballs) was made. Faculty members James C. Johnston and Rhea Scott served as Generals of the opposing forces. Each side's battle flag fluttered in the breeze and stretchers stood ready to receive the wounded.

At 1:30 p.m., with drums beating, bugles blowing, and students shouting, the battle began. "The balls flew thick and fast, spattering and scattering everywhere."

At the end of the day, the victors of this "most extraordinary battle" were the students of Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall).[106]

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[104] The following *Daily News-Record* articles discuss the power outage and its impact on the school*:* "Serious Break At Power Plant Puts Harrisonburg in Darkness," 16 February 1914; "Winter Weather Makes Repair Work At Hydro-Electric Plant Very Slow," 17 February 1914; "Normal Student Writes Composition on 'Lights Out' in Womans College," 27 February 1914, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944;* "Normal School Notes," 4 March 1914, in *News Clippings, 1908-1944*; and "Lights Come On After 29 Nights," 17 March 1914. Wayland, "Sundry Items," 3; *The Schoolma'am* (1914): 22-23 (see yearbook timeline entries for 15 February and 16 March); Dingledine, 91; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 25.

[105] Interestingly, no exact date seems to be available for when Hillcrest was first occupied. The timeframe given here is based on a March 26 report by President Burruss which stated that the building was "nearly ready for occupancy" and the school's May catalog (no exact date of publication) which included a photograph of a seemingly completed building. See, Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Board of Trustees, 26 March 1914, p. 3, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19 and *The Normal Bulletin* 7 no. 3 (May 1914): immediately following page 16. *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914*, entry date 11 June 1913, p. 71; Dingledine, 291, Chapter 4, footnote 12. Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 54, mistakenly cites 1986 as the year Hillcrest was last used as the president's home. However, on page 175, Jones correctly cites 1977 as the date the school purchased a new, off campus presidential residence.

[106] "Battle at Normal School," *Daily News-Record*, 10 March 1914; Dingledine, 90; "Snow Battle" (photographs), *The Schoolma'am* (1914): n.p.

March 27, 1914. ***Institution's Second Name • Board of Trustees to Be Abolished***

Institution's Second Name

In March, the General Assembly passed a bill that dropped the term "industrial" from the names of the four state normal schools. As a result, the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg became simply the State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg.

Since the opening of the institution, the school had been commonly referred to as the Harrisonburg Normal School (H.N.S.). The acronym H.N.S. continued to be used until the next name change in 1924.

Board of Trustees to Be Abolished

The same bill also abolished the separate boards of trustees of the four normal schools (including Harrisonburg) and created the Virginia Normal School Board to take over administration of the schools. The change was to become effective on July 1.[107]

May 4, 1914. ***Harrison Hall: Groundbreaking***

At 10:10 a.m. Monday morning, the school gathered for its daily assembly in Science (Maury) Hall. Following a brief devotional and an address by President Burruss, the classes formed in a procession and marched to the open space between Dormitory No.1 (Jackson Hall) and Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall).

Here, students, faculty, and alumnae held a groundbreaking ceremony for the institution's fifth major building, the Students' Building (now Harrison Hall).

After opening the ceremony with the singing of "Ole Virginia," Senior Class president Alpha Holcombe delivered "a pretty little speech" then lifted her pick (a brand new one for this special occasion) and swung, breaking ground. The vice president of the Class, Virgie Buchanan, then shoveled out the first dirt. Class officers, the faculty, and representatives of the alumnae followed suit and by the end of the ceremony, which ended shortly after 11 a.m., a "sizeable hole" had been dug.

Before dispersing, the crowd joined together in singing the school's alma mater, "Bluestone Hill".

The new building, under contract with W.M. Bucher & Son, would be largely completed by the summer of 1915. It would provide space for administrative offices, a large dining hall-auditorium, and a new library.[108]

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[107] The Normal School Board became the Board of Virginia Teachers Colleges in 1924. In 1930, this Board was abolished and the College fell under the auspices of the State Board of Education. "Chapter 322: An Act to Create the Virginia Normal School Board . . . ," 27 March 1914, in *Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia; Session Which Commenced at the State Capital on Wednesday, January 14, 1914,* 567-577, Richmond, 1914. Dingledine, 49-50, 147, 150; Prufer, 205.

May 13, 1914. ***Cheers for the VMI Cadets***

On Wednesday morning, over 300 cadets from the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in Lexington, marched through Harrisonburg heading to New Market, about eighteen miles to the north. The occasion was the fiftieth anniversary of the Civil War battle that took place there on May 15, 1864 and in which 257 cadets had fought with the Confederacy, helping bring victory to the southern forces.

At around 8:15 a.m., the column of cadets arrived at the school where they were greeted with hearty cheers from the students, all of whom were "dressed in white, waving flags and wearing red bunting." Halting in front of the school (along what is today Main Street), the cadets right--faced and back-stepped.

With the cadets standing at attention facing the line of cheering girls across the road, around a dozen Civil War veterans who had fought in the 1864 Battle of New Market marched to the front of the column. The cadets then faced forward and continued their northward march.

The girls, meanwhile, dispersed and quickly made their way across the campus to Science (Maury) Hall for the first classes of the day, which began at 8:30.[109]

June 8, 1914. ***Harrison Hall: Laying of the Cornerstone***

On a sweltering afternoon in June (it was 100 degrees in the shade) the cornerstone for the Students' Building (Harrison Hall) was laid with full Masonic rites. The event, which was kicked off with a celebratory parade headed by the *Daily News* band, was part of the second day of that year's commencement exercises.

Students, faculty, and alumnae as well as a large number of local citizens were present. During a brief address, President Burruss dedicated the building to "the young women of Virginia."[110]

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[108] For some time the building was referred to interchangeably as the Dining Hall Building and the Students' Building. Some documents label it as the former, others the latter, and still others use both designations. A relatively detailed account of the groundbreaking can be found in, Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 4. The same account is also in, Wayland, "Sundry Items," 3-4. See also, Dingledine, 69-70, 108; *The Normal Bulletin* 6, no. 3 (May 1914): 11. One minor discrepancy should be noted: Dingledine credits the Class VP with shoveling out the first dirt, but Wayland gives this honor to Holcombe. The contract for the building had been awarded on April 28, 1914, see *Board of Trustees Minutes, 1908-1914,* entry date 28 April 1914, pp. 80-82 and "Harrisonburg Firm Gets Contract for Building at Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 29 April, 1914.

[109] Wayland, "Sundry Items," 4-5; Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 5; Dingledine, 91; Virginia Military Institute Archives, "The Battle of New Market, Virginia, May 15, 1864; Selected Online Resources from the VMI Archives," <http://www.vmi.edu/archives/Civil_War/cwnm.html> [8 August 2006].

[110] "Lay Cornerstone at Normal School" and "Hottest June Day," [paper unknown], 9 June 1914, in, *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; *The Normal Bulletin* 5, no. 3 (May 1913): 3.

July 1, 1914. ***Board of Trustees Dissolved***

The Board of Trustees, which had governed the school since its creation in 1908, was officially dissolved on July 1, shortly after the conclusion of the school's fifth year. At this time, control of the school was transferred to the recently created state agency, the Virginia Normal School Board.

The decision to abolish the Board had been made in March and when the school's yearbook, *The Schoolma'am*, was issued in early June it included a page thanking the Trustees for their "foresight" and "wise, sympathetic, and efficient leadership" which had effectively guided the school through its formative years.

Indeed, the Board's influence – on everything from choosing the school's location and electing its first president, to hiring the first faculty, authorizing the campus' quadrangle layout, and approving use of the native blue limestone for the buildings – had been crucial to firmly establishing JMU as a unique and long-lasting institution.[111]

November 1914. ***Distance Learning: The Department of Extension Work***

Since its beginning, extension work of varying sorts had been part of the Normal School's academic efforts. Initially, the school issued bulletins on various subjects and faculty members regularly traveled around the state giving lectures and demonstrations at other institutions and educational gatherings. In 1914, however, extension work efforts were significantly widened.

In what could be considered the forerunner of today's online, distance-learning courses, the school established the Department of Extension Work and inaugurated the first large-scale, systematic program for home-study correspondence courses in Virginia. This new program would allow interested individuals to take classes through the mail, free of charge! Certificates would be awarded for successful completion of the course and the final exam.

The program, however, drew insufficient interest and proved a burden on the faculty (who received no extra-pay while having to maintain their regular teaching loads) and was discontinued after only a few years.[112]

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[111] The Board reportedly met for the final time on commencement day, June 9, to wrap up its affairs. However, the last meeting recorded in the minutes of the Board was for 28 April 1914, see, *Board of Trustees Minutes, 1908-1914,* entry date 28 April 1914, pp. 80-82. The terms of the members expired on June 19. "Harrisonburg Firm Gets Contract for Building at Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 29 April, 1914; Dingledine, 49-50; "Our Board of Trustees," *The Schoolma'am* (1914): 6; Prufer, 205; "Report and By-Laws: Virginia Normal School Board, July 1st, 1914 – January 1st, 1916," (Petersburg, VA: Virginia Normal School Board, 15 January 1916), in *Burruss, Julian A.,1909-1918, & News Releases,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

[112] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 1 February 1910, pp. 49-53; "Normal Enlarges Extension Work," [paper unknown], 3 December 1914, in, *News Clippings, 1908-1944,* Folder 1909-1914; Dingledine, 60; *The Normal Bulletin* 6, no. 4 (November 1914); Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 15 April 1915, pp. 11-12, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19.

November 2, 1914. ***A Budding Suffragette***

When history professor John W. Wayland took his civics class on a field trip to the local polling center on November 2, 1914 to see first hand the mechanics of voting, women in the United States were still some six years away from having the right to vote.

Nonetheless, one young lady from the class, perhaps taking the spirit of the professor's belief in "learning by doing" a little farther than he had intended, "calmly took up a ballot," filled it out, "and was in the act of putting it into the box, when she was interrupted by the unsympathetic election official."

This budding suffragette reportedly "went away more determined than ever" to someday exercise the right which she had just been denied.[113]

1915.

February 18, 1915. ***Application for Student Government***

Through years of deliberations and conferences between the faculty and the student body, the original Honor System adopted during the first session in 1910 evolved and eventually developed into a broader system of student government.

During a two hour meeting on February 18, the faculty considered, slightly amended, and then approved the constitution and by-laws for self-government recently submitted by the student body.[114]

February 25, 1915. ***Student Government Inaugurated***

On Thursday, February 25, the first student government body, the Student Association, was officially created. The Student Association's purpose was to "preserve student honor," regulate student conduct, and enforce the institution's regulations.

Agness Stribling, head of the Honor Committee and Student Body President, was chosen as the Association's first president.[115]

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[113] *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* release dated 10 November 1914, p. 2, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.
[114] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915,* entry date 18 February 1915, p. 383. A copy of the constitution and by-laws is available in the cited source.
[115] Wayland, "Sundry Items," 6; Dingledine, 72-73; "Student Government," *The Schoolma'am* (1915): n.p.

June 7, 1915. ***Harrison Hall: First Meal in the New . . . Library?***

By the spring of 1915, after more than a year of construction work, most of the Students' Building (Harrison Hall) had been completed, with the notable exception of the building's primary feature, its dining hall facilities.

This meant that when alumnae and guests gathered in the new building for the annual Alumnae (Alumni) Association banquet on the evening before graduation, they ate not in the new dining hall, but in the new library room on the first floor.

The dining hall would not be used for its intended purpose until the fall of 1916.[116]

August 1915. ***Harrison Hall: New Library, Offices and Auditorium . . . But No Dining Hall***

With the two main floors of the new Students' Building (Harrison Hall) completed, the formal occupation of the building got underway in August 1915.

New Library

On the west wing of the first floor was a large room that would serve as the school's new library. The previous library facilities, located in a first floor classroom in Maury (Science) Hall, could only accommodate forty students and had been described as "inadequate" as early as the fall of 1911. Further, since 1913, all available shelf space had been filled and there were many instances where books were shelved up to three deep.

The new library was more than double the size of the original, measuring approximately 62 ½' by 50', and had seats for ninety-eight students. Increased shelf space helped to alleviate the overcrowded conditions and facilitated the growth of the library's holdings. Between August 9 and August 31, just as the new space was first being put to use, the library recorded its largest monthly increase in new titles of the first few decades with the addition of 496 new books. The total number of volumes in the library at the end of August was approximately 3,800.

The library staff consisted of one full-time librarian (Mary I. Bell) who was aided by several student assistants.[117]

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[116] According to the school's March 1915 catalog, the building was "just being completed" at the time it was issued. See, *The Normal Bulletin* 7, no. 2 (March 1915): 2. See also, the 1915 commencement program card, in, *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*, which gives the location of the banquet as the library. "Wayland, "Significant Incidents," 89, mentions the event, but erroneously states that it was held in the new dining hall. Dingledine, 70, 113.

[117] The library's accession book listed 3,878 volumes. However, due to lost or withdrawn titles (which were not marked in the accession books), the actual number of books in the library was likely something slightly less than 3,800. No exact count appears to be available for this timeframe. Based on available evident, there were probably three student assistants at the time. Julian Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 15 November 1911, p. 3, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19; *Library Accession Books, 1909-1937,* v. 1; Prufer, 212; Samuel P. Duke, Annual Report to the State Board of Education, 27 July 1933, p.2 , in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1927-1934*, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 4, Binder 1927-7/1934, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. Dingledine, 69.

Offices and Auditorium . . . But No Dining Hall

On the east wing were several administrative offices, including the president's office, the registrar's office, the post office, and a faculty room.

The entire second floor was given over to a single, large, partitionable room which would serve as the school's dining hall as well as its auditorium.

Although the dual-use room was complete (and would see use as an auditorium) it would not be used as a dining hall until late 1916 because financial constraints delayed the construction of the archway section behind the building, which was to house the kitchen and storerooms.[118]

1916.

January 1916. *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number*

The school's first publication was its catalog, *The Normal Bulletin,* issued in February 1909. Seven years later, in January 1916, the school began publication of a *Magazine Number* of the *Normal Bulletin.*

Distinct from the catalog issues of the *Bulletin*, this new publication was designed as an educational quarterly. Its content consisted primarily of scholarly articles (written by members of the faculty, other educators, and occasionally students of the school) and book and magazine reviews.

Also, to help former students keep in touch with school happenings, it featured sections on school news and alumnae activities. (It is worth noting that this feature inadvertently produced a very rich historical record of the school's early years.)
As with the catalog issues of *The Normal Bulletin,* the magazine numbers were replaced in 1920 by *The Virginia Teacher.*[119]

January - June 1916. *Shakespeare: Year of the Playwright*

While student enthusiasm for the works of William Shakespeare had been ever present since the opening of the school in 1909, no period matched that of the winter and spring quarters of 1916.

In January, the Stratford Players (Stratford Literary Society) kicked off the year's Shakespeare festivities with "Shades of Shakespeare," a mosaic of famous Shakespeare characters in their

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[118] Julian Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 15 December 1915, p. 2, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19; Julian Burruss, Annual Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 30 June 1916, p. 1, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19; Dingledine, 69-70.
[119] *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (January 1916): 117; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* release dated 19 January 1916; Dingledine, 81.

most famous scenes. Two months later, in March, there was a production of the play *The Comedy of Errors*.

In April, students observed the anniversary of Shakespeare's birth and began taking up a collection to raise money to buy and plant on campus "all the shrubs and plants mentioned by Shakespeare that we can reasonably hope to coax to grow here."

On May 13, the Shakespearean troupe the Coburn Players made their final appearance at the school (fame on Broadway beckoned them) with an evening performance of *Richard III* in the school's open air theatre. At the end of the month, the school was home to a massive two-day Shakespeare pageant in recognition of the 300th anniversary of the playwright's death.

On June 2, the Senior class performed *The Winters Tale* as part of the commencement exercises. The Class of 1916 presented the school with a bust of Shakespeare. The student yearbook, the *Schoolma'am,* was dedicated to the playwright's spirit and included a whimsical five-page "Encyclopedia Shakespeariana." Also, the first letter of each entry in the yearbook's traditional calendar of red-letter days was used to spell out WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

Shakespeare was everywhere that year, and as Nancy Hufford Furrow (Class of 1916) later recalled, "we literally ate, drank, and dreamed Shakespeare for months."[120]

February 9-16, 1916. ***Little Heat, Much Cold: The 1916 Boiler Breakdown***

During the second week of February 1916, the school's heating plant, which consisted of two small boilers in the basement of Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall), partially failed and left the campus inhabitants shivering for a week.

On Wednesday evening, February 9, one of the boilers had to be shut down due to mechanical problems. The next day President Burruss sent an urgent request for repair parts. The remaining boiler, meanwhile, was being heavily taxed by its lone efforts to heat the campus' buildings.

When it began to succumb on Thursday evening, President Burruss and a school employee had to spend most of the night in the boiler room tending to the struggling machine in an effort to keep it running. They were successful, but on Friday the buildings were still uncomfortably cold, forcing the early dismissal of some classes.

On Sunday evening, the 13th, there was more trouble with the boiler as "a leak of some consequence" had developed. Again Burruss and the employee stayed with the boiler most of the evening and again they were successful in keeping it going. Monday and Tuesday, however, saw the weather conspire against their efforts by taking a turn for the worse.

Snow and ice blanketed the campus and a North wind pushed temperatures down to two degrees above zero. The buildings were reported to be "in bad shape for heat" and the number of

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[120] *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1916): 187; Hudson, 121; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* release dated 15 April 1916; *The Schoolma'am* (1916): n.p.; Nancy H. Furrow quoted in, "Letters from MC Alumnae," in "Madison College, 50th Anniversary Edition," *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1959.

students succumbing to tonsillitis and colds was growing. Classes were cut short on the 14th and cancelled completely the next day when all available heat was transferred to the dorms.

On the 16th, temperatures began to rise and classes were resumed. The much needed repair parts, however, still had not arrived.[121]

March 21, 1916. ***Bachelor's Degrees Authorized***

On this date, the Virginia General Assembly authorized the State Normal School Board (the school's governing body) to grant degrees in education.

The Assembly's action represented a major academic turning point for it opened the door for the institution to offer, for the first time in its history, a four-year degree – the Bachelor of Science in Education. Previously, only two-year diplomas and certificates for completion of the various courses of study (which consisted largely of high school level work) could be offered.

Although the option to award degrees had been made available, it was only the first step. The May 1916 issue of the school's catalog announced the authorization, but also stated that provision for the degree would be made "as soon as the demand seems to justify it." Thus, the B.S. degree would not become part of the curriculum until the 1917-1918 school year.[122]

May 10, 1916. ***First Academic Costume Worn • Spotswood Hall: Groundbreaking***

First Academic Costume Worn

On Wednesday morning the entire student body, dressed in white dresses, gathered in the auditorium of the Students' Building (Harrison Hall). After music and song, the faulty marched into the auditorium wearing full academic costume – caps, gowns, and hoods.

Having decided several weeks earlier to begin wearing the costume for commencement and other special occasions, this was the first time the faculty had donned their academic regalia. Following brief chapel exercises, a procession was formed.

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[121] The heating plant failure is chronicled in several letters written by President Julian Burruss to Richard B. Davis, Chairman of the Virginia Normal School Board, during the crisis. In them, he relates events at the school, but also uses the problem to demonstrate the need for an upgraded heating plant, something Burruss had been seeking for some time. See letters dated 14, 15, and 16 February 1916, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 4, Folder 215. A brief mention of the problem was made during a faculty meeting, see, *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entry dated 10 February 1916, p. 43. Chappelear, 105, gives the heating plant's location during this period as the basement of Ashby Hall.

[122] "Chapter 434: An Act to Amend and Re-enact Section 2 of the Act of the General Assembly entitled An Act to Create the Virginia Normal School Board . . . ," 21 March 1916, in *Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia; Session Which Commenced at the State Capital on January 12, 1916,* 749-750, Richmond, 1916. Dingledine, 60; *The Normal Bulletin* 8, no. 4 (May 1916): 37.

Spotswood Hall: Groundbreaking

The procession, led by President Burruss and the faculty with students following in class order, marched from Harrison across the campus to a site directly opposite of Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall).

Here, with a swing of the pick, Senior Class President Elizabeth Greaves broke ground for the school's sixth building, Dormitory No. 3 (now Spotswood Hall). The first shovelful of dirt was then lifted out by Senior Class Vice President Esther Hubbard. The digging continued as Greaves and Hubbard were followed first by other class officers and then members of the faculty.

A month later, the building's cornerstone was laid and by the spring quarter of 1917 it was ready for occupancy.[123]

May 25-26, 1916. *Shakespeare: Pageant*

For two days in May 1916, the campus was home to what the local paper described as a "magnificent" Shakespearean festival commemorating the 300th anniversary of the playwright's death.

In the afternoon of Thursday, May 25, local school children performed sketches and scenes of William Shakespeare's plays in the campus' open-air auditorium (no longer in existence) behind Science (Maury) Hall. This was followed by the May Day celebrations which included the maypole dance, more plays, country dances, folk songs, and games from the Elizabethan period.

Around 5 p.m., the event's participants gathered for a group photo, which consisted of over 180 costumed individuals.

After the photograph, a grand procession of between 700 to 1,000 people (most dressed in period costume) was formed. The parade left the gates of the Normal School and headed downtown to Court Square. Stretching over half a mile, the procession merrily made its way along Main Street, which was lined with cars, carriages, and hundreds of onlookers.

On the 26th, the students of the Normal School held the final day of pageantry. Dressed in costumes made by the sewing class, each class and the three literary societies performed abridged versions of selected Shakespeare plays in the outdoor auditorium. Selections included *Julius Caesar*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Performances were interspersed with dances, ballads, and games.

During the two-day event, famous Shakespeare characters such as Romeo and Juliet, Queen Elizabeth, and Hamlet roamed the campus. There were also special features: an Elizabethan tea,

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[123] Dingledine, 70, states that Spotswood was the fifth major building erected on campus. He apparently was not counting Hillcrest among the major buildings. *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (July 1916): 280; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* news releases dated 13 and 19 May 1916; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 7; Wayland, Letter to President Duke, 7; Dingledine, 108.

which kicked off the festivities, was given by students of the Household Arts department who were "dressed in quaint inn-maid costumes"; an archery range inhabited by Robin Hood and his merry men; and a Shakespearean-era feast prepared by the school's cooking class.

Some 700 people participated in the various plays and representations while over 3,000 people from Harrisonburg and the surrounding counties reportedly attended this "fascinating and inspiring" event.[124]

June 2-5, 1916. ***Seventh-Year Commencement Program Begins***

Commencement exercises for the year 1915-1916 were reflective of the extended nature of the event during the school's early years.

Commencement began on Friday evening, June 2, with the presentation of a Senior Class play, Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale.* On Saturday, there was a tennis tournament in the morning followed by a music recital in the evening. At 11 a.m. on Sunday morning, June 4, the students and faculty gathered at the local Methodist church for the traditional commencement sermon. On Monday, from 3 to 8 p.m., student work was exhibited in Science (Maury) Hall.[125]

June 5, 1916. ***Spotswood Hall: Laying of the Cornerstone***

Cornerstone laying ceremonies for the school's third residence hall, Dormitory No. 3 (Spotswood Hall) were incorporated into the year's commencement exercises.

At 5 p.m. on Monday, the day before graduation, the cornerstone was laid with full Masonic rites by the Rockingham Union Lodge No. 27 A.F. & A.M. Faculty (in caps and gowns), students (in white dresses), numerous alumnae, some 125 Masons from around the Valley, as well as a large crowd of local citizens were present for the event.

The building would be ready for use in spring 1917.[126]

June 6, 1916. ***First Graduation Commencement Held on Campus***

At 8:30 p.m., a procession of faculty and students formed between Science (Maury) Hall and Hillcrest and marched across campus to the Students' Building (Harrison Hall). Here the final graduation exercises took place in the school's new, more spacious auditorium which had opened the previous summer.

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[124] A copy of the Shakespeare Pageant event program is available in, *Drama: Class and Other Student Plays*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. See also, the dedication page and "Shakespeare Pageant" in, *The Schoolma'am* (1916): n.p.; "Shakespeare Pageant," *The Schoolma'am* (1933): n.p.; "Thousands Join in Doing Honor to Shakespeare," *Daily News-Record,* 26 May 1916; "Brilliant Scenes at Pageant's End," *Daily News-Record,* 27 May 1916; *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entry date 29 May 1916, p. 83; *The Normal Bulletin* 8 no. 5 (July 1916): 276; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 8; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* release dated 3 June 1916; Dingledine, 109-110.

[125] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940.*

[126] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; "Lay Cornerstone At State Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 6 June 1916.

Following the main address by Reverend D.J. O'Connell, D.D. of the Catholic diocese of Richmond, President Burruss presented diplomas to the sixty-eight graduates.

This was the first time that the graduation ceremony had been conducted on the school grounds. For the first several years graduation was held in Assembly Hall at the Harrisonburg courthouse. In 1915, the exercises were moved to the New Virginia Theatre downtown which had opened in January 1914.[127]

October 21, 1916. ***The Birth of A Nation***

Since the opening of the school, consistent efforts had been made by the faculty to expose students to a wide range of entertainments and activities, such as lectures, concerts, plays, and films. So, when the opportunity presented itself in October 1916 for the students to view, free of charge, the latest in grand cinematic entertainment, plans were made.

On Saturday afternoon, October 21, the entire school marched downtown to the New Virginia Theatre to attend a matinee showing of a film President Wilson had called "history writ with lightning" – D. W. Griffith's *The Birth of a Nation*.[128]

November 29, 1916. ***Harrison Hall: Dining Hall Opens***

More than two years after work on the Students' Building (Harrison Hall) had begun, the building's primary component – the dining hall – was finally ready for use.

The major sections of the building, those housing the library, offices, and the dining hall-auditorium, had been completed and put to use the previous summer. Lack of funds, however, had delayed completion of the archway section behind the building (called the service building at the time) which was to house the kitchen and storerooms. This, in turn, postponed usage of the dining hall.

It was not until early November 1916 that the service building was complete enough to allow the dining-hall and kitchen equipment to be moved from the basement of Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall). After the move was completed, the new dining-hall, later called the Bluestone Dining Hall, opened for use on Wednesday, November 29.

Although the main building and its archway were largely complete and functional at this point, construction of certain sections of both would continue until the spring of 1919. The cost of the building was approximately $63,500.

Additions to the rear of Harrison were made in 1920-1921 and 1928.[129]

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[127] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; Dingledine, 113; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 8; "Normal Finals Come to Close," *Daily News-Record,* 7 June 1916; "Fifteen Hundred People Present on Opening Day of New Virginia Theatre," *Daily News-Record,* 27 January 1914.

[128] *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921*, entry date 12 October 1916, p. 107; *The Normal Bulletin* 9, no. 4 (May 1917): 111; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (October 1916): 372; Dingledine, 92.

[129] The contract for the building had been awarded on April 28, 1914. See *Board of Trustees Minutes, 1908-1914,* entry date 28 April 1914, pp. 80-82 and "Harrisonburg Firm Gets Contract for Building at Normal," *Daily News-*

December 19, 1916. ***First Faculty Death***

On Tuesday evening, December 19, faculty member Annie V. Cleveland passed away at Rockingham Memorial Hospital. She was sixty-eight years old.

Cleveland was a member of the original faculty, having been the last one hired before the school opened in September 1909. For seven years she served as an assistant in both English and Foreign Languages (French).

"Miss Annie," as she was often called, was much loved by the students and the faculty. She was described as a women of "sweet sincerity, kindly humor, and gentle courtesy" in the 1915 school yearbook, which was dedicated to her. In 1917 the school's Cottage (the original Newman farmhouse) was renamed Cleveland Cottage in her honor.

Annie was one of three Cleveland's on the original faculty roster. There was also her younger sister, Elizabeth P. Cleveland, who taught English and literature and for whom Cleveland Hall is named, and their cousin Lida Cleveland, who was the school's first music instructor. For the first year the school was open, the three ladies lived together in the Cottage. Annie, however, resided there until her death.

A memorial service was held on Sunday afternoon, January 14, 1917, in the school auditorium.[130]

1917.

January 13, 1917. ***Joan of Arc: "An Inspiration to All Womankind"***

During a special Saturday morning assembly in the Students' Building (now Harrison Hall), President and Mrs. Burruss presented the school with a statute of the French heroine, Joan of Arc.

The life-size statue, a plaster cast of an 1870 marble statue by sculptor Henri Chapu, depicts Joan dressed in simple peasant garb, sitting demurely with hands clasped, tilting her head upward, listening to the divine voices of the saints that would soon compel her to take up arms to save France.

Record, 29 April, 1914. The basement of Harrison was completed by mid-April 1919 and the second floor of the service building (or archway) was finished soon after. Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Executive Committee of the Virginia Normal School Board, 9 October 1916, p.1. See also, the following reports by President Burruss to the Virginia Normal School Board: 20 January 1917, p.1; 30 June 1917, p.1; and 12 April 1919, p.2, in, *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19. "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA."; Dingledine, 70, 131, 138.

[130] Dingledine, 28, 38, 70; "Miss Annie Cleveland Dies," *Daily News-Record,* 20 December 1916; "Memorial at Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 15 January 1917; *The Schoolma'am* (1915); "Memorial Exercises in Honor of Miss Annie V. Cleveland," *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1917): 138-152; Memorial Service program available in, *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921*, entry date 14 January 1917, p.138..

The statue was a fitting and timely gift, being given to an all-female school whose country would soon be plunged into war in Europe. In his presentation speech, President Burruss stated his intent that the statue "should serve to inspire every young woman who sees it . . . with faith and hope and courage." Joan was placed prominently in Harrison Hall's foyer, where she could be seen by all.

During the next few years, Joan would become an important icon to many students, but over time she would be largely forgotten. By the early seventies, Joan had fallen victim to student graffiti, aging, and general neglect, and found herself stuffed away in storage. In 1978, she was almost sold at auction.

Fortunately, restoration efforts in 1996 revived the statue to its original splendor and today Joan resides quietly on the first floor of Carrier Library, gracing the building's original lobby with a touch of the past.[131]

February 23, 1917. ***The Smith-Hughes Act and Home Economics***

In 1917, Congress passed the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act to provide federal funds for the advancement of education in home economics, agriculture, and trades; all of which were then deemed as essential components of a good public school education for women.

The Harrisonburg Normal School (H.N.S.) was a pioneer in the area of home economics, being one of the first school's in Virginia to emphasize a home economics education. The school had been offering a two-year course in Household Arts (which became Home Economics in 1918) since it opened in 1909. Beginning with the 1917-1918 school year, a four-year degree course in Home Economics was begun and in early 1918, the school opened the first Home Economics practice house in the state.

In 1918, as a result of the strong program that had been developed, H.N.S was selected as one of only two institutions in Virginia (the other being William and Mary in Williamsburg) to receive Smith-Hughes funds to train teachers and supervisors of home economics.

Receipt of these funds, which began arriving by July 1918, would contribute to the continued growth of the Home Economics department at the school, helping to create one of the best programs in the South.[132]

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[131] *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1917): 170-173; Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 8; *The Schoolma'am* (1919); Dingledine, 109; "Normal Notes," *Daily News-Record,* 3 May 1918. For a nice synopsis of the statue and its life at JMU, see, August Smith, "Joan of Arc," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/joan.shtml> [2 May 2006].

[132] In October 1917, President Burruss presented a comprehensive argument in favor of the school receiving Smith-Hughes funds to the Virginia Normal School Board. See, Julian A. Burruss, Letter to the Virginia Normal School Board, 20 October 1917, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19. According to financial statements contained within a report by President Burruss, the first amount received under the Act was $2,533.52. See, Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 1 July 1918, in *President's Reports to Board of Trustees & Virginia Normal School Board, 1909-1926*, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 4, Binder 1909-1926, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

March 20, 1917. ***Spotswood Hall: Ready for Occupancy***

By the time the 1917 spring quarter began on March 20, the school's sixth building, Dormitory No. 3 (Spotswood Hall), was ready for occupancy. The new dormitory had thirty-eight student bedrooms and one room for the chaperone. There was also the standard reception room.

Located directly across the Quad from Dormitory No. 2 (Ashby Hall), the building had been constructed by the same local firm that had built the school's other buildings, W.M. Bucher & Son. Many of the stones used in its construction were quarried on campus, only a short distance across the Quad. By the time it was completed and furnished, costs had slightly exceeded $50,000.

Named in June 1917 for Alexander Spotswood, the colonial Governor of Virginia who led the first English expedition into the Shenandoah Valley, Spotswood Hall was the first building to be constructed on the north side of the Quad. It was also the last major building to be constructed under the tenure of President Burruss, who would resign in a little over two years.

Spotswood continues to serve as a residence hall to this day.[133]

April 6, 1917. ***WWI: "The Normal Goes to War"***

On April 6, the United States formally entered the war that had been raging in Europe since 1914. The nation did not enter the fray alone, however. Back in Harrisonburg, at the State Normal School for Women (JMU), students and faculty were already pitching in.

Starting in March and carrying over through April, the school undertook its first war-related activities. During this period students organized classes in first aid training (in conjunction with Rockingham Memorial Hospital) and began making surgical garments and dressings for the Red Cross.

These activities were just the beginning. For the duration of the conflict, "a whole-souled patriotism" (as professor John Wayland would later write) was present on the campus and faculty and students continuously participated in special war-related classes, held fundraising events, and marched in local parades in support of the war effort.[134]

Pearl Powers Moody, "Smith-Hughes Teacher Training in Home Economics at Harrisonburg," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 117-119; Julian A. Burruss, "Federal Aid for Home Economics," *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (January 1919): 10; [author unknown, but likely Raymond Dingledine, Sr.], "The Home Economics Department of Madison College," 1 March 1941, p. 2, in *Home Economics*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 63, 195.

[133] Only the second floor was completed and occupied at the start of the spring quarter. The entire building was not finished until May. See, Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 30 June 1917, p. 1, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19. *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* news release dated 19 August 1916; Dingledine, 70, 108; Chappelear, 102-103.

[134] John W. Wayland, "The Harrisonburg State Normal School In Relation to the World War, 1914-1918," 1-2, in *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA., (hereafter cited as Wayland, "WWI"). A condensed version of this Wayland article appears in *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1918): 173-175. Dingledine, 92-93.

April 21, 1917. ***School Receives Authorization To Award Bachelors Degrees***

In the spring of 1916, the General Assembly had given the Virginia Normal School Board (the school's governing body) the power to confer degrees in education. It was not until April 1917, however, that the school itself was officially granted permission to do so.

At a meeting of the Board held on Saturday, April 21, President Burruss made a formal request for authorization "to offer a four year course of professional training leading to the B.S. degree." Burruss's request was "moved, seconded and carried."

The following month, on May 17, the faculty met and discussed tentative outlines for the new four-year courses that were to be offered beginning with the next school year (1917-1918).[135]

May 10, 1917. ***Campus Clean-Up Day***

On Thursday, May 10, classes were cancelled so everyone could participate in the first campus "clean-up and planting day." At 8 a.m., groups of students and faculty spread out over the campus and began plowing and hoeing, planting flowers and crops, weeding, pushing wheelbarrows, and picking up trash.

At noon, when the tasks were completed, there was "a grand march of the workers around the campus" to Maypole hill. Here, lunch was served by students of the Household Arts department. In the afternoon, various recreational activities were enjoyed. The highlight was a baseball game between students from town and female faculty members (the faculty lost).[136]

May 23, 1917. ***"The Notebook": School News with a Humorous Twist***

Several years before publication of the first school newspaper, *The Breeze*, began, another publication made a brief appearance. It was called *The Notebook* and was included as an insert in the 1917 school yearbook.

The Notebook was a "newspaper-style" publication with contents that were admittedly "far from serious." The paper consisted primarily of humorous articles on school happenings, jokes, and poems.

Prepared by members of the school's literary societies (and edited by the yearbook staff), *The Notebook* traced its roots back to the oral readings of school news, fun stories, and so on, that had been part of the societies' public meetings since they began in 1909.

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[135] Julian A. Burruss, Letter to the Virginia Normal School Board, 21 April 1917, p.4, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945,* Box 1, Folder 19; *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entry date 17 May 1917, p. 173.

[136] Dingledine, 107; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* release dated 19 May 1917; "Clean-Up Day," *The Notebook,* 23 May 1917, in, *The Schoolma'am* (1917).

The Notebook, which ran from four to eight pages in length, was printed annually in the yearbook until 1923 when it was replaced by an annual supplement of *The Breeze*.[137]

June 5, 1917. ***Campus Buildings First Named in Honorarium***

During the evening commencement exercises on Tuesday, June 5, President Burruss announced the results of balloting done earlier that day by approximately 400 members of the student body, faculty, and alumnae to choose official, permanent names for the school's major buildings.

- Science Hall became Maury Hall in honor of noted Virginia scientist and oceanographer Matthew Fontaine Maury.
- Dormitory No. 2 was renamed Ashby Hall after Confederate General Turner Ashby who was killed on June 6, 1862 a few miles from campus.
- Dormitory No. 3 became Spotswood Hall after Alexander Spotswood, colonial Governor of Virginia and leader of the first English expedition into the Shenandoah Valley, in 1716.
- Students' Building became Harrison Hall in honor of Gessner Harrison, University of Virginia professor, author, and Harrisonburg native.
- The Cottage (the old Newman farmhouse which came with the original land purchase) was renamed Cleveland Cottage in honor of Annie V. Cleveland, a member of the original faculty who had lived in the Cottage and died the previous year. This was the first school building to be officially named after someone associated with the institution. It was razed in 1959 to make way for the construction of Moody Hall.

One prominent building, however, was not renamed at this time – Dormitory No. 1 (now Jackson Hall). In 1913, the Class of that year had dubbed the building Burruss Hall, after President and Mrs. Burruss. But, President Burruss objected to this and a policy was adopted which barred the naming of buildings after living persons.

Due to the Class of 1913's close ties to the building, it was decided to postpone the renaming of the dormitory until June 1918, when the Class would meet for its fifth reunion. At this time they would be given the honor of choosing the new name.[138]

July - August 1917. ***WWI: Summer School Raises Money for the "Common Cause"***

Students attending the 1917 summer session conducted various "entertainments" to raise money for the war effort, including a July 4th patriotic pageant.

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[137] *The Notebook,* 23 May 1917, in, *The Schoolma'am* (1917); "School Publications," *The Schoolma'am* (1923): n.p.; Dingledine, 101-102, 212.

[138] Julian A. Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 30 June 1917, p. 2, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19; *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921*, entry dated 5 June 1917, pp. 175, 177; Dingledine, 70; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (July 1917): 254-256; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (September 1918): 257; *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entries dated: 5 June 1917, pp. 175, 177; and 9 June 1917, p. 176. Wayland, "Some Items," 2; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 3, 10; Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 10; "Major Buildings," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/major_buildings.shtml> [8 January 2006].

The pageant, held on July 6 in the school's outdoor theatre behind Maury Hall, lasted two and a half hours and included impersonations of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, depictions of a Red Cross unit and munitions workers, and an "aeroplane" made by students in the Manual Arts classes.

The students were able to raise $114.22, which they proudly donated to the local chapter of the Red Cross. The money was used to buy "sweaters, pajamas, and hospital shirts and three boxes of surgical dressings which were sent to France."[139]

September 1917 - June 1918. ***Bachelor's Degrees First Offered • WWI: School War Efforts***

Bachelor's Degrees First Offered

Students entering the State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg for the 1917-1918 session in September were the first to be offered the opportunity of pursuing a bachelor's degree at the school. Two Bachelor of Science degrees in Education were offered: High School Teaching and Administration and Household-Industrial Arts for Advanced Teaching and Supervision.

Seventeen students (6% of the student body) were enrolled in degree courses for the 1917 fall quarter.

The following year (1918-1919), the degree in Household-Industrial Arts became the Home Economics degree and a new degree course in Elementary Teaching and Supervision was added.

The first B.S. degrees were awarded in June 1919.

School War Efforts

The school's ninth year also saw the introduction of numerous war-related courses and activities in reaction to the country's direct involvement in World War One. In many cases, the school's regular courses were altered to have more of a war focus and students and faculty regularly participated in patriotic parades and bought war bonds.

Early in the session students formed an auxiliary of the Red Cross which met every Saturday and made sweaters and bandages. Throughout the year, special classes and programs in food conservation and "war recipes" were offered. Hundreds of "trench candles" were made by the Manual Arts classes. Students in the Household Arts department focused on making bandages and hospital garments and also formed a "knitting club" to make clothing for soldiers.

Raising money for the war was also an important activity and by the end of the school year faculty and students had purchased over $5,100 worth of Liberty Bonds and $360 worth of Thrift Stamps.

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[139] The summer quarter began on June 11 and ended on August 30. *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1918): 173; Wayland, "WWI," 2; "Patriotic Pageant Tonight," *Daily News-Record,* 6 July 1917; "Patriotic Pageant Given At Summer Normal School," *Daily News-Record,* 7 July 1917.

During the war, the school was forced to adjust the way it used paper. Prior to the war, students had generally been allowed to write on only one side of the sheet. However, during the conflict, paper became rather scarce and markedly more expensive. Thus, students were allowed to "use both sides for the sake of economy." This change became a habit and continued after the war.

Finally, according to historian and school professor, John W. Wayland, students and faculty of the Normal School would participate in "every parade, demonstration, and patriotic rally that took place in Harrisonburg during the war." The two of the most notable would take place in April and May 1918.[140]

December 1917. ***WWI: Christmas Boxes***

Just before Christmas, students packed 120 boxes of various items for the soldiers fighting in Europe. Thirty-five of the boxes were paid for by the students.[141]

1918.

January 1918. ***First School Dean • First "Practice House" in Virginia***

First School Dean

William T. Sanger became the first dean of the school in early 1918. Sanger had originally come to the school in 1913 to teach during the summer terms. Three years later, he became regular faculty as a professor of Psychology and Education. In 1917, he became head of the Education Department.

In 1919, Sanger resigned to accept the deanship of his alma mater, Bridgewater College. He was replaced in September by Walter J. Gifford who served until 1954.

First "Practice House" in Virginia

In December 1917, the school had rented the Smythe House (then located adjacent to campus along South Main Street in the area between the present-day Music Building and Duke Hall) to serve as a practice house for its Home Economics students

Working on a tight budget, students and faculty made renovations and acquired the necessary furniture and equipment, most of which was made by the students or taken from other departments. By January 1918, the first Home Economics practice house in the state of Virginia was ready for use.

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[140] *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (October 1917): 358; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (October 1918): 361; *The Normal Bulletin* 9, no. 4, (May 1917): 40-41, 53, 57; *The Normal Bulletin* 10, no. 4, (May 1918): 53, 61; Dingledine, 61, 92-94; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 15; Wayland, "WWI," 2-4.
[141] Wayland, "WWI," 2; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1918): 174; Dingledine, 93.

Each quarter, six Household Arts seniors would live and work here, practicing what they would someday be teaching. On a rotating basis, each was required to perform the duties of maid, dishwasher, cook, and housekeeper/homemaker.

In April 1921, the school bought the two-acre Smythe property and converted the house into a dormitory, forcing the practice house facilities to be temporarily quartered in various locations until 1929 when construction of a new, permanent practice house was completed.[142]

April 26, 1918. ***WWI: Liberty Loan Parade***

On a chilly, overcast Friday afternoon in April, the girls of the Normal formed "a splendid part" of the city's Liberty Loan parade with a horse-drawn float decorated in red, white, and blue. Riding on the float, were several students depicting the United States and the Red Cross giving aid and comfort to war-torn Europe.

Other groups of students marched, carrying banners or displaying the various war-related activities they had been undertaking, such as canning, knitting, and gardening. The Normal girls also had the distinction of guarding the parade's Liberty Bell.

The school's most catching attraction, however, was student Pauline Callender, who, riding a white horse and representing Joan of Arc, led a column of some 300 cadets from the Augusta Military Academy.

After the parade, much to the delight of the girls, the cadets visited campus, arriving in military formation with the band playing. From 5-6 p.m. everyone enjoyed an animated dinner together in the school's dinning hall.[143]

May 1, 1918. ***WWI: "Patriotic May Day"***

On a Wednesday afternoon in 1918, the school held its sixth annual May Day celebration. Because the country was at war, this was a special May Day and the Senior Class chose a patriotic theme for the event.

Members of the Senior Class performed songs and dances of seven allied nations, including England, France, Belgium, and, of course, the United States. Following the traditional winding

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[142] In 1923, the Smythe House became the Carter House. The building was razed in the mid-1960's to make way for campus expansion. Dingledine, 19, 61, 62, 64-65, 116, 133, 138, 158, 274; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 44.Moody, "Smith-Hughes," 118; Pearl Powers Moody, "The Practice House," *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (January 1919): 52-54; *The Schoolma'am* (1918): n.p.; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (January 1918): 86; "Land Owned by Madison College."

[143] *Daily News-Record*: "Parade Plans are in the Making," 24 April 1918; "Liberty Day Celebration A Certainty," 26 April 1918; "Parade in City Yesterday was Grand Success," 27 April 1918; and "Normal Notes," 3 May 1918. "When A.M.A. Visited H.N.S.," *The Schoolma'am* (1918): n.p.; Wayland, "WWI," 5-6, (please note that Wayland erroneously combines elements of the Liberty Loan Parade and the Red Cross Parade in this article). Dingledine, 94.

of the Maypole, the flag of the United States was ceremoniously unfurled by a student representing the "Goddess of Liberty."[144]

May 20, 1918. ***WWI: Red Cross Parade - "Greatest Parade in History"***

At 1:30 p.m., "every whistle in the city" was sounded to mark the "beginning of the biggest parade ever seen in the city of Harrisonburg," according to the local paper. At the prompting of the whistles, the massive parade, held as a show of support for the war effort, left the Normal School grounds and proceeded to march through town.

The procession included four bands, the Home Guard and the fire department, hundreds of schoolchildren of all ages, numerous floats, 275 cars carrying war-industry workers, members of the Red Cross, and even a few Civil War veterans (from the Confederate side). Also marching were mothers whose sons had been killed in the current war; they were identifiable by the small flags marked with a single star which they carried.

Over 10,000 people turned out to witness the spectacle and in some places Main Street was jammed five and six people deep.

One of the main features of the parade was the formation of a giant human red cross made by nearly 200 girls from the Normal School. Wearing red and white headdresses and marching in formation, this "huge, living, moving red cross" reportedly caused "quite a sensation."[145]

June 4, 1918. ***Jackson Hall: Named • WWI: Senior Dresses***

Jackson Hal: Named

At their fifth reunion, the Class of 1913 was given the privilege of formally renaming Dormitory No. 1. The Class, which had originally christened the building Burruss Hall in 1913, chose the name Jackson Hall, in honor of Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson. The announcement of the new name was made during the evening graduation ceremony held in Harrison Hall.

Senior Dresses

As part of their continuing war efforts, approximately one-third of the senior class made their own graduation dresses. Students kept the dresses simple and inexpensive because many felt "this is not the time for finery" when so many in Europe were without the bare necessities.[146]

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[144] *The Schoolma'am* (1918): n.p.; Dingledine, 106.
[145] "Splendid Red Cross Display," *Daily News-Record,* 11 May 1918; "Greatest Parade in History Credited to the Red Cross," *Daily News-Record;* 21 May 1918; Wayland, "WWI," 5-6; Dingledine, 94.
[146] The new name was approved beforehand by the faculty at a 9 a.m. meeting on the morning of June 4. *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entry dated 4 June 1918, p. 241; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 11; "Normal School Finals Held in Harrison Hall Last Night," *Daily News-Record,* 5 June 1918; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1918): 173-174; Dingledine, 70, 94.

May 1918. ***WWI: The Schoolma'am***

The 1918 edition of *The Schoolma'am* was bound in paperboard to promote economy and thrift as part of the war effort.[147]

July 12, 1918. ***WWI: Summer School Patriotic Pageant***

On a Friday evening, after a week's postponement, the summer students finally put on the annual 4th of July pageant. This year's program was called "How to Win the War."

Groups of students, with assistance from some local citizens, presented brief programs highlighting and celebrating the patriotic activities of various groups such as soldiers, sailors, shipbuilders, munitions workers, bankers, farmers, knitters, and housewives.

The event also included the participation of the Harrisonburg Home Guard (representing the U.S. Army) and featured a mock tank and airship. A few brief addresses on the war were also made.

The pageant was held in the outdoor auditorium (behind Maury Hall) and lasted from approximately 8:15 to 11:30. The event concluded with a "grand procession" of the pageants' participants around Maury Hall.[148]

September 25 - November 5, 1918. ***The Spanish "Grippe" Arrives****

In 1918 and 1919, a great influenza pandemic swept the globe. Some forty million people lost their lives. In the fall of 1918, the so-called Spanish "Grippe" (or Spanish Flu) came to the Harrisonburg Normal School, forcing its closure for an entire month.

- September 25. The school opens for its tenth year.

- September 26. President Burruss attends a meeting in Charlottesville with the presidents of the other three state normal schools to discuss the influenza problem, which was spreading across the state. At the time, however, only one of the schools had any reported cases.

- September 27. In the evening, the school holds its opening reception for the year. Most of the students and faculty are present for the event, which was held in the gymnasium in Ashby Hall. Some, however, did not attend due to "bad colds."

- September 28. During a special Saturday morning assembly President Burruss discusses the flu situation with the students and asks that anyone showing signs of a

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[147] Wayland, "WWI," 7; Dingledine, 94. Pinpointing the exact dates on which the yearbooks were released is often not possible. However, based on the fact that the school year ended on Tuesday, June 4, it seems likely the 1918 edition was published sometime in late May. .

[148] Wayland, "Sundry Items," 12; Wayland, "WWI," p. 9 ½ [this is the number as it appears on the page]; "Normal School Pageant to be Given Tonight," *Daily News-Record,* 12 July 1918; "Today," *Daily News-Record,* 13 July 1918; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* release dated 6 July 1918.

"cold" report to the infirmary (located in Cleveland Cottage, now the site of Moody Hall). About thirty students soon arrived at the Cottage – many were detained.

Sometime that day, Dr. William Sanger became the first to be diagnosed with the malady.

- September 29. More flu cases are reported.

- September 30. By Monday, the school's small infirmary was overrun with patients, necessitating the transformation of Jackson Hall into a temporary hospital.

- October 1. On Tuesday morning, President Burruss became "laid up with the 'grip'" and was temporarily replaced as president by Professor James C. Johnston. About sixty cases of influenza were reported at this time.

- October 7. With the number of cases continuing to rise and the situation appearing "utterly hopeless," Burruss orders the school closed for two weeks.

  Most students who were not ill or directly aiding the sick were sent home. The entire faculty, meanwhile, volunteered to stay.

- October 18. By mid-October conditions had significantly improved and all those who had been stricken by the influenza were "now considered out of danger." However, in order to ensure things continued to improve, the school was closed for another two weeks.

- November 6. The school reopened Wednesday morning with all but nineteen students present.

Although 125 of the 288 students enrolled for the quarter and over half of the twenty-three faculty members who were on campus at the time fell ill during the outbreak, remarkably, there were no deaths.

The city of Harrisonburg, too, had been hit hard by the influenza with approximately 1,000 reported cases and several deaths. When the outbreak subsided on campus in mid-October, numerous faculty members and students went into the local community to help.[149]

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[149] At the time, the term "grippe" was synonymous with the flu. A poem entitled "The Flu," by student Virginia Zirkle, which appeared in *The Schoolma'am* (1919): n.p., states that Dr. Sanger was the first flu victim. This, however, appears to be the only source making the claim. The exact number of faculty who fell ill does not appear to be known. According to Wayland, Letter to President Duke, 13, "about 12 of the teachers" got sick. The best primary source chronicling the influenza outbreak is, Julian A. Burruss, "Statement," 4 November 1918, in, *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* pp. 254-274 (see the inserts on the even-numbered pages). This document was intended by Burruss to serve as an official record of the outbreak and consists of a summary and several letters that were issued regarding the status of the school and its inhabitants during the course of the epidemic. At the time of the outbreak there were twenty-four faculty members on the school's roster. However, one, Raymond C. Dingledine [Sr.], was away in Richmond serving in the Army. See also, Julian Burruss, Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 2 December 1918, pp. 4-5, in *Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945*, Box 1, Folder 19;

November 1918. ***WWI: War Efforts Continue***

Despite the hindrances and hardships caused by the Spanish Influenza, once it had passed students and faculty immediately resumed their war-related activities.

Work for the Red Cross continued with students making scrapbooks for convalescent soldiers and sewing garments for refugee children. Most notably, students raised and pledged a total of $1,807 (or an average of about $6 each) for the War Relief Drive. This doubled the amount of the previous year.[150]

November 10, 1918. ***Thankful: No School Deaths From Influenza***

Four days after the school reopened following the passage of the influenza outbreak, a special Sunday morning service was held to give thanks for the school's "happy deliverance from any death of student or teacher" during the epidemic.

With "hymn, prayer, and spoken word" those assembled expressed their gratitude to God and to one another and praised the cheerfulness and "resolute spirit" demonstrated by everyone during the crisis.[151]

November 11, 1918. ***WWI: Armistice Day***

On Monday morning at 11 a.m., World War I came to an end. Cheers, which reportedly could be heard over half a mile away, broke out across the campus. That evening, students participated in a town parade and celebration.[152]

November 16, 1918. ***WWI: City Armistice Parade***

Early on Saturday morning, Harrisonburg and the surrounding counties celebrated the end of the First World War with a massive parade. Ten to fifteen thousand people descended on the city, blowing whistles, shooting fireworks, cheering, and celebrating.

Students and faculty from the Normal participated in the parade which also included mounted police, the *Daily News* band, the local fire company, the Red Cross, and scores of decorated cars and dressed-up citizens cavorting in celebration.[153]

Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases, new release dated 9 November 1918; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (October 1918): 364-365; *Daily News-Record*: "Influenza Closes All city Schools," 8 October 1918; "Normal School Will Not Reopen Wednesday," 19 October 1918; "Normal School Opens Doors Recently Shut on Account of 'Flu'," 7 November 1918; Wayland, "Significant Incidents," 89; Wayland, "WWI," 10-11. Dingledine, 95-96; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 35-36.

[150] *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (October 1918): 366; Wayland, "WWI," 12-13; *The Normal Bulletin* 11, no. 4 (May 1919): 5-9.

[151] *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (October 1918): 365; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 13; Dingledine, 96.

[152] Professor John Wayland wrote that he could hear the cheering at his home, which was ¾ of a mile away. See, Wayland, "Sundry Items," 13. Wayland, "WWI," 10.

[153] "Aeroplane and Aviator Thrill All On-Lookers," *Daily News-Record,* 18 November 1918.

December 11, 1918. ***WWI: "A Message We Shall Never Forget"***

One month after the end of the First World War, the school received its first visiting war veteran, Major C.E. King, of the British Army's Royal Field Artillery.

Major King, who had spent three years in France where he was severely wounded, spoke to the students and faculty "vividly and personally" about the war and life in the trenches. This was the first time students had heard a first-hand, eyewitness account of the war.

According to Professor John Wayland, King had a magnetic speaking style and "the girls at the Normal nearly went wild over him."[154]

December 21, 1918. ***Over 5,000 Volumes in the Library***

At the close of the 1918 fall session, ten years after the first 200 books had been entered into the library catalog, the library's collection had grown to include some 5,800 volumes.[155]

1919.

January 1919. ***Student Battalion: Military Drill Course, Battalion Color Guard Competition***

Military Drill Course

In 1918, students had marched in several parades in support of the war effort. While their enthusiasm was no doubt of the highest order, their level of precision marching was not.

In the eyes of President Burruss, "an ex-cadet officer of V.P.I.," the marching had been lackluster. So, to hone the girls' abilities in this area, Burruss instituted a course in military drill beginning in January 1919. The course was required and counted as one point towards the necessary physical education credits.

The students were organized into four companies, each led by student officers. These companies comprised a single battalion, of which President Burruss was the commander. Drills, either by individual companies or the whole battalion, were held once a week.

A dress uniform (described at the time as "very 'chic'") was adopted. It consisted of "a plain, white middy suit, with black tie, white sailor cap, and white shoes." To distinguish themselves,

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[154] "Our British Guest," *The Schoolma'am* (1919): n.p.; Wayland, "Sundry Items," p. 14. It appears that no mention of Major King's visit to the school made the local paper. However, his talk at the Assembly Hall the night before did. See, "Major King Gives Pleasing Speech," *Daily News-Record,* 11 December 1918. This article gives details and quotes from his speech and probably represents similar, if not the exact, contents of his speech to the students.

[155] The exact number, according to *Library Accession Books, 1909-1937,* v. 2, was 5,879. However, this number does not reflect an actual count. It is likely that the actual number was somewhat less as a result of lost or withdrawn volumes.

the officers wore the battalion insignia – a star within a circle – in the school colors of purple and gold on their left sleeve.

Battalion Color Guard Competition

On Friday, January 31, after weeks of training, a competitive drill was held in the school gymnasium in Ashby Hall to determine which company would serve as the battalion's color guard. With local military personnel judging the event, B Company, under the command of Virginia Zirkle of Harrisonburg, won the day in a close contest and was dubbed "Burruss's Best."

Both the student battalion and the military drill course were short-lived experiments, however. After appearing prominently in the 1919 yearbook, the battalion vanished from the annual's pages, while the drill course disappeared from the curriculum beginning with the 1920-1921 school year.[156]

March 31, 1919. ***WWI: Former Student Recounts War Experiences***

On Monday, former student Julia McCorkle spoke to the student body and faculty about her experiences as a nurse in allied hospitals in France during the First World War.

McCorkle, a lieutenant in the Virginia Unit of the Red Cross (and later a member of the United States Army Nurses' Corp), had served twenty-two months in Europe, spending much of her time as head nurse at a hospital near the front lines at Amiens, in northern France. She told of shell-shocked and gassed patients and described air raids as the most terrifying of her experiences.

McCorkle was one of the first nurses from the southern states to serve in Europe, having arrived in July 1917.[157]

June 1919. ***Student Battalion: Yearbook Feature & Dress Parade***

The 1919 yearbook featured a three-page spread on the new student battalion. The layout consisted of a roster of the battalion's officers and photographs of the color guard and the battalion standing in formation.

On June 9, as part of the school's tenth annual commencement festivities, the student battalion thrilled onlookers with a dress parade on campus. The battalion's color guard, Company B,

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[156] *The Normal Bulletin* 11, no. 4 (May 1919): 102; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (April 1919): 161; *The Schoolma'am* (1919): n.p.; *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921,* entry dated 21 January 1919, p. 269; News Release dated 8 February 1919, in *Burruss, Julian A.,1909-1918, & News*; *Releases* Dingledine, 94-95; Jones, *Rooted,* 36-37.

[157] McCorkle had attended the school during the opening session in 1909 and during the second year, 1910-1911. At least one other former student, Margaret Allebaugh, also served as a nurse in Europe during the war. Wayland, *Historic Harrisonburg,* 200. "Miss Julia McCorkle Tells War Experience," *Daily News-Record*, 1 April 1919; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 123; *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no. 3 (May 1911): 131; *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine Number* (October 1917): 365; "Miss McCorkle in England," *Daily News-Record,* 11 July 1917; *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases*; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 15.

carried with them two silk flags – one, the flag of the United States (with forty-eight stars), the other, that of the State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg, emblazoned with the Virginia state seal.[158]

June 10, 1919. ***First Bachelor's Degrees Awarded • Graduates First Wear Caps and Gowns***

Two firsts occurred at the tenth annual commencement ceremony held at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday evening in Harrison Hall – the first bachelor's degrees were conferred and graduates donned full academic costume for the first time.

First Bachelor's Degrees Awarded

Nine students out of a graduating class of ninety-nine were awarded Bachelor of Science Degrees in Education. They were in the following areas: Elementary Teaching and Supervision (1); High School Teaching and Administration (3); and Home Economics (5). The next year, twenty B.S. degrees were awarded.

Graduates First Wear Caps and Gowns

It's hard to imagine graduation without caps and gowns, but for the first nine commencement exercises, students wore only simple white dresses (which had to be of faculty approved length). In 1917 and 1918, seniors had asked to wear caps and gowns, but were denied both times.

In 1919, however, they were allowed to do so and for the first time the graduating class graced commencement in caps and gowns. Further, as each student received her degree she was personally hooded by President Burruss.

The main commencement address was given by Dr. Henry L. Smith, president of Washington and Lee University, who spoke on the role of providence in the First World War.[159]

June 12, 1919. ***President Burruss: President of VPI?***

Two days after the end of the school's tenth year, President Julian A. Burruss was elected president of Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) by that institution's Board of Visitors.

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[158] "Normal School Graduates Hear Splendid Address," *Daily News-Record,* 9 June 1919; Dingledine, 95; Jones, *Rooted,* 36-37.

[159] Faculty responses to student requests to wear caps and gowns can be found in the following entries in, *Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921*: 8 February 1917, p. 146; 22 March 1917, p. 155; and 25 March 1918, pp. 219-221. In 1918, the faculty overrode by one vote the recommendation of the Student Welfare Committee that graduates be allowed to wear academic costume. An interesting point to note is that during this period the graduating class was referred to as the Degree Class while the designation of Senior fell upon what would today be considered the junior level. See, The Schoolma'am (1919). For a general synopsis of graduation history, including mention of caps and gowns, see, Janet T. Wendelken, "Graduation has Changed Since 1910," *James Madison University News,* 5 May 1983 and "Graduation History," JMU Centennial Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/commencement.shtml> [9 March 2006]. *The Virginia Teacher* 1, no. 4, Supplement no. 2 (May 1920): 118; Dingledine, 67-68; *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; "Washington and Lee Head Addresses Normal School,' *Daily News-Record,* 11 June 1919.

Although it was widely assumed he would accept the offer to lead his alma mater (the local paper announced his election with the headline, "Julian A. Burruss to Leave Harrisonburg State Normal") Burruss considered the matter for some time and his decision was not announced until July.[160]

July 5, 1919. ***President Burruss: Resigning***

On Saturday, it was announced publicly that Julian A. Burruss, the institution's first president, would be leaving the school to accept the presidency of his alma mater, Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) in Blacksburg.[161]

July 7, 1919. ***President Burruss: Moving On, But "With the Greatest Sorrow"***

In a letter dated July 7, President Burruss formally responded to the many letters he had received from alumnae about the likelihood of his leaving to become the president of Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech).

Burruss, writing two days after his decision to accept the offer had been made public, expressed his gratitude and told the alumnae that the choice had not been an easy one. "I have struggled a long time with this matter," he wrote. Ultimately, however, it was "a sense of obligation" to his alma mater that led him to accept the new position. "[I]t is my duty to go," he told them.

"I shall leave the work at Harrisonburg," Burruss added, "with the greatest sorrow."[162]

July 22, 1919. ***President Burruss: Resignation Accepted • President Duke: Elected***

President Burruss: Resignation Accepted

At a Tuesday afternoon meeting of the Virginia Normal School Board, President Burruss's resignation (which would become effective September 1) was formally accepted. Following this, the Board voted on a new president for the school.

President Duke: Elected

When it came time to appoint a second president for the institution, three candidates were considered for the position: Cornelius J. Heatwole and William T. Sanger, former professor and dean of the school respectively, and Samuel P. Duke, Virginia State Supervisor of High Schools.

In a seven-to-four vote, thirty-three year old Samuel Duke was chosen over local favorite, William Sanger.[163]

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[160] "Julian A. Burruss to Leave Harrisonburg State Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 13 June 1919.
[161] "Burruss Will Accept Presidency of V.P.I.," *Daily News-Record,* 7 July 1919.
[162] *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases,* Vertical File, letter dated 7 July 1919.
[163] "Duke is Elected Normal President," *Daily News-Record,* 23 July 1919; Dingledine, 128, 129; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 43-44.

August 26, 1919. ***President Duke: Second President, 1919-1949 – "The Builder" Arrives***

Although his presidency would not officially begin until September 1, Samuel Page Duke assumed his duties as the institution's second President on Tuesday, August 26, just nine days before his thirty-fourth birthday.

Duke, a native of Southwest Virginia, obtained his bachelor's degree from Randolph-Macon College and his master's from the Teachers College, Columbia University. He began his teaching career in 1906 at Willie Halsell College, a small school in the "Indian Territory" of Oklahoma where he taught history and science and coached the football and baseball teams, with the former consisting mostly of Cherokee Indians. At age 21, his was made Vice Principal of the school.

In 1908, Duke became a high school principle and from 1914 to 1918 he was the director of the State Teachers College in Farmville, Virginia. For eighteen months prior to his election as school president, he served as State Supervisor of High Schools.[164]

Samuel Duke arrived at the school just one month before the start of its eleventh year (1919-1920). The institution Duke had inherited was comprised of ten buildings situated on forty-nine acres of land. There were twenty-six faculty members and student enrollment for the year would be 310. Duke also inherited the problem of providing sufficient dormitory and classroom space for the growing student population as well as a shocking treasury balance of only $324.34.

Despite these problems, the final results of Duke's thirty-year tenure were impressive.

By the time he left office in 1949 the main campus had expanded to sixty-two acres and the school had acquired an additional thirty-one acres along the Shenandoah River which it used as a camp (known today as University Farm). The number of buildings had increased to twenty-three, with nine major buildings having been constructed, including Alumnae Hall, Keezell Hall, Wilson Hall, and the school's first stand alone library Madison Memorial Library (now Carrier Library).

Although Duke was able to significantly expand the available dormitory space, he would be no match for the growing student enrollment, which permanently passed the 1,000 mark under his tenure.[165]

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[164] Letter from Samuel P. Duke to *Richmond Times-Dispatch* Reporter, dated 13 April 1944, pp. 1-2, in *Duke, Samuel P., 1919-1949*, Vertical File, Folder 1, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; "Duke is Elected Normal President," *Daily News-Record,* 23 July 1919; "Dr. S.P. Duke, Former Madison President, Dies," *Daily news-Record,* 26 April 1955; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 43; *Images of James Madison University, 1908-1983: Blue Stone Hill to JMU*, 25.

[165] The school catalog issued in May 1919, only a few months before Duke assumed the presidency, lists a total of ten buildings, including the president's home, a barn, an employee cottage, and a small laundry building. An eleventh building, the off-campus Practice House for use by Home Economics students was being rented by the school. *The Normal Bulletin* 11, no.4 (May 1919): 5-9, 15-16, 19; *The Virginia Teacher* 1, no. 4, Supplement no. 2 (May 1920): 5-8; Dingledine, 128-129, 145, 146, 237. The actual size of the camp was slightly over 30.5 acres. According to the school's catalog, there were five academic buildings, seven residence halls, six houses and other buildings (such as Shenandoah and Wellington Apartments), and five special buildings (including the Cottage and the Heating Plant). *Bulletin, Madison College*, [Register for 1948-1949]: 28, 31-36. "JMU Presidents," JMU

Finally, Duke oversaw tremendous academic expansion at the school, including the growth of the faculty to over eighty, the introduction of the bachelor's degree, and the transformation of the institution from "a normal school to a teachers college . . . to a multi-purpose institution."[166]

It is little wonder that by the time of his departure, Duke had been dubbed the "Builder" president. [167]

September 1, 1919. ***President Duke: Presidency Officially Begins***

Although Samuel P. Duke had started work in late August, his presidency officially began on September 1.[168]

1920.

February 1920. ***The Virginia Teacher***

In 1920, a new publication, *The Virginia Teacher*, appeared on campus and replaced *The Normal Bulletin* as both the school's catalog and its monthly magazine.

First issued in February in its magazine format, the content of *The Virginia Teacher* was virtually identical to its predecessor. It too was comprised primarily of scholarly articles and book reviews, with a section for school and alumnae news. This new educational magazine was meant to serve faculty, alumnae, and students alike (although it would ultimately fail to satisfy the latter).

Beginning in March, supplement issues of *The Virginia Teacher* were published that served as the annual catalogs and the spring and summer quarter announcements. From 1927 to 1934, these supplemental catalog issues were published under the title, *Bulletin of Information.* After

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Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/presidents.shtml> [3 May 2006]. For the last year of Duke's presidency (1948-1949), student enrollment was 1,338. Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 103, erroneously gives the number of students enrolled in 1948-1949 as 1,264. Jones appears to have simply misread Dingledine, 145. Dingledine did indeed provide this number, but he was discussing the results of Duke's first two decades in office and was citing numbers for the year 1939-1940, not for 1948-1949. Sonner, 24, makes the same mistake.

[166] Faculty numbers for most of the early time periods can vary depending on the source. However, based strictly on the school's catalog, *Bulletin, Madison College* [Register for 1948-1949], the number of faculty was eighty-four, including twelve instructors in the School of Music. This number is, however, exclusive of the nineteen instructors working in the public schools as "training school supervisors." The latter were not generally included in faculty counts.

[167] The first instance of Duke being referred to as the "Builder" may be a 1931 article by then faculty member Conrad Logan. See, Logan, "Samuel P. Duke, Builder." In Hilton, "Changing from a College to a University," 8, 9, the author points out that subsequent presidents oversaw far more construction and expansion than did Duke and thus refers to Duke as the "First of the 'Builder' Presidents." However, it is Duke who is generally designated as the "Builder President."

[168] Dingledine, 129.

1934, the *Bulletin of Information* became a separate, stand alone catalog, replacing the catalog issues of *The Virginia Teacher*.

The magazine numbers of *The Virginia Teacher*, however, continued to be published until May 1939, at which time lack of financial support forced their discontinuance. In 1941, another magazine, *The Madison Quarterly*, took its place.[169]

March 1920. ***Harrison Hall: Heating Plant & Laundry Added***

In March 1920, installation of new laundry facilities in the basement of the service building (the Harrison Hall archway) was begun. At the same time, just behind the archway, work started on a new central heating plant for the school. Both were completed in 1921.[170]

September 1920 – June 1921. ***Tenth School Year: College Level Education Only***

When the school first opened in 1909 it offered four years of high school work and two years of post-high school work and prospective students needed only have completed the seventh grade to meet the entrance requirements. Over the years, constant efforts were made to increase course offerings and raise academic standards and entrance requirements.

The most significant academic advancement came in 1917-1918 when the school offered four-year degrees for the first time. The following year (1918-1919), the institution raised its entrance requirements and those wishing to attend had to have completed a full three years of high school. This meant that the school was now offering only one year of high school level work, in the form of the Preparatory Course, and that it was closer than ever to providing a solely college-level education.

Two years later, for the 1920-1921 session, the Preparatory Course was dropped and the school stopped offering high school level work. This moment marked the beginning of the institution's final march towards college status.[171]

November 26, 1920. ***Alumnae Hall: "The Builder" Begins***

During an alumnae luncheon in Richmond, Virginia, President Duke (known as "the Builder" president) proposed a plan, the first of its kind for a Virginia teachers school, to construct an Alumnae-Students' Building. The building was to contain a large reception room for social events, guestrooms for visiting alumnae and special guests of the school, and office space for student organizations.

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[169] *The Virginia Teacher*, 1, no.1 (February 1920); Dingledine, 209-210, 234.

[170] The cost of the new heating plant and laundry facilities was roughly $60-65,000 depending on what source is consulted. The new laundry was in operation by at least August 1921. Chappelear, 102; Dingledine, 131, 138; "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA."; *The Virginia Teacher* 2, no. 8 (August 1921): 238,

[171] Dingledine, 24, 61, 146; "Normal School Opens Its Tenth Year Tomorrow," *Daily News-Record,* 24 September 1918; *The Normal Bulletin* 10, no. 4 (May 1918): 25.

Duke called on the alumnae to raise the money for its construction. His plan was unanimously endorsed by the 121 alumnae present at the luncheon.

Soon, alumnae from around the state were calling for donations and engaging in various fund raising efforts. Ultimately, alumnae, faculty, and friends of the school (including local citizens) would raise $12,550. Far from enough to complete the project (which was to cost $44,250), the remaining amount would eventually be procured from the state ($20,000) and the school's operating funds ($11,700).

Work on the building would begin in the spring of 1921.[172]

1921.

January 29, 1921. ***First Varsity Basketball Team & First Interscholastic Basketball Game***

Since 1910, the school's basketball teams had engaged solely in interclass competition, but in 1921 the Harrisonburg Normal School (H.N.S.) organized its first varsity team and began to compete interscholastically.

On Saturday evening, January 29, a specially picked team (formed from members of the class teams) first tested its varsity mettle against the team from Bridgewater College. The game was played in the Bridgewater gymnasium.

The rookie varsity team had an impressive first-half, outscoring Bridgewater 28 points to 4. The second-half, however, was bleak, with the team scoring only 5 points to Bridgewater's 9. Despite the second-half downturn, the rookie team still walked away in victory with a final score of 33 to 13.

The remaining six games of the season would be played against the teams from the other State Normal Schools (Farmville, Fredericksburg, and Radford) with the H.N.S. varsity team next meeting the Farmville team on February 18. Harrisonburg demolished Farmville by a score of 52 to 17 and went on to a 4 and 3 season.[173]

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[172] According to the local paper, citizens of Harrisonburg contributed approximately $5,000 to the project. See, "Normal School Hears Sermon," *Daily News-Record,* 6 June 1921. Ground was broken and work on the building's foundation was begun sometime in either March or April 1921. *The Virginia Teacher* 2, no. 4 (April 1921): 108. Chappelear, 103; Dingledine, 131-133; "The First Capital Campaign," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/campaign.shtml> [10 July 2006].

[173] It should be noted that a varsity basketball team was first formed in early 1920. However, it seems the team was organized specially for the purpose of playing against a faculty team, not as an actually varsity team intended for interscholastic competition. The two teams met on 20 March 1920 with the varsity team winning by a score of 21 to 6. No other games seem to have been played by the team and no team picture appeared in that year's yearbook. For mention of the Varsity-Faculty game, see, *The Virginia Teacher* 1, no. 3 (April 1920): 85; *The Schoolma'am* (1920): n.p. (see timeline of red letter days); and Carroll, 8. *The Schoolma'am* (1921): n.p.; "Interesting Basketball Game at State Normal," *Daily News-Record,* 29 January 1921; "State Normal School Team Wins Over B.H.S.," *Daily News-Record,* 1 February 1921. The *Daily News-Record* mistakenly reported that Harrisonburg had played the

June 6, 1921. ***Alumnae Hall: Cornerstone Laid, Construction Continues***

The laying of the cornerstone for Alumnae Hall took place at 3 p.m. Monday afternoon as part of the year's commencement program.

President Duke, former senator George N. Conrad, and representatives of the alumnae and the student body made brief remarks while "telegrams of cheer came in" from around the state. The ceremony was concluded with the singing of the alma mater, "Blue Stone Hill."

Throughout the summer construction continued and the building's walls were in place by November. At this juncture, however, funds ran out and construction was halted. It would be several months before further funding would be obtained (from the state and the school's operating funds), but when it was, construction resumed and the building was ready by the beginning of the 1922 summer session.[174]

Fall 1921. ***"The Breeze": Student Publication Movement Begins - The "Go-Get-'Er"***

Since the opening of the school in 1909, one thing students had never established was their own newspaper. However, during the school's thirteenth year (1921-1992) a movement began that did just that.

At the time, there was only one regularly issued publication that students could turn to for school news and entertainment, *The Virginia Teacher.* This monthly magazine (edited by members of the faculty) contained sections on school and alumnae news, but was, for the most part, a scholarly journal.

While the students considered *The Virginia Teacher* to be fine in its own way, they said they desired "something more of their own; a paper in which they could tell all the happenings around the campus and could say exactly what they thought about things."

The first step in fulfilling this desire came when a small group of students, with the encouragement of English Professor Conrad Logan (for whom Logan Hall is named), began issuing their own paper, the "Go-Get-'Er."[175]

Described as "a small account of the affairs of the Student Body," the "Go-Get-'Er" was issued monthly, but because it was typewritten, only a single copy of each issue was published. These

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Bridgewater high school team, while in contradiction, it also reported (in the same article) that they had played Bridgewater College.

[174] Dingledine, 132, 133; "Normal School Hears Sermon," *Daily News-Record,* 6 June 1921; *The Schoolma'am* (1922): n.p.; "The First Capital Campaign," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/campaign.shtml> [10 July 2006].

[175] When, exactly, the "Go-Get-'Er" first appeared seems to be unknown and, unfortunately, only one issue of the paper (in its handwritten format) remains in the possession of JMU. However, based on the available evidence, it seems likely that publication began sometime during the fall quarter of 1921. See, "The Go-Get-'Er," March 1922, in, *Dingledine, Raymond C., Madison College: The First 50 Years,* Vertical File, Folder 1, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

lone issues were placed in the magazine rack at the library for general use and students "eagerly" awaited the release of each new issue.

The "Go-Get-'Er," generally regarded as the first student paper, was a big success and soon sparked efforts to begin publication of a regular campus newspaper. These efforts bore fruit in the fall of 1922 with the establishment of *The Breeze*, the first student newspaper.[176]

1922.

Spring 1922. ***"The Breeze": Student Publication Committee Appointed***

In late 1921, a small group of students had begun issuing the "Go-Get-'Er," an informal, typewritten school newspaper. Release of the paper, coupled with the positive response it received, prompted students to realize that there was no reason why they should not have a "real" newspaper of their own.

Sometime in the spring of 1922, not too long before the school year was set to end, the student body convened a meeting to discuss the issue. This resulted in the organization of a student publication committee which was tasked with investigating "ways and means of establishing a newspaper." However, it proved to be too late in the year for any substantive action to be taken.

Nonetheless, students remained dedicated to the idea and in the early part of the coming fall quarter, the committee would be reorganized and efforts renewed. By the end of the quarter, students would begin publication of their first newspaper, *The Breeze*.[177]

February - June 1922. ***Sheldon Hall: Five Years of Work Begins***

In February, President Duke obtained permission to use some of the school's savings to erect half of a new academic building (later named Sheldon Hall) to help alleviate the space problem then occurring due to the continued rise in student enrollment.

By March, excavation for the building was underway and construction began on June 1.

The east wing of Sheldon (with a new auditorium and several classrooms) was built by the end of 1922, but at this point construction was halted due to a lack of funds. It would not be until the spring of 1926, when the school obtained more funding, that construction of the west wing could commence. The building was finally completed in May 1927.

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[176] "H.N.S. Gets School Paper, 'The Breeze,'" *The Breeze*, 2 December 1922; "Trace History of Breeze to Present Day," *The Breeze,* 24 January 1931; Nancy Bondurant Jones, "Heads, It's The Breeze, Tails, It's Campus Cat," *Montpellier* (Fall 2001), <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/2001Fall/HeadsTheBreeze.shtml> [13 May 2006]; Dingledine, 210.

[177] "H.N.S. Gets School Paper, 'The Breeze,'" *The Breeze*, 2 December 1922; "School Activities," *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 2 (November 1922): 277; Dingledine, 210.

In early 1923 the building was named for Edward A. Sheldon, a principal leader in the nineteenth century normal school movement and founder of the Oswego Training School in New York. Sheldon Hall was the seventh building to be erected on the Quad.[178]

June 19, 1922. ***Alumnae Hall: Ready For Use***

At the start of the twelfth summer session on June 19, Alumnae Hall opened for use for the first time. However, the building was not completely utilized as originally intended.

It had been planned for Alumnae to provide rooms for student organizations and guests on the second floor above a general reception hall, the latter to be used for various social events. Instead, a record enrollment for the summer of 983 students forced the school to convert these second floor rooms into dormitory space. Approximately thirty students called Alumnae Hall home that summer.

The first floor rooms would be occupied by the end of the year.[179]

September 1, 1922. ***First Summer Session Commencement***

Enrollment in the school's summer session had grown tremendously since first being held in 1910; that year 207 students attended. Twelve years later, 983 students were enrolled in the summer session. As a result of this growth, an increasing number of students were completing their education during the summer and it was thus necessary to offer commencement at the end of the summer session.

The school's first summer commencement was held Friday evening at 8 p.m. in the now defunct open air auditorium, located behind Maury Hall. There were twenty graduates and Harris Hart, Superintendent of Public Instruction was the speaker.

This was also the first outdoor summer session commencement to be held in Virginia.

By 1937, the size of summer graduating classes had dropped low enough that the school decided to discontinue summer commencements. However, they were revived in 1949.[180]

Fall 1922. "*The Breeze*": *Student Publication Committee Reorganized, Plan Adopted*

Near the end of the 1922 spring session, students had organized a committee to pursue the possibility of establishing a student newspaper on campus. However, the year ended before definite action could be taken.

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[178] President Duke announced the naming of Sheldon Hall on February 2, 1923, see, "History of College Found Recorded in the Breeze," *The Breeze,* 1 December 1937. *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 3 (March 1922): 78; Chappelear, 103; Dingledine, 133. "Major Buildings."

[179] Dingledine, 119, 132, 133; "Normal School Opens With A Record Breaking Attendance," *Daily News-Record,* 19 June 1922.

[180] *The Virginia Teacher,* 14, no. 4 (April 1923): 157. Dingledine, 119, 127; *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 8 (August 1922): 218; *Faculty Minutes, 1921-1924,* Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 6, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA., entry dated 29 August 1922, p. 77.

No to be deterred, the students reorganized the committee early in the fall quarter of 1922 and began their efforts anew. With advice and encouragement from English professor Conrad Logan, and through the "untiring efforts" of the student committee's chairman, Roselyn Brownley, plans were soon worked out.

The plans were presented to President Duke, who submitted them to the faculty Committee on Student Publications. In early November, the plans received faculty approval.[181]

November 1922. *Sheldon Hall: Half-Completed, Auditorium Opens*

By November 1922, half of Sheldon Hall (the east wing) was largely completed; construction of the west wing would not begin until 1926. Thanks to rushed construction efforts over the summer, the second floor auditorium was ready for use in time for the arrival of cold weather. The first floor classrooms, meanwhile, remained incomplete until mid-December and were not used until the opening of the winter quarter in January 1923.

The new auditorium would replace the one in Harrison Hall, which, due to the growing student population, was being steadily encroached upon by the dining hall; at the time, the same space was used for both. The auditorium was approximately forty by eighty feet and had a seating capacity of around 500 (more than enough to accommodate the student body of 397). It also had a stage, a "moving picture machine," and was equipped with radio connections.

The auditorium was first used on Monday, November 6 when students and faculty gathered there for the regular assembly period. A formal opening of the auditorium was made two weeks later on Friday evening, November 17.

That night a capacity crowd of students, faculty, and local citizens attended a two part variety show consisting of musical numbers and dances followed by a one-act comedy called "Wurzel-Flummery," by famed British playwright and author, A.A. Milne.[182]

November 7, 1922. "*The Breeze*": *Student Paper Approved, Subscriptions & Ads Obtained*

Student Paper Approved

On Tuesday, November 7, the faculty approved the students' plans for their own newspaper. However, due to the fears of many faculty members that the new paper might negatively impact the existing school publication, *The Virginia Teacher,* a few stipulations were added.

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[181] "H.N.S. Gets School Paper, 'The Breeze'" and "Faculty, Thank You!," *The Breeze,* 2 December 1922; Dingledine, 210.

[182] Chappelear, 103, gives the date of first floor completion as December 12. "New Normal Hall is Now Complete," *Daily News-Record,* 17 November 1922; Dingledine, 133; "Normal Excursion to Massanutten," *Daily News-Record,* 27 October 1922; *The Virginia Teacher* 4, no. 4, Supplement no. 2 (April 1923): 17, 157; *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 11 (November 1922): 279-280; "Formal Opening of Our New Auditorium," *The Breeze,* 2 December 1922; *The Schoolma'am* (1923).

Students would be required to assume overall financial responsibility for the paper. First, they would need to have at least 300 subscriptions which were to be set at a combination rate of $2 per year for both the new paper and *The Virginia Teacher.* Second, students would need to obtain a minimum of $150 worth of advertising contracts for the first year.

Subscriptions & Ads Obtained

Over the next few weeks, the students held "pep meetings" to get the needed 300 subscriptions for the new paper. By the end of the month they had over 350.

Likewise, students had little trouble meeting their advertisement quota. Local businesses were eager to advertise in the new paper and when the first issue was published in December, there were twenty-five ads for a variety of goods and services.[183]

November 20, 1922. "*The Breeze*": *First Staff & Reporters, Name Chosen in Contest*

First Staff & Reporters

On a Monday evening, a few weeks after the faculty had approved plans for a student newspaper, the first staff and reporters of the as yet unnamed paper were selected.

From their own ranks, students elected Roselyn Brownley as the paper's editor-in-chief and Florence Shelton as the business manager Brownley and Shelton then selected three assistants. These five individuals, comprising the paper's first editorial staff, then chose six reporters, one from each of the four classes and two from the general student body.

Name Chosen in Contest

Sometime shortly after the paper's staff was in place, a contest was begun to find the best name for the new publication. A wide range of names were suggested.

There were several, such as "Blue Stone Hill" and "Bells of the Blue Stone," which sought to incorporate the Blue Stone theme. Some made a play on words, like the "Valley Dictorian," and at least one, the "Dingledine," was named after a professor (Raymond Dingledine). There were also some less dignified suggestions such as "The Lunatic," "The Maniac," "The Strutter," and "The Ketch All."

Ultimately, the choices were narrowed to two – the "Campus Cat" and "The Breeze" (with the latter being suggested by faculty member Elizabeth Cleveland, who had named the yearbook in 1910).

The staff, however, was unable to reach an agreement and thus decided to settle the matter with a coin toss. So, "Up went the quarter. Down came heads." And *The Breeze* was born.[184]

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[183] *Faculty Minutes, 1921-1924,* entry date 7 November 1922, p. 93, 95; *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 2 (November 1922): 277; Dingledine, 210.

November - December 1922. ***Radio Comes To Campus • Alumnae Hall: Finishing Touches***

Radio Comes to Campus

During the 1920s, the latest in communication technology – the radio – began to establish itself as a common component of American daily life. Not one to fall behind the times, the Harrisonburg Normal School participated in this new technological advancement.

Radio first came to the campus in the fall of 1922 courtesy of Dr. George Chappelear, head of the Department of Biology & Agriculture and manager of grounds. Sometime in mid-to-late November or early December, Dr. Chappelear, installed one of his own sets (likely homemade) in the Sheldon Hall auditorium.

Dr. Chappelear then began to give "radio concerts" for the students, tuning in to stations from around the country to listen to a variety of lectures and music, especially jazz, which was a favorite of the students.[185]

Alumnae Hall: Finishing Touches

Although Alumnae Hall had been in use since June (when summer session students were housed on the second floor) it was not until the fall that the building reached completion.

On Thanksgiving morning, an informal house warming for the first floor of Alumnae was held in the large reception room that served as the building's focal point.

By December, the furnishing of the first floor offices was well underway and new occupants were moving in daily. Alumnae became home to the offices of the Alumnae Secretary, the Dean of Women, the Student Government Association, and the recently established student newspaper, *The Breeze*, among others.

When *The Breeze* reported on the nearing completion of Alumnae Hall in mid-December, it wrote, "These finishing touches cause joy to many hearts and mean the realization of many dreams." These words reflected the true importance of the new building – that it was the first to have been constructed with generous financial support from numerous alumnae and friends of the school.

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[184] "H.N.S. Gets School Paper, 'The Breeze,'" *The Breeze,* 2 December 1922; "School Activities," *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 2 (November 1922):277; Jones, "Heads, It's The Breeze, Tails, It's the Campus Cat"; Dingledine, 211. Dingledine, 211-212; "Why the Breeze?" *The Breeze,* 2 December 1922.

[185] Although no exact date appears obtainable for when a radio was first installed on the campus or when the first "radio concert" was given, an approximate estimation seems to be possible. The time frame of mid to late November fits with some known facts. Sheldon Hall auditorium opened in early November and had radio connection capabilities; Chappelear could have installed a radio almost anytime during this month. In mid-December, *The Breeze* reported that "many pleasant evenings" had been spent in Sheldon listening to Chappelear's "radio concerts." This indicates that several concerts had already been given by this time, thus putting the likely origin date sometime in mid to late November, but certainly by early December. The idea that the radio was probably of Chappelear's own construction is based on a brief comment in, "P.G.'s Entertained," *The Breeze,* 2 December 1922, which indicates that the he had made at least one radio. "Radio Concert," *The Breeze,* 16 December 1922; "Radio Concert," *The Breeze,* 13 January 1923; Dingledine, 197.

Today, Alumnae Hall is the location of senior administrative offices, including those of the University's president, Linwood Rose, and the senior vice president for student affairs.[186]

December 1922. *Student Fire Department Established*

In the fall of 1922, the school participated in National Fire Prevention Week. Raising awareness of the threat of fire was important since several fires had broken out on campus in the preceding years. Fortunately, though, they had "always caused more excitement than real damage" and, in fact, no serious threat of a major fire was believed to exist.

Nonetheless, past history, coupled with the discussions presented during Fire Prevention Week, led the Student Council to appoint a student fire department to serve as the first responders in the event of a fire on campus.

One student from each of the three dormitories and one from each of the other campus buildings in which students were housed were appointed as members of the department. Junior Clotilde Rodes was chosen to head the department. These intrepid, would-be fire fighters would receive training (by a faculty member) in the proper use of the fire extinguishers and hoses located in each building and it would be the duty of each to warn those in their building when a fire broke out.

The following fall, after a small fire in Maury Hall, another student fire department was organized, only this time three students from each dormitory were enlisted and a Drill Master position was created to serve alongside that of the Chief.[187]

December 2, 1922. "*The Breeze*": *First Issue*

On Saturday, December 2, Professor John Wayland set out in his car for Strasburg, located about fifty miles north of Harrisonburg. With him were two students, Roselyn Brownley and Florence Shelton, the editor-in-chief and business manager, respectively, of *The Breeze,* the new student paper.

The destination of this small band was the Shenandoah Publishing House. Once there, they oversaw the printing of the first issue of *The Breeze.* The three arrived back at Harrison Hall at 5:30 p.m. with 400 copies of new paper.

The first issue was a four page, four column, paper measuring 10.5 by 15''. It contained no photographs or graphics of any kind, but did have twenty-five business advertisements within its

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[186] It should be noted that until 1924 the position of Dean of Women was referred to as Social Director. See Dingledine, 160. "Finishing Touches to Alumni Hall," *The Breeze,* 16 December 1922; *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 12 (December 1922): 305.

[187] It does not appear to be known exactly how long the student fire department endeavor lasted or even if the students ever responded to a real fire. References to the organization and activity of the student fire department seem to be few and far between. However, dorm fire chiefs were still being appointed in the 1940s. "Fire Department Chosen," *The Breeze,* 16 December 1922; "A False Alarm," *The Breeze,* 27 January 1923; "Fire Department," *The Breeze,* 20 October 1923.

pages. The new paper cost $.10 per copy, or $1 for a year's subscription, and was published bi-weekly on alternate Saturdays. The initial subscription list was over 350.

More than eighty years later, *The Breeze* continues to serve as the student newspaper. Today, the paper measures 12.5 by 23" and regularly runs anywhere between twenty and thirty-two pages (but can reach over fifty pages with special inserts). It is issued free of charge twice-a-week on Mondays and Thursdays and issues are slowly being made available via the Internet.[188]

1923.

January 20, 1923. ***First School Orchestra Performance***

Today, JMU boasts numerous instrumental ensemble groups of varying sizes. There are some relatively small brass/percussion, string, and jazz ensembles, but also several large ensembles such as the acclaimed Marching Royal Dukes, a thirty-member chamber orchestra, and a seventy-five member symphony orchestra.

The origins of this diverse array of instrumental groups can be traced back more than eight decades to a small group of five students. With two girls sharing piano duties, one playing the banjo ukulele, another "sawing" the violin, and the fifth behind the drum kit, the school's first orchestra made its debut performance on Saturday, January 20, 1923.

From 4 to 6 p.m., the girls provided some of the music for a dance being held in the Ashby Hall gymnasium. This was a special event to entertain the cadets of the Virginia Tech Minstrels who would be performing later in the evening.

According to *The Breeze,* students had been desirous of an orchestra for years and when the paper reported on this first performance, the headline read: "At Last – An Orchestra."[189]

March - May 1923. ***Campus Crazes: Bobbed Hair, Chewing Gum, Lollipops, Sweaters***

Bobbed Hair

The spring of 1923 was ushered in with a fashion craze that had apparently already become something of a regular seasonal occurrence on campus – "the bob." A short hairstyle for women, "the bob" was a product of the early 1920s flapper culture and was quite controversial at the time.

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[188] Wayland, Letter to President Duke, p. 16; Dingledine, 211; "Trace History of Breeze to Present Day," *The Breeze,* 24 January 1931; "25 Years Ago First *Breeze* Appeared on Madison Campus," *The Breeze,* 10 December 1947; "School Activities," *The Virginia Teacher* 3, no. 2 (November 1922): 277; Jones, "Heads, It's The Breeze, Tails, It's Campus Cat"; *The Breeze,* [Internet Homepage], <http://www.thebreeze.org/> [8 May 2006]. Internet archived issues are available at, <http://www.thebreeze.org/2006/archives.html> [8 May 2006].

[189] For information on JMU's music ensemble groups visit, <http://www.jmu.edu/music/ensembles>. "At Last – An Orchestra," *The Breeze,* 27 January 1923; "VA. Tech Minstrels Big Success Here," *The Breeze,* 27 January 1923.

The school faculty was opposed to the trendy hairstyle and tried to discourage its spread among the student body, but to no avail. The student paper, *The Breeze,* reported that during one week in late March "seven or eight new bobbed heads" appeared on campus. The following year, "hair bobbing" would be all the rage.

Chewing Gum

According to *The Breeze,* candy was much in vogue in April. First, it was chewing gum.

Many girls were chewing with reckless abandon, "as if [it] were a matter of life and death," while making the occasional "pop" of satisfaction. Despite the joy this obviously brought to many students, the paper condemned the practice of public gum chewing as "one of the most unrefined habits we have in school."

Lollipops

Next it was lollipops. It was reported that everyone on campus had an "unexplainable craze for lollipops" and that "all day long there is a continual suck-suck-suck until the lollypop is gone-gone-gone." Lollipops, however, did not receive the harsh judgment handed down on chewing gum. Rather, the paper simply recommended not letting the newest craze drive you crazy.

Sweaters

In May, candy took a back seat to sweaters. Girls were knitting sweaters all over campus, and in the hallways, and in class (if they could get away with it). "Click! Click! Goes the needles. Swish! Swish! Goes the wool." "Everyone seems to be knitting."[190]

June 1923. "*The Breeze*": *First Photographs • Roselyn Brownley • First Annual Supplement*

First Photographs

Six months after beginning publication, *The Breeze* ran its first photographs. Appearing on the front page of the paper's fourteenth issue (released on June 2) were photos of the two commencement speakers for that year – Virginia Governor E. Lee Trinkle and George N. Conrad of the Virginia Normal School Board.

Photographs did not appear again until the fall of 1926 and did not see regular use until the mid-1930s.

Roselyn Brownley

Although many had participated in the efforts to establish the first student paper, it is Roselyn Brownley, more than any other, who is viewed as the founder of *The Breeze*.

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[190] *The Breeze:* "Bobbed Hair," 24 March 1923; "Chewing Gum," 7 April 1923; "Just Another Craze," 21 April 1923; "Sweater Craze," 26 May 1923. Dingledine, 192.

Not only had Brownley headed (and been the driving force behind) the student publication committee which drafted the initial plans for the establishment of the paper, she also served as the paper's first editor-in-chief (from November 20, 1922 until June 2, 1923), leading it through its critical, formative months.

The 1923 *Schoolma'am* aptly described her as "The bird that made *The Breeze* to blow."

First Annual Supplement

In 1923, an Annual Supplement issue of *The Breeze* was first published as part of the yearbook. The eight-page supplement replaced *The Notebook*, a humor paper dealing with school happenings which had been running in the yearbook since 1917.

Annual supplements of *The Breeze* would appear in the yearbooks through 1929.[191]

August 17, 1923. ***All Boarding Students Accommodated***

Since the opening of the school in 1909, one of the primary problems facing the administration was that of providing dormitory accommodations for students. Every year, enrollment easily surpassed the available on-campus space and numbers of students were forced to seek off-campus housing. However, for a brief moment, this changed.

When President Duke submitted his annual report to the Virginia Normal School Board in August 1923, he stated that during the previous school year (1922-1923), all boarding students had been provided with dormitory rooms. Duke noted that this was the first year in the school's history that this had been accomplished.

Duke credited the opening of Alumnae Hall and Shenandoah Apartments for this achievement, but quickly pointed out that such a feat was already impossible for the coming year.[192]

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[191] See the 2 June 1923 and 2 October 1926 issues of *The Breeze*. Use of photographs after October 1926 was sporadic and it was not until 1934 that they began appearing in almost every issue. Dingledine, 212, erroneously gives 1932 as the year the first photos appeared (this is perhaps the result of a typographical error). This error is repeated in Jones, "Heads, It's The Breeze, Tails, It's the Campus Cat." "School Publications," *The Schoolma'am* (1923): n.p.; "Trace History of Breeze to Present Day," *The Breeze,* 24 January 1931; *The Breeze*, June 1923, Annual Supplement, in *The Schoolma'am* (1923).

[192] Samuel P. Duke, Annual Report to the Virginia Normal School Board, 17 August 1923, p.1, in *President's Reports to Board of Trustees & Virginia Normal School Board, 1909-1926*.

Fall 1923.[193] ***"The Rock": Unearthed, Brief History***

Unearthed

Throughout the 1920s, extensive landscaping efforts were undertaken to beautify the campus and to grade, or level, the quadrangle. By the late months of 1923, grading in front of Alumnae and Sheldon Halls was already underway. Here, according to historian and school professor Dr. John Wayland, the land was "graded down to a depth of four or five feet, perhaps slightly more in some places." It is believed that it was during this excavation that the giant piece of limestone in front of Alumnae Hall, known today as "the Rock," was unearthed.

Although plans were made to remove "the Rock," circumstances conspired to give JMU one of its most distinctive features.

There appear to have been two reasons why the stone was left in place. The first was the cost; removing it would simply have been too expensive. The second reason, as related by Nancy Chappelear Baird, the daughter of George Chappelear who was the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds at the time, is a bit more interesting.

One day, according to Mrs. Baird, as a workman was in the process of preparing a hole in which to place the dynamite, the boring tool he was using slipped from his hand and "vanished into what they feared might be a cavern." This stopped the removal effort.

Brief History

Since it was unearthed, the Rock has become one of the most unique features of the campus. Early on it became known as "Kissing Rock" because couples would steal kisses behind it, out of view of the watchful eyes of chaperones and matrons. Eventually, the myth was born that the person you kissed at "Kissing Rock" would be the person you would marry.

Over the decades, the Rock has appeared in an untold number of photographs of the campus, usually serving as foreground material for pictures of Wilson Hall. Today, in the spring and summer months, students can be found lounging and studying on and around the Rock and occasionally professors will hold classes there.[194]

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[193] Note: it is possible that "the Rock" was uncovered as early as 1921 or as late as 1924. While researching this timeline, no source (primary or secondary) was discovered that provided a specific date. Generally, the closest one can get to a date is "the early 1920s." However, this author believes, after examining numerous sources, that the fall of 1923 is a solid candidate for a timeframe of unearthing. Hopefully there will be future research on this issue that will either prove or disprove this author's conclusion.

[194] By 1923, landscaping efforts, including grading, planting trees and shrubs, filling in depressions on the quad, had been underway for nearly four years. However, grading of the quadrangle appears to have continued at least until mid-1926 and may not have been fully completed until the middle or end of 1927. "Campus Changes," *The Breeze*, 6 October 1923; *The Virginia Teacher* 5, no.1 (January 1924): 25; Samuel P. Duke, Annual Report to the Board of Virginia Teachers Colleges, 20 July 1926, p. 2, in *President's Reports to Board of Trustees & Virginia Normal School Board, 1909-1926*; Dingledine, 134-135. Wayland, "Some Items," 7. "The Rock," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/rock.shtml> [3 May 2006]; Nancy Chappelear Baird, "James Madison University As Remembered By Nancy Chappelear Baird, 1918-1944," in *Dingledine, Raymond C: Madison College, The First 50 Years*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James

1924.

February 13, 1924. ***Institution's Third Name: From Normal School to Teachers College***

On Wednesday, February 13, Virginia Governor E. Lee Trinkle signed Senate Bill 121 designating the state's four normal schools as state teachers colleges.

The State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg thus became the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg. This was the institution's third name since its founding in 1908. Subsequently, the school was most often referred to as the Harrisonburg Teachers College (H.T.C.).

President Duke had played a leading role in getting the name change, arguing in favor of it for several years prior to its realization. Over the preceding years, the institution had steadily raised its entrance requirements, expanded its curriculum, and, since 1917-1918, had been offering the B.S. degree in education for completion of four-year courses.

By 1924, the institution was essentially providing a college-level education on par in many respects with major universities like the University of Virginia and William & Mary. Thus, changing the name from the State Normal *School* to State Teachers *College* would better reflect the higher educational nature of the institution which had already emerged.

The student paper, *The Breeze*, echoed Duke's views and summarized the argument: "This school has been based upon the standards of a college for several years, and all that was needed was the name." *The Breeze* saw the change as "a big stride" for the school and called upon students to maintain the high standards of previous years.[195]

March 29, 1924. ***Varsity Basketball: First Undefeated Season, State Champions***

The eighth and final game of the 1924 basketball season took place on Saturday evening, March 29 in the Ashby Hall (Dormitory No. 2) gymnasium. By a score of 65-21, the school's varsity team, informally dubbed the "Bluestone basketeers," handily beat the visiting Richmond Normal school team.

With this victory, the varsity team recorded its first undefeated season (8-0) since it was inaugurated in 1921. The team of 1924 outscored its opponents 316 to 132 and proudly bore the mantle of state champions.

Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 52-53. Susan E. Dawson, "James Madison University: An Environmental History," Dawson, Susan E. "James Madison University: An Environmental History," A Burruss Research Project Paper, (James Madison University, 2000): 33-34.

[195] Samuel P. Duke, "The New State Teachers Colleges," *The Virginia Teacher* (February 1924): 31-35; Dingledine, 146-147; Jones, *Rooted*, 52; "H.N.S. Vanished, H.T.C. Appears," *The Breeze,* 23 February 1924; a copy of Senate Bill No. 121 is available in, *Name: Madison College.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

More perfect seasons would follow in 1929, 1930, 1934, and 1935. The teams of 1929 and 1930, however, did more than win. These teams regularly mauled their opponents, outscoring them by double and triple points in most games.[196]

April 1924. *"Bobbed-Hair Craze!" Sweeps Campus*

"To bob or not to bob?" That was the question posed in early April 1924 by the student paper.

For years, the administration and faculty had been trying to curb the advance on campus of this controversial short hairstyle for women, but in growing numbers the girls were continuing to cut their hair. "Morning, noon, and night," stated *The Breeze,* "the girls appear with their shorn heads."

The student paper ruminated over whether or not the style improved the girls' appearances or if it might adversely impact their future job prospects, but either way, the paper admitted there was no stopping it: "hair is being bobbed and nothing seems to be able to stop the craze."

Ultimately, *The Breeze's* assessment was correct – the trend would not be stopped.

Faculty efforts to stem the advance of the dreaded "bob" across campus suffered setbacks when highly respected students, such as Elizabeth Rolston, president of the Student Association (1924-1925), began adopting the style. Even worse, by the time the next school year began in September, there were rumors that some members of the faculty were thinking of "yielding to 'the craze.'"

Those rumors eventually proved true when Mrs. Bernice Varner, Dean of Women, returned from a trip sporting the hairstyle. After this, the faculty "gave up the fight."[197]

Summer 1924. *Outdoor Swimming Pool*

To "provide for the profitable employment of the leisure time" of students, the school opened an outdoor swimming pool in the summer of 1924. Located in a depression a short distance behind and between the present-day buildings of Moody and Varner, this was the school's first swimming facility. Admission fees would be charged in the hope of recouping construction costs.[198]

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[196] Technically, this game was simply the crowning moment, clinching an undefeated season. The championship had actually been sealed during the previous game when the school narrowly beat the Farmville team on March 15 by a score of 31 to 30. "Championship," *The Breeze,* 22 March 1924; "Enviable Record Hung Up By Our Basketeers," *The Breeze,* 5 April 1924; "Blue Stone Varsity Captures High Score," *The Breeze,* 5 April 1924; "Sporting News," *The Breeze,* Annual Supplement, June 1924, pp. 3, 7, in, *The Schoolma'am* (1924); *The Schoolma'am* (1924): 185, 199; Dingledine, 214, 216; *The Schoolma'am* (1929) and (1930): n.p.

[197] "Bobbed-Hair Craze!," *The Breeze,* 5 April 1924; "Missing Locks," *The Breeze,* 27 September 1924; Dingledine, 192; Jones, *Rooted,* 50.

[198] It should be noted that the location of the pool as described here is different from the location described in two of the standard secondary sources on the school's history. *Images of James Madison University, 1908-1983*, 35, and Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 51 (who likely used the former as her source), both state the pool was located on the site of present-day Varner House. However, based on a brief description in Dingledine, 125, and maps of campus from 1924, 1953, and 1957, it seems clear that the pool was in fact located as described herein. See,

August 29, 1924. ***First Bachelor's Degree Awarded During Summer Session***

Two years earlier, the school had held its first summer session commencement. That year, and during the following summer, only diplomas and certificates had been awarded to graduates. In 1924, however, the school awarded its first degree during a summer commencement.

The recipient was Eunice Elizabeth Lambert, of nearby McGaheysville, who was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in Home Economics. During the evening ceremony, twenty-eight other graduates received two-year diplomas.[199]

September 1924. ***First Journalism Course Offered***

The school's first journalism class was introduced with the 1924-1925 academic year.

Administered through the English Department, the course, entitled simply, "School Journalism," taught students how to write for publication, how to prepare copy, and about special problems facing school publications. The course received an enthusiastic response from students and journalism was subsequently made a regular part of the school's curriculum.

Journalism remained and evolved as part of the school's curriculum over the next twenty years, but it was discontinued in 1943. In 1952, it was reintroduced as part of a two-semester course called "Journalism and English Composition," with students taking journalism for the first semester and English during the second. By the end of the 1950s, journalism was again being offered as a stand-alone course and two new courses – "News Writing" and "News Editing" – had been introduced.

Today, through the School of Media Arts and Design (SMAD), JMU offers some fifty-two courses on journalism, print and electronic media, mass communication, and numerous other media-related topics. In 2005, over 700 students declared themselves as SMAD majors.[200]

"Campus Maps." Samuel P. Duke, Annual Report to the Board of Virginia Teachers Colleges, 8 August 1924, p. 2, in *President's Reports to Board of Trustees & Virginia Normal School Board, 1909-1926*.

[199] *The Virginia Teacher* 5, no. 2, Supplement no. 1 (February 1924); *The Virginia Teacher* 5, no. 9 (September 1924): 265-266; *The Virginia Teacher* 6, no. 4, Supplement no. 2 (April 1925): 102-103; Dingledine, 127; "Third Summer Session Closes at H.T.C.," *The Breeze,* 27 September 1924. It should be noted that there is discrepancy concerning the actual date of graduation in the historical record. The February 1924 and April 1925 issues of *The Virginia Teacher* give the date of August 29 as the end of the session, while the September *Virginia Teacher* gives the evening of August 28. Finally, *The Breeze* gives the session ending date as September 2. It was decided that August 29 was the most likely date since two sources used it and it was a Friday, the day of the week on which most other summer commencements took place. Unfortunately, no program for the event is available in *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*.

[200] *The Virginia Teacher* 5, no.4, Supplement No. 2 (April 1924): 62; "Journalism Now Part of Curriculum," *The Breeze,* 9 October 1926; *Bulletin, Madison College* (Announcement for 1952-1953): 102; *Bulletin, Madison College* 15, no. 1 (November 1957): 130; Dingledine, 175, 227; "Table 3-11, On and Off-Campus First Majors by College, Fall 2000 – Fall 2005," <http://www.jmu.edu/instresrch/statsum/2005_06/2005-06toc.shtml>.

September 27, 1924. "*The Breeze*": *Weekly Publication Begins*

Since its first issue in December 1922, *The Breeze* had been published bi-weekly on alternate Saturdays. But, beginning with the September 27, 1924 issue, the paper switched to weekly publication with issues being released each Saturday.[201]

October 1924. *Students' Radio*

Although radio had been on campus since the fall of 1922, its operation was remanded solely to the faculty (specifically Dr. Chappelear), who gave "radio concerts" in the Sheldon Hall auditorium for the students that included lectures and music.

In the fall of 1924, however, during the week of October 12, the student body received a superheterodyne radio for its own use. As before, the radio was set up in Sheldon's auditorium, but now the students themselves could tune in to hear political speeches, sermons, educational programs, and musical entertainment.

Listening times were scheduled during the week in the afternoons following classes and in the evenings until study hours began and also on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings. A month later, however, *The Breeze* reported that "our new radio" had not seen much use and encouraged students to come and listen, reminding them that they could be taught to use it.

In the coming decades radio would see increasing proliferation on campus. Beginning with the 1935-1936 school year, each dormitory would have its own radio lounge and by the early 1940s, radios would be in every room.[202]

October 14, 1924. *Welcoming Freshman, 1920s Style: The Old Girl-New Girl Wedding*

In the fall of 1924, students began a new a custom that would last for twenty-five years.

On Tuesday evening, October 14, in the school's open air theatre (then located behind Maury Hall), freshmen students were welcomed and made an official part of the student body through means of an elaborate ceremony, known as the Old Girl-New Girl Wedding.

In the ceremony, which was meant to symbolize the binding of the classes, one "old girl" (an upperclassman representing the "groom") was married to a "new girl" (a freshman representing the "bride"). As part of their vows, the "old girl" promised to protect and care for the "new girl" who, in turn, promised to obey all the school rules.

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[201] The first weekly publication of *The Breeze* actually occurred in May 1924, when the last two editions of the year were issued on May 17 and 31. Regular weekly publication started on September 27, with the beginning of the new school year, 1924-1925, "One Step Forward," *The Breeze,* 27 September 1924; *The Virginia Teacher* 6, no. 9 (November 1925): 282.

[202] Dingledine, 197; "Radio News," *The Breeze,* 18 October 1924; "Our Radio," *The Breeze,* 29 November 1924; "Radio Lounges," *The Breeze,* 23 September 1935, p. 2.

The ceremony was complete with bridesmaids and a maid of honor (freshmen), and groomsmen, a best man, and the father of the bride (upperclassmen). The Student Association president served as minister, while two faculty children served as the ring bearer and flower girl.

In 1949, the Old Girl-New Girl Wedding ceremony was toned down to a simpler ceremony which involved the giving of corsages and school pins. By the end of the 1950s, it had evolved into the Old Student-New Student ceremony, with freshman being "capped with Madison 'beanies' and pinned with ribbon bows."[203]

November 15, 1924. ***"Excitement to the Last Degree": First Varsity Hockey Game***

On November 8, 1924, twelve years after the first field hockey teams had been established at the school, the student paper announced the organization of the first varsity hockey squad. Exactly one week later, on November 15, the team played its first (and only) game of the year.

On a cold and wet Saturday afternoon, fledgling Harrisonburg team hosted the team from Westhampton College in Richmond, one of the best in the state.

The girls took to the soaked and slippery field (located in the area where the Burruss Hall parking lot is today) wearing the uniform of the day – "black middy blouses, full bloomers, and long black socks." While the team reportedly "performed brilliantly at times," the game was lost by a score of 4 to 1. Despite this, the school paper described the game as "a 'thriller' from beginning to end" and detailed some of the action.

The local paper, too, covered the game, pointing out that it was the first intercollegiate field hockey game ever played in the Shenandoah Valley.[204]

1925.

June 1925. ***"The Breeze": First Crossword Puzzle***

A standard feature of today's *Breeze* is the crossword puzzle. Students can be found doing them all over campus – on the Quad, in the library, at work, and in class.

Crosswords became widely popular in America in the 1920s and 1930s and *The Breeze* first reported on this "sensible fad" on January 19, 1925. The paper deemed crosswords a healthy

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[203] Dingledine, 183-184, 284; "New Students Taken Into the Student Body," *The Breeze,* 18 October 1924; Jones, *Rooted,* 84, 110. For information on today's orientation program, see, <http://www.jmu.edu.orientation/index.shtml>.

[204] "Varsity Hockey Squad Chosen," *The Breeze,* 8 November 1924; *The Schoolma'am* (1925): n.p.; Dingledine, 217; Carroll, 10; "Hockey Game Here Today at Teachers' College," *Daily News-Record,* 15 November 1924; "Big Hockey Game Here Today, 3 P.M.," *Daily News-Record,* 15 November 1924; "H.T.C. Girls Make Good Showing, But Lose First Hockey Match," *Daily News-Record,* 17 November 1924; "Westhampton Captures victory from H.T.C.," *The Breeze,* 22 November 1924.

educational indulgence because they required correct spelling, definition, and usage of words, enlarged ones vocabulary, and took "clever thinking" to make.

Despite the positive endorsement, it would be nearly five months before the first crossword puzzle was printed in the paper. It ran in the 1925 Annual Supplement issue which was published in the school's yearbook, *The Schoolma'am*, in June.[205]

1926.

January 19, 1926. ***Library: 10,000 Volumes***

The library, then located on the first floor of Harrison Hall, reached a notable milestone in January 1926 when it cataloged its ten-thousandth volume. It was a copy of *The English Language in America* by G.P. Knapp.[206]

May 4-5, 1926. ***College First Participates in the Winchester Apple Blossom Festival***

The Apple Blossom Festival was first held in 1924 in Winchester, Virginia. Still held today, the festival is a giant celebration of the arrival of spring and the blossoming of the millions of apple trees in the valley.

Students from Harrisonburg Teachers College (H.T.C) first participated in the Apple Blossom Festival in 1926. During the evening festivities on opening day Wednesday, May 4, students from the college's Glee Club performed an operetta, "The Wild Rose."

The following day, May 5, H.T.C. students took part in the Festival's premier event – a grand parade. Over 40,000 people attended the parade, which stretched for nearly five miles, and included over 1,000 participants, twenty-two marching bands, and 140 floats.

One of the floats was from the Normal School. It carried twenty-one students and featured student Elizabeth Rolston representing knowledge and education. The float was pulled by a bus carrying the Glee Club and President Duke, who wore his cap and gown. Decked out in the color scheme of the festival – pink, green, and white – the school's float won second prize.[207]

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[205] The first crossword puzzle to appear in a school publication was a mathematics crossword which ran in the March 1925 edition of *The Virginia Teacher*. *The Virginia Teacher* 6, no. 3 (March 1925): vii. The answers to the first *Breeze* crossword puzzle were to appear in the opening issue for the 1925-1926 school year (released in September), but that issue has apparently been lost. "The Cross-Word Puzzle," *The Breeze,* Annual Supplement, June 1925, in, *The Schoolma'am* (1925).

[206] *Library Accession Books, 1909-1937*, v. 2.

[207] "100 H.T.C. Girls With Float, Will Dazzle Winchester," *Daily News-Record,* 28 April 1926; "Apple Blossom Parade today to Be 5 Miles Long," *Daily News-Record*, 5 May 1926; "50,000 At Apple Blossom Festival, Parade is Gorgeous," *Daily News-Record,* 6 May 1926; "College Float Awarded Second Apple Blossom Festival Prize," *The Breeze,* 15 May 1926; "Apple Blossom Festival," *The Schoolma'am* (1933): n.p.; *The Virginia Teacher* 7 no. 6 (June 1926):192; Wayland, "Significant Incidents," 90; Dingledine, 196, erroneously states that the school took first prize in 1926.

May 21, 1926. ***Sheldon Hall: The West Wing***

Half of Sheldon Hall (the east wing) had been completed in late 1922 with classrooms on the first floor and an auditorium on the second floor. Due to lack of funds, construction of the west wing was postponed. But, in early 1926 the Virginia General Assembly passed the Noell Act, which provided state-supported institutions with money for the construction of buildings. This allowed the school to commence with the remodeling and further construction of Sheldon Hall.

On May 21, Neilson Builders (Neilson Construction Company of Harrisonburg) began efforts to convert Sheldon into a dormitory. This entailed the remodeling of the east wing and the construction of a new west wing.

The remodeling was completed in time for students to move in at the opening of the fall quarter in September. The construction of the west wing, however, fell behind schedule and about two dozen students had to be crowded into the buildings east wing, three to a room, for the entire quarter.[208]

May 22, 1926. ***Keezell Hall: Construction Begins***

At the same time the school began converting Sheldon Hall into a dormitory, construction of a new academic and health/physical education building was begun.

The building (later named Walter Reed Hall and today known as Keezell Hall) would have about a dozen classrooms, several administrative offices, a large gymnasium (which would also serve as the auditorium), and an indoor swimming pool.

The Harrisonburg Building and Supply Company, contractors for the new building, pushed their construction efforts over the summer and the building was ready for use by mid-fall.[209]

October 13, 1926. ***Keezell Hall: Official Opening, The "Big Gym"***

Official Opening

At 11:15 a.m. Wednesday morning, convocation exercises officially opened the school's newest edition, Walter Reed Hall (now Keezell Hall).

Taking place in the new dual-use gymnasium-auditorium, the exercises were marked by the usual fare for such events – the reading of scripture, the offering of a prayer, the singing of songs, and the giving of addresses.

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[208] Chappelear, 103; "Contracts Signed for New Building," *The Breeze,* 29 May 1926; Dingledine, 135, 136. "Two New Buildings Add Size and Beauty to Harrisonburg," *The Breeze,* 25 September 1926; "New Rooms Assigned in Sheldon Hall," *The Breeze,* 18 December 1926.

[209] "Contracts Signed for New Building," *The Breeze,* 28 May 1926; Dingledine, 136; Chappelear, 103; "Two New Buildings Add Size and Beauty to Harrisonburg," *The Breeze,* 25 September 1926.

President Duke spoke briefly and reportedly pleased the crowd when he told them that the probable name for the building would be Walter Reed Hall, after the renowned Virginia physician and medical researcher.

Following Duke, the Honorable Harris Hart, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, delivered the main address. Hart congratulated the school for its part in raising the standards of public education in Virginia.

The "Big Gym"

The new gymnasium, known as the "big gym" to distinguish it from the "little gym" in Ashby Hall, was just under 110 feet long and approximately fifty-five feet wide. According to the school catalog it was stocked with "the most modern equipment and devices" for a wide range of physical activity. Underneath the gym, an indoor swimming pool was planned. It would be completed in early 1927.

Also, because of its large size, the "big gym" was used as the school's main auditorium (complete with a wooden stage, removable rows of chairs, and motion picture equipment). It could accommodate an audience of about 800 and remained in use until the opening of Wilson Hall in 1931.[210]

November 17, 1926. ***Keezell Hall: First Classes Held***

A month after convocation exercises had formally opened the gymnasium-auditorium in Reed (Keezell) Hall, the building's dozen classrooms were first used. When the students showed up for their classes in the new building it was reported that the "the bright, clean, new walls and floors had every girl excited to the nth degree."

Besides the gym and the classrooms (and later the indoor pool, completed in 1927), the building also had four administrative offices and was home to the Education, History, and Health Education departments.

In the spring of 1961, Reed Hall was renamed Keezell Hall in honor of Senator George B. Keezell, who had led the fight to have the school established in Harrisonburg and served as chairman of the school's Board of Trustees from 1909-1914.

The pool has long since been covered over and today Keezell serves a solely academic function, housing classrooms and offices for the English department and the Foreign Languages & Literatures department.[211]

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[210] According to the architectural drawings of the building the gym was 109'4" by 55'. "Superintendent Hart Speaks at Convocation Exercises," *The Breeze,* 16 October 1926; Dingledine, 136; "Two New Buildings Add to the Campus," *The Breeze,* Annual Supplement, June 1927, in *The Schoolma'am* (1927); Wayland, "Some Items," 4; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 21; Wayland, Letter, 22; *The Virginia Teacher* 8, no.4, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information (April 1927): 17-18; "Two New Buildings Add Size and Beauty to Harrisonburg," *The Breeze,* 25 September 1926.

[211] "Walter Reed Hall Opened to Classes on Last Wednesday," *The Breeze,* 20 November 1926, p. 1; Wayland, "Some Items," 4; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 21, 22; *The Virginia Teacher* 8, no.4, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of

1927.

January 3, 1927. ***Sheldon Hall: Opens As Dormitory***

Five years after initial construction on the building had begun, Sheldon Hall was finally completed. Its doors opened to approximately 120 students at the start of the 1927 winter quarter.

Originally constructed as an academic building in 1922 with an auditorium and classrooms, conversion of Sheldon Hall into a dormitory had begun in spring 1926. But, by the fall of that year, only half of the building was ready for student occupancy.

Today, Sheldon Hall is once again an academic building, housing the offices of the College of Science and Mathematics, and the departments of Anthropology, Sociology, and Philosophy & Religion.[212]

February 1927. ***Library: Reading Room Added***

In early 1927, the college library (located on the first floor of Harrison Hall) received some much needed expansion when a faculty conference room was converted into a reading room.

All the library's magazines and newspapers were moved into this new space which could accommodate about twenty-six students (bringing the library's seating capacity to almost 125). The room, which would not be staffed, would be open at all hours (even when the library was closed) and students would be on their honor not to remove any of the materials.

However, on the first Tuesday evening of each month the room would still be used for faculty meetings. It would also continue to serve as the faculty cloak room during meal times.

In 1931, the library would be expanded to encompass the entire first floor of Harrison.[213]

February 21, 1927. ***Keezell Hall: Indoor Swimming Pool Opens***

Although the gymnasium, classrooms, and offices in Reed (Keezell) Hall had been completed by the end of 1926, one important element remained – the indoor swimming pool, located beneath the gym.

Information, State Teachers College (April 1927): 17-18; Dingledine, 136; "Reed Hall Renamed Keezell Hall In Honor of Late Senator Keezell," *The Breeze,* 24 March 1961.

[212] Although students occupied Sheldon in January, the finishing touches were not complete until May 16, see Chappelear, 103. "Temporary Rooms are Discarded with Completion of Sheldon," *The Breeze,* 8 January 1927; *The Virginia Teacher* 8, no. 4, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (April 1927): 17; "Visit Guide."

[213] "College Reading Room To Be Opened Soon," *The Breeze,* 15 January 1927; "Reading Room Is Fine Asset to Campus," *The Breeze,* 12 February 1927; *The Virginia Teacher* 8, no. 3 (March 1927): 97.

Construction of the pool was delayed due to the necessity of raising funds. The original construction costs for the building had apparently not included the cost of a pool and thus it was left to President Duke to drum up private contributions for its construction, which were estimated at $10-15,000.

Duke's funding drive had begun in the fall of 1926. Appeals to the local business community soon raised $4,000. Students and faculty were also asked to raise money. Students were called to contribute $5 each and student organizations raised funds through various projects and entertainments. Faculty members also donated money. Following the acquisition of further funding from the governor, construction proceeded.

At a cost of approximately $12,000, the pool was finally completed in February 1927. The pool, which was steam-heated, was sixty feet long and twenty-five feet wide with a deep end of eight-and-a-half feet and a shallow end of four feet. Along one edge of the pool were stone benches for spectators. There were also lockers, bathrooms, and showers.

On February 21, at 4:30 p.m., the pool was formally opened when President Duke took the first plunge.[214]

April 1, 1927. ~~"*The Breeze*"~~: *"The Sneeze"*

On April 1, *The Breeze* was replaced by *The Sneeze*. Published by the self-described "morons on the newspaper staff," *The Sneeze* was a humorous April Fool edition of the regular publication. For the nominal cost of "three ka-choos a copy" anyone could get their hands on the latest in non-sense news relating to the school.

For example, it was reported that the Student Counsel had abolished the restrictive rules governing car riding with men ("Ride when you please hereafter"!), withdrew the faculty's privilege of smoking on campus and gave it to the students, and granted all students three class cuts per week.

It was further reported that a new required course in Pig-Latin had been added to the curriculum and that one of the school's most distinguished professors, Raymond Dingledine, had recently won the National Chewing Gum Championship.

To read all this necessary news, though, one would have to repeatedly turn the paper around, for many of the articles were printed upside down.[215]

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[214] When the building was complete, construction costs reached $99,500, excluding the cost of the pool. "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA." According to *The Breeze,* Duke first approached the student body about contributing funds to the pool's construction on October 22, 1926. See, "The Swimming Pool," *The Breeze,* Annual Supplement, June 1927, p. 1, in *The Schoolma'am* (1927). This *Breeze* article, however, erroneously cites the date of Duke's plunge as Monday, February 19 (the 19th was actually a Saturday). "Two New Buildings Add Size and Beauty to Harrisonburg," *The Breeze,* 25 September 1926, p. 1; "Contracts Signed for New Building," *The Breeze,* 29 May 1926; "President Takes First Swim; Swimming Pool Becomes Reality with Formal Opening Monday," *The Breeze,* 26 February 1927, p. 1; Chappelear, 104; Dingledine, 136-137, 293 footnote 5.

April 27-28, 1927. ***College Wins First Prize in Apple Blossom Festival***

In 1927, students participated for the second time in the Winchester Apple Blossom Festival.

On Wednesday, the Glee Club sang at the coronation of "Queen Shenandoah" and received "high commendation" for their performance.

On Thursday afternoon, 265 students participated in the grand parade, either marching or riding on the school's float, which came third in the procession behind the Festival Queen's float and a marching band. The parade wound through the streets of Winchester, stretching for almost three miles and taking some two hours to pass any single point.

At the end of the day, the college float was awarded first prize – $100. This was the first time a float representing a group from outside Winchester had won first place in the Festival's four year history.

In 1928 and 1930, the college's float would again win first prize, but after this the school float was replaced by a student representative.[216]

June 8, 1927. ***First Daytime Graduation Ceremonies***

At 10 o'clock Wednesday morning, students, faculty, and friends gathered in Reed (Keezell) Hall for the year's final graduation exercises.

This was the first time graduation had been conducted during the day; previously graduation commencement had taken place on Tuesday evenings.

Forty students received Bachelor of Science degrees and 109 received two-year diplomas and certificates.[217]

August 26, 1927. ***First Diploma Awarded To A Male Student***

During commencement exercises held on Friday evening in the gymnasium of Reed (Keezell) Hall, Hunter Lee Jackson of McGaheysville became the first male to receive a diploma and graduate from the school. Jackson received his diploma for completion of the college's two-year professional course for grammar school teachers.[218]

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[215] *The Sneeze [The Breeze]*, 1 April 1927; Dingledine, 212. Dingledine identifies the *Sneeze* as the first April Fool issue of *The Breeze*. This is incorrect. The first one actually appeared the year before. However, it was lackluster compared to *The Sneeze*. It contained serious articles, but the inside pages were blank except for a giant red APRIL FOOL written across them. See, *The Breeze*, 1 April 1926.

[216] "Hanford MacNider Crowns the Queen of Apple Festival," *Daily News-Record*, 28 April 1927; "College Float Takes First Prize at Apple Blossom Festival," *The Breeze*, 30 April 1927; Dingledine, 196; *The Schoolma'am* (1928): n.p.

[217] Wayland, "Sundry Items," 23; *The Virginia Teacher* 8, no. 7 (July 1927): 237; *The Virginia Teacher* 9, no.4 (April 1928): 100-101; *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940;* Dingledine, 221.

[218] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; "Man Graduate Receives Diploma," *The Breeze*, 26 September 1927; Dingledine, 127; *Virginia Teacher* 7, no.2, supplement no. 2 (April 1926): 35.

Fall 1927. ***Campus Golf Course***

Construction of a nine-hole campus golf course was begun in the fall of 1927. A "pet project" of President Duke, the course would be completed in early 1929.

Covering a distance of just over two miles, the course stretched from the front south side of campus (in the area behind Ashby Hall) and around to the back campus to an area just northeast of Hillcrest.

In the fall of 1931, an informal, non-professional golf tournament was held with some thirty competitors. Throughout the rest of the 1930s, maintenance of the course proved difficult, in more ways than one. Keeping the greens in satisfactory condition was a major problem, but so was campus expansion. In 1934-1935, for example, one hole was lost when Senior (Converse) Hall was constructed.

By the beginning of the next decade, the once regulation course had become nothing more than a short practice course on the back-campus. By 1950, it would be completely gone.[219]

December 1927. ***Accreditation***

In 1924, the institution's academic growth had garnered it official college status when its name was changed from the State Normal School to the Harrisonburg State Teachers College (H.T.C). Three years later, the continued rise in academic standards as well as the physical development of the College led to membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (then known as the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools), the primary accrediting agency for southern schools.

The College had not simply satisfied the Association's stringent eighteen-point requirement list for admission, but had greatly impressed the organization with the outstanding performance of its graduates at other institutions of higher learning. Out of 628 graduate courses taken only four had been failed.[220]

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[219] According to *The Breeze,* the course covered a distance of approximately 2.25 miles. Despite the shrinking of the course after 1934-1935, the school catalogs continued to describe the course as a nine-hole regulation course until 1940. As Dingledine, 126, put, "For a few years longer the College kept up the pretense of providing a campus course of nine-holes." The catalog for 1948-1949 was the last to mention the availability of golf fairways on campus. Dingledine, 139; *The Breeze:* "Numerous Improvements Made Throughout School," 26 September 1927; "New Additions," 10 December 1927; "Improvements Making Headway," 21 April 1928; "The Golf Tournament," 30 October 1931. Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 51.

[220] "New Honor Captured by T'chers College in Southern Ass'n," *Daily News-Record,* 6 December 1927; Dingledine, 150.

1928.

March 14, 1928. ***Twentieth Anniversary: First Founders' Day Celebrated***

From 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., there was a "big celebration" at the school to mark the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the 1908 General Assembly bill that had established the institution. The event, dubbed Founders' Day, began with an academic procession across campus from Harrison to Reed (Keezell) Hall. In the Reed gymnasium, addresses were made, music was played, and songs were sung.

The main speaker was George B. Keezell, the former State Senator who had led the fight to have the school located in Harrisonburg. Keezell delivered a lengthy speech on the history of the institution's establishment. Elizabeth Cleveland, a member of the original faculty who was still teaching at the College, also spoke.

Harrisonburg Mayor Sheffy L. Devier read a letter of congratulation on behalf of the city. Other congratulatory letters, including those from former school president Julian Burruss and Virginia Governor Harry F. Byrd (who were not present), were also read.

In 2000, Founders Day became James Madison Day. While still commemorating the establishment of JMU on March 14, 1908, the emphasis of the celebration has shifted to James Madison – his birth (on March 16, 1751), his contributions to the nation, and his connection to the university. James Madison Day is part of the larger James Madison Week celebration.[221]

March 19, 1928. ***Harrison Hall: New Addition Begun***

On March 19, 1928, work on another addition to Harrison Hall began. Plans called for another dining hall to be built (this one just for Seniors), more storeroom and kitchen space, and an expansion of the heating plant facilities.[222]

May 19, 1928. ***First Intercollegiate Tennis Match***

On Saturday May 19, the Harrisonburg Teachers College (H.T.C.) competed in its first intercollegiate tennis match, hosting the team from George Washington University.

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[221] Julian Burruss, the school's first president, had planed to attend the celebration and his name appears in the event program as a speaker. However, shortly before the anniversary date, Burruss became ill and was subsequently unable to be present. Keezell's address and the letters of congratulation can be found reprinted in, *The Virginia Teacher* 9, no. 5 (May 1928). A copy of the event program can be found in, *Founders Days,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. See also, "Teachers College Observes Today Its 20th Anniversary," *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1928; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 25; *Anniversaries, 20th in 1928, & 25th in 1933*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA; August Smith, "Previous Anniversaries," from the JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/annivrsaries.shtml> [8 January 2006]; "Spirit Through Tradition: James Madison Day," *The Breeze,* 2 March 2000, p. 6; *The Breeze,* June 1928, Annual Supplement, p. 5, in, *The Schoolma'am* (1928).

[222] Dingledine, 137-137.

The College's tennis courts (then located where Carrier Library stands today) came alive as the tournament began at 1:30 p.m. Three singles and two doubles matches were played. The first two singles matches were lost, but the H.T.C. "racqueters" pulled out a victory in the third. This momentum carried over into the first doubles match with another victory. The second match, however, saw another defeat.

Although the College lost its first intercollegiate tennis competition, it was a close game with a final score of 3-2.[223]

May 29, 1928. ***"Tragedy on the Tracks"***

Shortly after noon on Tuesday, May 29, a school car carrying four students back to campus after a morning of student teaching at a local high school was struck broadside by a train at the Grace Street railroad crossing about two blocks from the school.

Two students, both seniors, were killed instantly. Another, a sophomore, died a few hours later at Rockingham Memorial Hospital. The fourth student (a senior) and the driver of the car (a school employee) were seriously injured, but eventually recovered.

Classes were suspended for the rest of the day and did not resume until the morning of May 31.

At 4 p.m. there was a mass meeting of faculty and students. President Duke made a statement of what facts were then known about the tragedy.

At approximately 9 p.m. that evening, the caskets containing the bodies of the three girls who had been killed were placed in the faculty sitting room in Alumnae Hall. Here they rested in state, surrounded by flowers brought by their classmates and others, until the following day.

The deaths "stunned the whole community and threw a pall of grief over the State Teachers College," reported the local paper. College professor and author, Raymond C. Dingledine, Jr. wrote in the late-1950s that it was "the most tragic accident in the history of the College."[224]

May 30, 1928. ***Memorial Service***

From 1:30 to 2 p.m. students, faculty, family members, and others gathered outside of Alumnae Hall for a brief, yet heartfelt memorial service for the three students tragically killed the previous day.

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[223] "H.T.C. Will Play Tennis Stars of G.W.U. Sat.," *Daily News-Record,* 18 May 1928; "H.T.C. Loses First Tennis Match, 3 to 2," *Daily News-Record,* 21 May 1928; "Harrisonburg Loses First Collegiate Tennis Match," *The Breeze,* 26 May 1928, (*The Breeze* mistakenly dates the Saturday game on May 18).

[224] "Coroner Holds B&O Train Exceeded City Speed Limit in Grace Street Death Collision," *Daily News-Record,* 31 May 1928; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 26; "Three Killed, Two Injured When Train Hits Car," *The Breeze*, 2 June 1926. The faculty called a special meeting at 2 p.m. to discuss the tragedy, *Faculty Minutes, 1927-1938,* entry date 29 May 1928, pp. 24-25, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 8, Oversize, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA., (hereafter cited as *Faculty Minutes, 1927-1938*). "In Memoriam," *The Schoolma'am* (1928): n.p.; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill,* 57-60; Dingledine, 221.

The services were opened with the Glee Club singing "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go." Next, Professor John Wayland read briefly from scripture and gave a prayer. President Duke and several representatives of the student body then spoke in somber tribute to the three girls.[225]

June 8-11, 1928. ***Revised Commencement Program***

As a result of the tragic deaths of three students in late May, commencement plans were altered.

The baccalaureate sermon was held on campus instead of at a downtown church. This meant that for the first time since the school had opened, the traditional "Normal line" did not make the baccalaureate procession through downtown.

Many of the traditional commencement activities were suspended. The Senior play, in which the two seniors who were killed had leading parts, was cancelled, as were the class and field day exercises, the senior-sophomore dance, and the usual student and faculty receptions.

Finally, graduation was held two days earlier than originally planned. On June 11, degrees for the two seniors and a two-year diploma for the sophomore were awarded posthumously during the final commencement ceremony in Keezell (Walter Reed) Hall.[226]

August 1, 1928. ***Construction of Home Economics Practice House Begins***

The school's first Home Economics practice house (also the first in the state) had been a rental property used from 1918 until 1921, when the building was converted into a dormitory. After this, the practice house facilities were housed in different locations near the school.

However, on August 1, 1928, construction began on what was to be the school's first permanent, on-campus practice house. The structure would be completed in less than a year, opening in February 1929.[227]

August 31, 1928. ***First Male Student Awarded Degree***

Ernest F. Bowman of Harrisonburg was the first male student to be awarded a four-year degree from the school, receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree in High School Teaching and Administration during the 1928 summer commencement exercises.

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[225] The faculty met a 9:20 on Monday morning and decided to hold a service that afternoon at 1:30, *Faculty Minutes, 1927-1938,* entry date 30 May 1928, pp. 25. "Coroner Holds B&O Train Exceeded City Speed Limit in Grace Street Death Collision," *Daily News-Record,* 31 May 1928; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 26; "Three Killed, Two Injured When Train Hits Car," *The Breeze*, 2 June 1926.

[226] The faculty had decided on the day of the accident to cancel the Senior play, *Faculty Minutes, 1927-1938,* entry date 29 May 1928, pp. 24-25. The decision to award the degrees posthumously was made during the faculty's May 31 meeting, *Faculty Minutes, 1927-1938,* entry date 31 May 1928, p. 27. "Teachers College Finals On Monday," *Daily News-Record,* 5 June 1928; "H.T.C. Finals Open With Music Recital," *Daily News-Record,* 11 June 1928; *The Virginia Teacher* 9, no. 7 (July 1928): 228; *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; Dingledine, 221.

[227] Chappelear, 104; Dingledine, 138

The 1928 summer graduating class of forty-eight students was the largest since summer commencements were first held in 1922. Thirty-two students received diplomas for completion of the two-year professional course and seventeen, including Mr. Bowman, were awarded B.S. degrees.[228]

September 24, 1928. ***Quality Points Grading System Inaugurated***

Beginning with the 1928-1929 school year, the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg expanded its student academic assessment system to include the use of quality points.
Previously, student work was assessed only quantitatively by the awarding of letter grades. Now, however, in keeping with the practices of the majority of national institutions of higher learning at the time, students would also receive quality points based on the letter grades they received: "A" = 4; "B" = 3; "C" = 2; "D" = 1.

This system, the basis for the Grade Point Average (GPA), remains the core of today's more nuanced points system.[229]

October 24, 1928. ***Harrison Hall: Senior Dinning Hall Opens***

Work on a new addition to Harrison had begun in March and by the time the next school year began in September, the new Senior Dining Hall was ready for use. A formal opening ceremony was held on October 24 which included "a special dinner, speeches and a song and dance program."

Work on the building, however, was not completed until February 1929.[230]

November 17, 1928. ***Johnston Hall: Completed***

On November 17, construction of Johnston Hall, the first completely fireproof building to be erected on campus, was completed.

Built by the Nielsen Construction Company of Harrisonburg (Nielson Builders, Inc.), the structure cost slightly over $84,000 and originally served as both a dormitory and academic building. The two main floors contained forty-eight rooms for 121 students and a chaperone while the basement housed the Physics Department and laboratories.

In 1931, the building was named for James C. Johnston, a former chemistry professor. In 1980, the building's designation was extended to include Johnston's wife – Althea Loose Johnston,

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[228] *The Virginia Teacher* 10, no. 4, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (April 1929): 102; Dingledine, 127; "Forty-Eight Graduate at Summer Quarter of Teachers College; One Man Among the Graduates," *Daily News-Record*, 1 September 1928; "Summer School Has Large Class," *The Breeze,* 24 September 1928.
[229] *The Virginia Teacher* 9, no. 4, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (April 1928): 42.
[230] The Harrison addition cost $41,000. "Formal Opening of Senior Dinning Hall," *The Breeze,* 27 October 1928; Dingledine, 137-138; Chappelear, 102.

former head of the Physical Education Department and women's basketball coach. Today, Johnson hall is home to the School of Psychology.[231]

1929.

February 27, 1929. ***Varner House: Opens***

Eleven years after opening the state's first Home Economics practice house (an off-campus rental property) the school opened the doors to its first permanent, on-campus practice house.

The new building, constructed at a cost of $24,564.96, was known simply as the Practice House. It was built as a duplex with a "north house" and a "south house" each containing complete facilities and accommodations for up to fourteen home economics students who would spend a full quarter living and working in the house.

On the first floor were two living rooms, two fully-equipped and functional kitchens, and two dining rooms. The second floor contained five bedrooms (four for students, one for an instructor) and the basement provided storage space for supplies. The third floor would be completed later with three additional bedrooms.

In 1939, the building was renamed the Home Management House and in early 1961 it became known as the Varner Home Management House, in honor of Bernice R. Varner, who served as Dean of Women (1923-1930) and as professor and head of the Home Economics Department (1940-1959). By the early 1970s, when the purpose of the building had changed, the name was shortened to Varner House.

Today, the Varner House (located next to Moody Hall along Bluestone Drive) is home to the Counseling and Student Development Center.[232]

May 11, 1929. ***First Intercollegiate Swimming Meet***

In May 1929, the school's varsity swim and tennis teams (both of which had been organized the previous year) traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete against the teams from George Washington University (GWU).

While this was the second time the Harrisonburg Teachers College (H.T.C.) tennis team had faced off against GWU (they had lost their match the previous May), it was the first time the varsity swim team had competed intercollegiately.

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[231] Chappelear, 103; Dingledine, 137-138; "Major Buildings"; "Visit Guide."

[232] Pearl Powers Moody, "Our Practice House," *The Virginia Teacher* 10, no. 3 (March 1929): 80-83; Chappelear, 104; Dingledine, 138, 160, 161; "New Building to Be Added to the H.T.C.," *Daily News-Record,* 7 June 1928; "Reed Hall Renamed Keezell Hall In Honor of Late Senator Keezell," *The Breeze,* 24 March 1961; *Naming of Buildings, 1957-1980* ; "Visit Guide."

The tennis match was held in the afternoon and the H.T.C. team won handily by a score of 4 to 1. The swim meet took place that evening at 7:15 at the Y.W.C.A. swimming pool. Events included: 80 and 40 yard freestyle dashes; 40 yard freestyle relay; 40 yard breast stroke; "fancy diving"; and "plunge for distance."

The swim team "made a splendid showing," according to the student paper, but nonetheless lost the meet 19-39.[233]

June 6, 1929. ***University Farm: First Outing***

A week before graduation, at noon on Thursday, June 6, instructor Althea Johnston set off by car with the six student teachers of the year for a picnic along the Shenandoah River. Their destination was the old Hooke homestead, located about twelve miles east of Harrisonburg just across the river from the small hamlet of Port Republic.

The Hooke's land, which included a large brick house, had been leased by the school with the intent of serving as an off-campus weekend destination for students – a place to relax tired minds. In August, the school would purchase the land and convert it into a camp (now called University Farm).

After eating "a delicious lunch," the students explored the Hooke home, which was set back about 100 yards from the river. They also wandered around admiring the large yard with its many flowers, but especially the two cherry trees in the back.

When the student paper reported on the trip the following week, it said that the site was "a perfectly lovely place for a camp."[234]

August 15, 1929. ***University Farm: Purchased***

On August 15, the school spent $4,750 to purchase approximately thirty-one acres of land along the Shenandoah River which it had previously been leasing from Grover S. Hooke and his wife Anna. The purchase included the family's three-story, six-room brick house and several outbuildings.

Although the camp had seen its first school visitors in June, it would not be used again until April 1930, after necessary renovations had been made to the property and the buildings. During

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[233] A varsity swim team was first organized in February 1928, see, "Varsity Swimming A Reality," *The Breeze,* 18 February 1928. "Tennis and Swimming Teams to Meet G.W. University," *The Breeze,* 8 May 1929; "Tennis and Swimming Teams Compete with G.W. Athletes," *The Breeze,* 22 May 1929; *The Virginia Teacher* 10, no. 7 (July 1929): 236, mistakenly states that this was the first intercollegiate tennis match.

[234] The idea for a college camp originated at least as early as the fall of 1928. See, "How About a Camp?" *The Breeze,* 24 November 1928. It is likely that the property was leased sometime around early May 1929 as the first public mention of the school leasing the property appears to have occurred on May 10, 1929 when President Duke made the announcement at the local Kiwanis Club. See, "Dr. Duke Reviews Remarkable Growth, Teachers College," *Daily News-Record,* 10 May 1929. "First Trip to New Camp is Made by Group," *The Breeze,* 11 June 1929; *University Farm*, Vertical File, James Madison University, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

the 1930s, the camp was a popular and much used spring and summertime getaway spot. It remained popular in the 1940s despite being closed for three years as a result of World War II. Use of the camp waned in the 1950s and 1960s as student mobility increased.

Renamed University Farm in 1977, the area continues to be used for picnics, meetings, and various school-related social events. The original buildings have long since been removed, but the Farm currently features barbeque and horseshoe pits, volleyball standards, and a pavilion that can accommodate eighty people.[235]

1930.

January 1, 1930. ***State Board of Education Assumes Authority Over the Institution***

The institution's first governing body had been its own, independent Board of Trustees. When the Board was dissolved in 1914, control over the school was shifted to the newly created state agency known as the Virginia Normal School Board (later the Board of Virginia Teachers Colleges).

In time, this Board, too, was abolished, and beginning in 1930 the institution was placed under the authority of the State Board of Education, which remained the governing body of the institution until 1964 when an independent Board of Visitors was established.[236]

May 19, 1930. ***Wilson Hall: Groundbreaking***

At roughly 8 o'clock on Monday morning, at the top of the quadrangle in between Maury and Reed (Keezell) Halls, workmen began the task of digging out the foundation for what would serve as the school's main administration building.

Throughout the day, trucks hauled away loads of earth while numerous faculty members, including President Duke, helped the workmen shovel dirt.

At this point, the building had not yet been named and was generically referred to as the administrative building[237]

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[235] The actual size of the camp was "30 acres, 2 ro[o]ds, 26 poles" which was slightly over 30.5 acres. See, "Land Owned by Madison College." *University Farm*, Vertical File; Dingledine, 139, 201, 248; Fred Hilton, "Down by the (Shenandoah) Riverside," *Montpelier* (Winter 1981): 6-8; August Smith, "JMU University Farm," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/farm.shtml> [3 May 2006]; "Seniors Visit College Camp," *The Breeze,* 26 April 1930; Policy #3103, Guidelines for Groups Using the University Farm, James Madison University, <http://www.jmu.edu/JMUpolicy/3103.shtml> [19 April 2006].

[236] The Virginia Normal School Board became the Board of Virginia Teachers Colleges in 1924. Dingledine, 49, 147, 150; Prufer, 205.

[237] "Break Ground for New Administrative Building," *The Breeze*, 24 May 1930; Dingledine, 139.

June 19, 1930. ***Wilson Hall: Laying of the Cornerstone***

On Thursday afternoon over 500 people attended the cornerstone-laying ceremonies for the institution's central administrative building (Wilson Hall).

As was usual with such ceremonies, grand processionals were made. One parade left the local Masonic Temple in downtown Harrisonburg, heading towards the college. It consisted of the Masons, the Harrisonburg Police, the Mayor, and several city councilmen and was led by the Harrisonburg Municipal Band. A special escort was provided by a uniformed contingent of the Knights Templar.

A second processional marched across campus. It was comprised of the school's faculty in full academic costume. These two processionals met on campus at the site of the new building and the ceremonies began.

First there were musical performances by the Harrisonburg Municipal Band. These were followed by addresses by former Senators George N. Conrad and George B. Keezell (both of whom had played important roles in the founding of the school). The "two 'Georges'" spoke on the establishment, history, growth, and future of the institution.

After the Senators had spoken, the cornerstone was placed at 4:30 p.m. by the Rockingham Union Lodge of Masons (the same Lodge that had placed the school's founding cornerstone at Maury Hall twenty-two years earlier).

Following the stone laying, President Samuel Duke gave the final address of the day and used the opportunity to officially recommend that the building be named in honor of Woodrow Wilson – twenty-seventh president of the United States, educator, and Shenandoah Valley native.

Construction of the building was already underway at the time of the ceremony. Work was being done by Nielsen Construction Company of Harrisonburg (now Nielson Builders, Inc.), successor to the W.M Bucher & Son construction firm that had built the school's first buildings. Wilson Hall would be completed in 1931 at a cost of $202,073.75.[238]

September 1930 - June 1931. ***Largest Virginia Teachers College***

Enrollment in the college during its twenty-second year, 1930-1931, was 814. This number made the State Teacher's College at Harrisonburg the largest teachers college in Virginia. This status would be retained for the rest of the decade.[239]

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[238] "All is Ready for Cornerstone Laying," *Daily News-Record,* 19 June 1930; "New H.T.C. Hall May Bear Name Woodrow Wilson," *Daily News-Record,* 20 June 1930; "Wilson is Name Urged for New Plant at College," *Richmond Times-Dispatch,* 20 June 1930; "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College Harrisonburg, VA."; Dingledine, 135, 139, 140. It should be noted that several sources erroneously date the laying of Wilson Hall's cornerstone to July 1930. They are: the two major secondary works on the institution's history - Dingledine, 139 and Jones, 63; and one primary source – *The Breeze*, "Cornerstone Ceremonies Held by Masons July 19," 22 September 1930.

[239] Dingledine, 141; Conrad T. Logan, "Samuel P. Duke, Builder," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no.4 (April 1931): 97.

November 11, 1930. ***Armistice Day Parade and Student Body Picnic***

After marching in the local Armistice Day parade, the entire student body (which numbered 743) gathered for a "grand picnic supper" at the College Camp (University Farm) late Tuesday afternoon.

The student paper, *The Breeze,* reported that it took eleven buses six trips to transport all the students to the site, about twelve miles east of the school. This was the first time the whole student body had been to the camp together.[240]

1931.

May 13, 1931. ***Wilson Hall: First Assembly***

On Wednesday morning, students and faculty gathered for the first assembly to be held in the Wilson Hall auditorium. For most of the students this was their first glimpse of the new auditorium.

Following brief announcements by President Duke and a few faculty members about the upcoming dedication of the building, the curtains were drawn and the students were treated to a demonstration of the stage's lighting system. The display reportedly elicited "Oh's and Ah's" from the audience.

The gathering ended with the student body singing of stanzas from "Praise to God, Immortal Praise" and "Old Virginia."[241]

May 15, 1931. ***Wilson Hall: Dedication***

On "a clear, pretty" Friday in May, Wilson Hall was formally dedicated with a day-long celebration.

At 10 a.m., the sounds of Schubert's *Unfinished Symphony* began to fill the Wilson auditorium, marking the start of the program. Soon, a large processional consisting of state officials, college dignitaries, prominent educators, special guests, faculty, and students formed outside Harrison Hall and made its way across campus to Wilson. As the procession entered the auditorium it was "greeted by the stirring strains of the Grand March from *Aida* (Verdi)."

The dedicatory exercises were begun at 10:30 with former Virginia Governor E. Lee Trinkle presiding.

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[240] "Student Body Takes Trip to School Camp," *The Breeze,* 15 November 1930; *The Virginia Teacher* 13, no. 2, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (March 1932): 142; *The Schoolma'am* (1931): n.p.; *The Virginia Teacher* 11, no. 9 (December 1930): 275-276.
[241] "First Assembly Held in Wilson Wednesday," *The Breeze,* 16 May 1931.

An overflow crowd of some 1,500 was in attendance, including Virginia Governor J.G. Pollard, former State Senator George Keezell, the Mayor of Harrisonburg, representatives from over twenty-five colleges, and numerous city councilmen and members of the State Board of Education. Also in attendance was a very special guest of honor – Edith Bowling Wilson, the widow of President Wilson.

The dedicatory address was given by William E. Dodd, professor of American History at the University of Chicago and Wilsonian scholar and author. The subject of Dodd's address was "Woodrow Wilson: National and International Leader."

Also speaking were Julian Burruss, the school's first president and then president of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and current school president, Samuel Duke. Burruss discussed the College's contributions to the state of Virginia, while Duke spoke briefly on the future of the school.

The dedication program, which included several songs by the Glee Club, lasted until 1 p.m. It was followed by a luncheon and the annual May Day exercises. In the evening, there was a dinner (with more speeches) followed by the first concert to be held in the new auditorium, with violinist Albert Spalding and tenor Richard Crooks performing.[242]

Summer 1931. ***Wilson Hall: Occupied***

In the days and months following the mid-May dedication ceremony for Wilson Hall, the arduous task of moving into new building was begun.

By the end of the summer, Wilson was the new home of numerous administrative offices (many of which had relocated from Harrison), including those of the president and the dean. The offices of the registrar and treasurer (each with their own new fireproof vaults) had moved in as had the post office.

On the second floor were classrooms for the Mathematics and Education Departments while the third floor housed the English and Art Departments. There were also laboratories for chemistry, physics, and fine arts.

The central feature of Wilson, however, was the auditorium. With a seating capacity of nearly 1,400, it was the institution's first large, permanent auditorium, complete with a modern theatrical stage and motion picture equipment. Previously, makeshift auditoriums in Maury, Harrison, and other buildings, as well as an outdoor amphitheatre were used.

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[242] The number of colleges and universities that were represented was somewhere between twenty-five and thirty-five depending on which source is consulted. Dodd's address, as well as those of other speakers, is available in, *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 6 (September 1931). "Dedication of Wilson Hall," *The Schoolma'am* (1933): n.p.; "$230,000 Imposing Teachers College Auditorium Will Be Dedicated Today to Wilson," *Daily News-Record,* 15 May 1931; "Wilson's Genius Thrills as Va. Dedicates College Building to His Memory," *Daily News-Record,* 16 May 1931; *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 23. *The Breeze:* "Cornerstone Ceremonies Held by Masons July 19," 22 September 1930; "Dedicatory Program Announced, May 15," 28 February 1931; "Woodrow Wilson Hall Dedicatory Rite Held," 16 May 1931; "Wilson Hall Crowns H.T.C. Campus," 30 May 1931. Dingledine, 139-140; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 63-65; Wayland, "Some Items," 4; Wayland, "Sundry Items," 33-34.

Wilson Hall was the "crowning structure" of the school and with its addition the original quadrangle plans for the campus were finally fulfilled.

Today, Wilson Hall is home to numerous academic and administrative offices and is the location of several learning resource centers: the Communication Resource Center, the Reading & Writing Resource Center, a Science & Math Resource Center, and the University Writing Center. It is also the site of the offices of University Information, University Planning & Analysis, The James Madison Center, and Disability Services.[243]

August 28, 1931. ***Largest Graduating Class for a Summer Session***

The summer session Class of 1931 totaled 114. It was the largest summer graduating class of the institution's first fifty years. Seventy-eight two-year diplomas and thirty-six B.S. degrees were awarded.[244]

Fall 1931. ***Library: Expanded***

The completion of Wilson Hall earlier in the year allowed numerous administrative offices located in Harrison Hall to be moved. The library (then occupying part of the first floor of Harrison) became the beneficiary of the move when it acquired the recently vacated space.

By the time students arrived for the new school year in late September, the library facilities had been significantly expanded and now occupied the entire first floor of Harrison.

Four new rooms were added:

- A cataloging room that would serve as a staff workroom
- A materials room that would house resources for student teachers such as textbooks, teachers' manuals, pamphlets, and mounted pictures and artwork that could be used for education instruction
- A reference room (the school's first) for encyclopedias, dictionaries, and bound periodicals
- A conference room for student groups.

The additional space brought the library's seating capacity from about 124 to approximately 165.[245]

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[243] "$230,000 Imposing Teachers College Auditorium Will Be Dedicated Today to Wilson," *Daily News-Record,* 15 May 1931; "Dedicatory Program Announced, May 15," *The Breeze,* February 1931; *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (April 1931): 23; *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 7 (October 1931): 215; Dingledine, 139-140; Jones, *Rooted*, 63-65; Wayland, "Some Items," 4.
[244] Dingledine, 127; *The Virginia Teacher* 13, no. 3, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (March 1932): 111-113.
[245] "News of the College," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 7 (October 1931): 215; "College Adds New Volumes to Library," *The Breeze,* 13 February 1932; "Library Expansion Began in 1931," *The Breeze,* 1 October 1932; *The Virginia Teacher* 13, no. 3, Supplement no. 2, Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College (March 1932): 27; Samuel P. Duke, Annual Report to the State Board of Education, 27 July 1933, p. 2, in *President's Reports to State*

October 30-31, 1931. ***Annual Field Hockey Tournament Held On Campus***

Field hockey was inaugurated at the school in late 1912 and since 1924 a varsity squad had been fielded. While popular, hockey did not become a top sport at the school until the 1930s.

Hockey's popularity was given a significant boost during the depression decade by the school's annual participation in the Virginia College Hockey Tournament, which was first held October 31-November 1, 1930 at the College of William and Mary. When the school hosted the second annual tournament on October 30 and 31, 1931, hockey moved to the forefront of the school's athletic life as the campus reportedly experienced a "complete absorption in the sport."
The tournament drew nearly 115 players, coaches, and officials from seven Virginia colleges and one North Carolina college (Salem) to the school's campus. The Johnston Hall dormitory was relinquished by students to make room for the guests and a new, second hockey field was laid out over the lower part of the golf course at the base of the hill behind the president's home, Hillcrest. Both the new field and the old field were used for tournament play.

Three matches were played on opening day, Friday, October 30, beginning at 2:30 p.m. The final game of the day, which started at 4 p.m., pitted the Harrisonburg Teachers College (H.T.C.) varsity squad against the team from Sweet Briar College. H.T.C. won the game handily by a score of 6 to 2.

During the second day of the tournament six matches were played. This time the Harrisonburg team kicked things off, meeting its old rival William and Mary at 9 a.m. for the first game of the day. In a match that was described as "fast, furious, and hotly contested," Harrisonburg emerged the victor, taking the game 3-1. Later in the afternoon, a special game between the coaches and alumnae of the various colleges was played. The alumnae team triumphed, 2 to 1.

The climax of the tournament was the all-star game. For this match, eleven all-star players (including three from the H.T.C. squad) were chosen from among the tournament's participants to do battle against the "stellar" and "renowned" Washington Hockey Club. The game began at 3:15 and "Spectacular and dazzling was the stickwork and general hockey technique displayed" on both sides, reported the Harrisonburg *Daily News-Record*. When the game ended, the all-star team had won a narrow victory, beating the Washington Club 6 to 5.

Harrisonburg competed in each tournament throughout the decade and hosted the event for a second time in November 1937.

Female students at JMU continue the tradition of intercollegiate field hockey competition and in August 2006, the JMU women's field hockey team was ranked 18th nationally.[246]

Board of Education, 1927-1934, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 4, Binder 1927-7/1934, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

[246] "Hockey is Favorite Sport at H.T.C.," *The Breeze,* 30 May 1931; "Varsity Hockey Players Honored at Tournament," *The Breeze,* 8 November 1930, p. 1; *The Schoolma'am* (1931): n.p., see "Hockey" in the athletics section; "Hockey Comes to Fore in H.T.C. Athletic Life," *The Breeze,* 21 May 1932, pp. 1, 4; *The Schoolma'am* (1932): n.p., see the events timeline, entry date October 30; "H.T.C. is Hostess at State Hockey Meet," *The Breeze,* 17 October 1931; "Hockey Tourney Opens Tomorrow," *Daily News-Record,* 29 October 1931; "Hockey Tournam't

1933.

March 17-18, 1933. ***Silver Anniversary***

A two-day celebration was held in the Wilson Hall auditorium to mark the institution's twenty-fifth anniversary.

On Friday morning, the 17th, over 1,000 people attended the Founders Day program. The event was presided over by former governor and current State Board of Education president, E. Lee Trinkle. Among the featured speakers were current school President Samuel Duke, former President Julian Burruss, and Bruce R. Payne, president of the Peabody College at Vanderbilt University.

The following morning, the Alumnae Association hosted a Homecoming program featuring addresses by alumnae and the presentation of a portrait of the late Senator George B. Keezell. The painting, donated by the Class of 1932, was unveiled by Senator Keezell's granddaughter and still hangs in Wilson auditorium today.[247]

1935.

February 1935. ***Converse Hall***

During the first week of February 1935, the school began moving into its newest building, a three story dormitory called Senior Hall (now Converse Hall). On the 1st, furnishings began to be brought in and a week later, on Friday the 8th, 116 seniors moved in.

Construction of the building had begun in the spring of 1934 after President Duke obtained funds through the Federal Public Works Administration (PWA), which had been established in 1933 by the Government as part of its New Deal response to the crises brought about by the Great Depression.

Built by the John C. Senator construction firm of Roanoke, Senior Hall had been completed in January at a cost of approximately $140,000. Student accommodations, consisting of fifty-eight bedrooms, thirty-one baths, and several small kitchenettes, were on the second and third floors.

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is Colorful Event; H.T.C. Eleven Wins," *Daily News-Record,* 31 October 1931; "H.T.C. Eleven and All-Stars Victors," *Daily News-Record,* 2 November 1931; "All-Star Team Wins from Hockey Team," *The Breeze,* 7 November 1931, pp. 1, 4. "JMU Field Hockey Ranked 18th, Picked Third in CAA," available at <http://www.jmusports.com/Team/Stories/20_4269.asp?TeamID=20> [27 August 2006].

[247] *Anniversaries, 20th in 1928, & 25th in 1933*, Vertical File; Smith, "Previous Anniversaries"; Dingledine, 199. Senator Keezell passed away at age seventy-seven on 22 June 1931, see, Wayland, *Historic Harrisonburg*, 254.

On the first floor were the dormitory chaperone's quarters, the primary kitchen, and the main lobby, off of which were set three parlors. A men's lounging room was also provided as an authorized place for the girls to meet and socialize with their dates.

The building was renamed Converse Hall in 1957 for Henry A. Converse (1919-1945), "former registrar, professor and head of the mathematics department."

Still used as a dormitory today, the building now provides upperclassmen with "Substance Free" living accommodations as residents are contractually obligated to maintain a smoke, alcohol, and drug-free environment at all times.[248]

March 2, 1935. ***Arrival of a Liberal Arts Education: Bachelor of Arts Degrees Authorized***

On Friday, March 2, the Virginia State Board of Education unanimously authorized all four of the state's teachers colleges (including Harrisonburg) to award Bachelor of Arts degrees. It also approved the expansion of the schools' curricula and established strict requirements for obtaining the new degree, including mandatory completion of two years of Latin or Greek, History, and Science as well as one year of Mathematics, a modern language, and Philosophy or Psychology.

The decision came only after years of advocacy, study, and discussion on the part of President Duke, the Presidents of the other state teachers colleges, and the State Board of Education. It reflected the continued growth of the College's curriculum and the corresponding need to expand academic rewards and also the realization that the State was training enough teachers and now needed to provide a broader cultural education for women, especially those not seeking to enter the teaching profession.

The ability to confer the Bachelor of Arts degree pushed the institution squarely into the liberal arts field for the first time, allowing it to move beyond the confines of teacher training. The B.A. degree would be offered beginning in September, at the start of the 1935-1936 school year.[249]

September 1935. ***Radio Lounges***

When students came to campus for the institution's twenty-seventh year (1935-1936) they were greeted by something new – radio lounges.

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[248] According to *The Breeze,* PWA funds were obtained in early January 1934 and work was schedule to begin around mid-February, see, "PWA Appropriation to be Used for Construction of Dormitory; H.T.C. Obtains $140,000 for New Building," 12 January 1934. The construction contract was awarded on 16 March 1934. "New Dormitory at H.T.C. Completed," *Daily News-Record,* 2 February 1935; "Seniors Move Over Into New Building," *The Breeze,* 8 February 1935; *Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College* 1, no. 2 (March 1935): 26; Dingledine, 116, 142, 158, 229, 259; "Major Buildings."

[249] "Resolution of the State Board of Education Authorizing State Teachers Colleges to Grant A.B. Awards," 2 March 1935, pp. 31-34, 38, in *Bachelor of Arts Degree, 1935*, Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA; "Full College Rank Given 4 Teachers' Schools in State," *The Richmond Times-Dispatch,* 3 March 1935; "Teachers College is Granted Full Academic Rank," *Daily News-Record,* 4 March 1935; "Harrisonburg Teachers College Authorized to Grant A.B. Degree," *The Breeze,* 8 March 1935; Dingledine, 155-158.

Radio had been a growing presence in students' lives since it first arrived on campus in late 1922. At that time, a faculty operated radio was installed in the auditorium of Sheldon Hall and used for "radio concerts." Two years later, in October 1924, the student body was given its own radio to use.

Then in 1935, individual radio lounges appeared in each dormitory. According to the student paper, these new lounges were "the pride of all the old girls" (returning students) and were likely to be much appreciated by the new students.

Within six years, radios would be in every dorm room.[250]

November 5, 1935. ***Cleveland Hall: Construction Begins***

Construction of a new dormitory – Junior Hall (now called Cleveland Hall) – was begun on Tuesday, November 5.

The new building, paid for with funds from the Federal Project Works Administration, would be constructed by the Harrisonburg Building and Supply Company and would open in October 1936.[251]

1936.

August 27, 1936. ***First Bachelor of Arts Degrees Awarded***

During the evening commencement exercises for the 1936 summer quarter the school awarded its first Bachelor of Arts degrees to two students, Anne Spotswood Bond, of Petersburg, and Elizabeth Brown Myers, of Harrisonburg.

Forbes H. Norris, assistant superintendent of Richmond City Schools gave the main commencement address and there were a total of forty-seven graduates. Twenty-five Bachelor of Science degrees and twenty Professional diplomas were also awarded.[252]

October 15-21, 1936. ***Cleveland Hall: Occupied, First Party***

Begun in November 1935, construction of Junior (Cleveland) Hall was originally slated for completion by the opening of the school year in September. However, bad weather the previous winter had delayed the project. Thus, when the school opened, the juniors had to be temporarily housed in other campus dormitories, creating cramped and congested accommodations for all.

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[250] "Radio Lounges," *The Breeze,* 23 September 1935, p. 2; Dingledine, 197.
[251] The construction contract had been awarded on October 25. *The Breeze:* "Contract is Let for New Dormitory,"26 October 1935; "Work Begun on New Dormitory," 9 November 1935.
[252] *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; "H.T.C. Graduation Exercises Tonight,' *Daily News-Record,* 27 August 1936; "Degrees Given Forty Seven," *The Breeze,* 19 September 1936.

Fortunately, in mid-October, less than a month into the school year, ninety-six juniors were able to move into their new home. Their arrival was marked by the first party to be thrown in the building, a birthday party for junior Elsie Jarvis.

Essentially a smaller replica of its sister dormitory, Senior (Converse) Hall (completed in 1935), Junior Hall was a three story dormitory with forty-eight bedrooms, a dozen bathrooms, and kitchenettes on the second and third floors and a parlor, chaperone's quarters, and radio lounge on the first.

Built by the Harrisonburg Building and Supply Company, the approximately $120,000 price tag was paid for by funds received through the Federal Project Works Administration.

The building was renamed Cleveland Hall in 1957 in honor of Elizabeth P. Cleveland, a member of the first faculty. Cleveland served for thirty-four years (1909-1943) and was head of the English Department as well as a French instructor.

Today the building is occupied by numerous faculty and administrative offices.[253]

1937.

October 15, 1937. ***Library: It "Leaves Much . . . To Be Desired"***

In 1937, the school's library occupied the first floor of Harrison Hall, its location since 1915. While much larger than the original library, which had been a single room in Maury ~~(Science~~) Hall, by the end of the 1930s it was evident that it was insufficient to meet the needs of the growing institution.

An editorial in the October 15, 1937 issue of the student paper lamented the inadequacies of the library. In short, it was too small, too noisy, poorly lit, and lacked a sufficient number of rooms for studying and group meetings. It also needed more books.

The library had a seating capacity of only 165 – for a student body of nearly 1,000 – and was often full. According to the editorial, a college library needed at least 25,000 volumes, but at the time, the library held only about 20,400 and had little or no room for additions, besides. The library also lacked much needed fire-proofing measures to ensure the safety of the students and the library collection.

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[253] Dingledine, 142-143, gives the cost as "slightly over $118,000" while *Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College* 3, no. 2 (March 1937): 26, cites a cost of about $125,000. Elizabeth Cleveland retired at the end of the 1942-1943 school year, Dingledine, 230. *The Breeze:* "Work is Begun on New Dormitory," 9 November 1935; "New Dormitory Incomplete, Juniors Seek Other Homes," 19 September 1936; "Jr. Hall Complete on October 15," 3 October 1936; "Junior Hall's First Party is in Honor of Elsie Jarvis," 24 October 1936. "Junior Hall is Accepted by PWA," *Daily News-Record,* 20 October 1936.

The editorial called for "an entirely new building" to be erected, one with a browsing room, more adequate conference and seminar rooms, more chairs (comfortable ones!), better lighting, and more books.

Students would have to be patient, however, for it would be two years before a new library would grace the campus.[254]

1938.

February 17, 1938. ***Institution's Fourth Name: Madison College***

On this date, Senate Bill No. 14 was passed by the Virginia General Assembly authorizing the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg to change its name to Madison College (after the nation's fourth president, James Madison).[255]

March 8, 1938. ***Institution's Fourth Name: Governor Signs Name Change Bill into Law***

On Tuesday, March 8, Governor James H. Price signed the General Assembly bill authorizing the institution to change its name to Madison College. The change would become effective in June.[256]

June 6, 1938. ***State Teachers College or Madison College? The 1938 Graduation Question***

Before a capacity crowd in the Wilson Hall auditorium, the twenty-ninth annual commencement ceremony got underway at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 6.

At the time, the college was in something of a transition period. Two months earlier the Governor had signed a bill changing the name of the institution from the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg to Madison College. However, the change was not set to become effective until two weeks *after* graduation.

Therefore, the question was: should the diplomas be issued with the old seal of the State Teachers College or with the new seal of Madison College?

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[254] The number of volumes in the library at this time is based on the author's calculations using several sources. "Observe Our Library," *The Breeze,* 15 October 1937; Samuel P. Duke, Annual Report to the State Board of Education, 5 July 1937, in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1934-1938*, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 4, Binder 10/1934-5/1938, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 143; *Library Accession Books, 1909-1937,* v.5.

[255] The same bill also changed the name of the Fredericksburg State Teachers College to Mary Washington. "College Bill Passes the Assembly," *Daily News-Record,* 18 February 1938; "Bill for Madison Passes House Undebated," *The Breeze,* 18 February 1938; Dingledine, 222.

[256] "College Name Bill is Signed," *Daily News-Record*, 9 March 1938; "College Becomes Madison As Governor Signs Bill," *The Breeze,* 11 March 1938.

An inquiry of the graduating class (236 strong) showed that the overwhelming majority wanted to walk out of Wilson Hall with diplomas bearing the new name. Provision was made for this and the Class of 1938 became the first to receive diplomas from Madison College.

During the ceremony, President Duke briefly discussed the reasons behind the name change and the main speaker, Dr. Francis P. Gaines, President of Washington & Lee University, paid tribute to James Madison with an address entitled, "James Madison, the Prophet of the Mind."

Gaines argued that, of all the founding fathers, it was Madison who had most clearly understood "the significance of the mind in action." He thus deemed it "fitting" that an educational institution would serve as a memorial to such a man.[257]

June 21, 1938.[258] ***Institution's Fourth Name: "Introducing Madison College"***

On June 21, the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg officially became Madison College.

It was President Samuel Duke who had proposed that the school be named in honor of James Madison – a Virginian, the country's fourth president, "father" of the Constitution, and advocate of higher education (for men *and* women). Duke believed the name to be distinctive and distinguished and one that would give the College a strong sense of individuality.

At the time, however, many local citizens favored a name more reflective of the community and its historical roots.

They advocated for the institution to be called Harrison College, in recognition of former United States President William Henry Harrison and other Harrisons associated with the area, such as Gessner Harrison, a Southern educator born in Rockingham County, and the Harrison family for which the city is named.[259]

September 1938 - June 1939. ***Thirtieth-Year Enrollment Tops 1,000***

During the 1938-1939 school year a t total of 1,139 students were enrolled. This was the first time in the institution's history that a single year's enrollment had passed 1,000.[260]

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[257] "College Name Bill is Signed," *Daily News-Record,* 9 March 1938; "College Becomes Madison As Governor Signs Bill," *The Breeze,* 11 March 1938; "236 Graduate as Madison is Given Praise," *Daily News-Record,* 7 June 1938; *Commencement Programs, 1910-1940*; Dingledine, 223.

[258] Note: the date provided here is not the one generally regarded as the date the College's name changed to Madison. This is due to the fact that during the course of researching this timeline, the author discovered the existence of a discrepancy in the historical record regarding the date on which the school "officially" became Madison College. Generally, the date of June 12, 1938 is given, primarily because it is the one that appears in Dingledine's work (see page 222). However, it this author's belief that the actual date of the name change was, in fact, June 21. The author also believes that in time, this date will gain prominence. An article on the confusion over the date is being planned by Fred Hilton, Director of the Centennial Celebration.

[259] Samuel P. Duke, "Introducing Madison College," *The Virginia Teacher* 19, no.3 (March 1938): 56-57; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 80; "Johnny Rockingham Says," *Daily News-Record,* 5 February 1938; "What the Other Side Thinks," *The Breeze,* 18 February 1938; "College Name Bill is Signed," *Daily News-Record,* 9 March 1938.

[260] Dingledine, 143, 236.

October 10, 1938. ***Library: Construction Contract Awarded***

Continued institutional growth over the years led to a pressing need for a new library and early in 1938 President Duke had been able to secure funds for a new library through the Federal Public Works Administration (PWA). By years end, construction bids were being accepted for the building known today as Carrier Library.

The first bids to be submitted (probably sometime in September) all exceeded the school's planned expenditures, so a second round of bidding was scheduled after alterations in the building plans were made.

On October 10, new bids were submitted and the school awarded the library construction contract to the Harrisonburg Building and Supply Company.[261]

October 17, 1938 - January 1939. ***Library: Groundbreaking & Early Construction Progress***

On Monday, October 17, at a site just northeast of Reed (Keezell) Hall, where the tennis and basketball courts were then located, ground was broken for what would become the institution's first stand-alone library – Madison Memorial Library (now Carrier Library).

By the first week of December, the foundation of the as yet unnamed building was completed and work had nearly reached the first floor. Extreme winter weather slowed construction, but by mid-January the outside walls up to the first floor were finished, the concrete floor had been poured, and work on the steps to the building had begun.

Completion of the building was still many months distant, however. It would not be opened until September 1939.[262]

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[261] Duke was preparing to ask the State Board of Education for PWA funds as early as May. See, Samuel P. Duke, Report to the State Board of Education, 19 May 1939, in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1938-1941*, Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122, Box 4, Binder 7/1938-5/1941, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. During his opening remarks at commencement in June, Duke announced that the state had approved the PWA loan application. See, "236 Graduate as Madison is Given Praise," *Daily News-Record,* 7 June 1938. "Library Bids Too High; Others Will Be Opened Oct. 11 [10]," *The Breeze,* 7 October 1938; "Bid For Library Is Accepted," *The Breeze,* 14 October 1938; *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956,* entry date 11 October 1938, p. 11, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 6, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; "Library Built by September," *The Breeze,* 4 November 1938.

[262] Dingledine, 143; "Foundation Work on Library Completed; $14,250 Furniture," *The Breeze,* 8 December 1938; "Work Advances on Library," *The Breeze,* 13 January 1939.

1939.

February 14, 1939. ***Sororities Authorized***

During the institution's early years, sororities and private (or secret) student societies and clubs were not well-favored. In fact, one of the first regulations adopted by the faculty in September 1909 was that no secret student organizations would be tolerated.

In 1911, the yearbook (*The Schoolma'am*) included a two page spread which depicted a skull and crossbones beneath the heading "Sororities" and stated bluntly that the school had had no sororities in the past, had none at present, and would have none in the future.

Over the years, however, sentiment in favor of sororities increased, but it would still take three decades before they arrived on campus.

Permission for the student body to establish sororities was granted by the faculty during a Tuesday meeting on February 14, 1939. However, all proposed sororities would need the approval of both the Student Organization Committee and the president of the College.[263]

March 1, 1939. ***First Sorority Petition***

Less than a month after receiving the go-ahead to establish sororities on campus the first attempt to become affiliated with a national sorority was made. On a Wednesday evening, thirty-eight students signed a charter petition to form a local chapter of the national sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma.[264]

May 12-14, 1939. ***First Sororities Officially Established***

By mid-April, student applications to two sororities – Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Sigma Alpha – had been approved by the national authorities.

Local chapters of these sororities were officially installed during a three-day affair in May, which consisted of pledging, initiations, a joint sorority banquet, election of officers, and a Pan Hellenic Conference. Forty guests, including the national presidents of the two sororities, attended the weekend services.

In the fall, a third sorority, Pi Kappa Sigma, was established. Today, the University is home to eight sororities.[265]

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[263] *Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915*, entry date 30 September 1909, p. 19; Dingledine, 103; *The Schoolma'am* (1911): 79-80; *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956,* entry date 14 February 1939, p. 21.
[264] "Charter Sought for Tri Sigma Sorority," *The Breeze,* 3 March 1939.
[265] Pi Kappa Sigma was installed on the evening of 18 November 1939. An online listing of the current campus sororities is available at, <http://www.jmu.edu/ucenter/sos/FratSorLife/newchapters.htm> [10 July 2006].
"Tri Sigma and Alpha Sigma Alpha Chapters Are Officially Installed," *The Breeze,* 12 May 1939; *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956,* entry date 18 April 1939, pp. 23-25; "New Sorority At Madison," *Daily News-Record*, 18 November 1939; Dingledine, 241.

September 16, 1939. ***Library: First Male Librarian***

During a faculty meeting on September 16, President Duke formally introduced new faculty members. Among them was Mr. Richard H. Logsdon, associate professor in Library Science and chief librarian. Logsdon was the first male librarian to be employed by the school and had been hired to head the soon to be operational Madison Memorial Library (now Carrier Library).

A graduate of (Case) Western Reserve University in Ohio and a PhD candidate at the University of Chicago, Logsdon had been working in the library field for eleven years, starting as a student assistant then moving on to obtain his B.S. in Library Science. He served as chief librarian at Madison until 1943.[266]

September 20, 1939. ***Students Fill Wilson Hall Auditorium***

On Wednesday afternoon, some 1,200 hundred students packed the Wilson Hall auditorium for the year's convocation exercises. With so many in attendance, a large number were forced to sit in the balcony section. According to the Harrisonburg *Daily News-Record,* this was the first time since its completion in 1931 that the floor of the auditorium could not accommodate the entire student body.

Enrollment for the 1939-1940 school year was 1,264, the highest to date.[267]

September 22, 1939. ***Library: First Library Building Opens***

Madison Memorial (Carrier) Library was completed in early September at a cost of $140,000. It opened for use at 8 a.m. on Friday morning, September 22, two days after classes began for the school's thirty-first year.

This was the institution's first stand-alone library building. Previously, the library facilities had been housed in Maury Hall (from 1909-1915) and then in Harrison Hall (from 1915-1939). The new two story library was built of the same native blue limestone as the main campus buildings and had a matching red, Spanish tile roof.

On the first floor was a large browsing room which contained non-academic books and magazines and was used by students as a place of relaxation; (it is now Conference Room109 and the office of the Dean of Libraries). Adjoining the browsing room was a juvenile book room (now used as administrative offices). There was also a classroom (for library science instruction) and a reserve books reading room (now the Government Documents area).

On the second floor, one would find the main circulation desk (then called the "charging desk"); the main book collection (now the fourth and fifth stack level); the reference and general reading

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[266] *Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956,* entry date 16 September 1939, p. 37; "Mr. Logdon [sic] Has First Experience In Library Where Chief Interest Isn't a Date!," *The Breeze,* 29 September 1939; Dingledine, 230; *Bulletin of Information, Madison College* 6 no. 1 (February 1940): 8.

[267] "Madison College Convocation Draws Largest Student Assembly," *Daily News-Record,* 21 September 1939; Dingledine, 236.

room (now home to the Technical Services Department); and the periodicals room (now the second floor stacks and Honors Room area).

In the basement were two classrooms and an academic office.

The new library had a seating capacity of 350 (more than double that of the previous library). It held approximately 23,600 volumes, but could handle, according the college catalog, up to 125,000.

Unlike today, books from the main collection were off limits to students, who had to fill out a request slip for the books they wanted. Books would then be retrieved by a member of the library staff, which consisted of one head librarian, two assistant librarians, and thirty-two student assistants.

The library's daily hours (with some exceptions) were: 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.; 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. There were no Saturday evening hours and the library was closed on Sundays.[268]

October 31, 1939. ***Library: Fully Equipped***

Although the new Madison Memorial (Carrier) Library had opened a month earlier, the school was having difficulty fully equipping the building because of late deliveries and poor quality merchandise. These problems were not satisfactorily resolved until the end of October.

On the 31st, the final shipment of furnishings, including tables, office furniture, and filling cabinets for index cards, arrived and the library was fully (and properly) equipped.[269]

December 12, 1939. ***Library: Formally Opened***

Madison Memorial Library (now Carrier Library) was formally opened during a two-hour reception held on Tuesday evening from 8 to 10 p.m. Over 1,000 invitations had been sent out.

Guests were greeted by President and Mrs. Duke, Mr. Richard Logsdon (the new head librarian), and the building's architect, J. Binford Walford and then given guided tours of the new building. On the second floor, refreshments were served. Here visitors could enjoy displays of historical documents and paraphernalia associated with President James Madison as well as a collection of original books purchased for the library in 1909.

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[268] The precise cost of the building was $139,915.22. See, "Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA." The number of volumes in the library at this time is based on the author's calculations using several sources. *Bulletin of Information, Madison College* 5, no. 1 (February 1939): 32; "New Library Completed," *The Breeze,* 15 September 1939; "New Madison Library Opens to Public," *The Breeze,* 29 September 1939; "Madison's $140,000 Library Formally Opens This Evening; Reception Followed by Dance," *Daily News-Record,* 12 December 1939; "New Madison Library Opens to Public," *The Breeze,* 29 September 1939; *Bulletin of Information, Madison College* 5, no.1 (February 1939): 32; *Bulletin of Information, Madison College* 6, no. 1 (February 1940): 28.

[269] "Library Furniture Now Complete," *The Breeze,* 4 November 1939; Samuel P. Duke, Report to the State Board of Education, 9 October 1939, p. 2, in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1938-1941*.

The reception coincided with a dance in the Reed (Keezell) Hall gymnasium from 8:30 p.m. to midnight, to which all were invited.

Major additions to the library building were made in 1971 and 1982. It was renamed Carrier Library in 1984, in honor of JMU's fourth president, Dr. Ronald E. Carrier, and his wife, Edith.[270]

1940.

September 21, 1940. ***Martha Boaz***

On September 21, Martha T. Boaz, the new assistant librarian at Madison Memorial Library, was introduced by President Duke during a faculty meeting.

Boaz was a 1932 graduate of the school and had worked in the school's library (then located in Maury) for a year. That experience led her to pursue a Master's Degree in Library Science and become a librarian. Boaz served as assistant librarian at Madison until 1949.

Boaz went on to write several books on library science and management and was the Director of the School of Library Science at the University of Southern California from 1955-1978.

The reference room of Carrier Library is named in her honor.[271]

Fall 1940. ***Changing Times: Less Stockings, More Radios***

In 1940, students began to press vigorously for a loosening of the rules and regulations governing their social lives and conduct.

Less Stockings

On one occasion, according to a sophomore at the time, a group of girls "marched up the middle of campus" at night "and went right into the faculty meeting and told them what they wanted." What they wanted, among other things, was to not have to wear stockings to dinner each evening and on Sundays.

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[270] *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956*, entry date 7 December 1939, p.49; "Madison's $140,000 Library Formally Opens This Evening; Reception Followed by Dance," *Daily News-Record,* 12 December 1939; "1000 Invitations Sent to Library Dedication," *The Breeze,* 3 December 1939; Dingledine, 143; "Madison Renames Library for Carriers," *Daily News-Record,* 21 May 1984.

[271] "Boaz, New Librarian, Says Madison Spirit Unchanged Since She was Student Here," *The Breeze,* 25 October 1940; Dingledine, 230; "Looking Back at USC's Faculty," <http://www.usc.edu/academe/faculty/especially_for/faculty/looking_back_at_the_faculty.html> [22 April 2006].

More Radios

Radio had been part of students' campus activities since 1922 and beginning in 1935, each dormitory had been provided with a common "radio lounge." On November 27, 1940, the Student Government Association presented the faculty with proposed regulations for allowing radios in individual dorm rooms. The students' proposal was approved by the faculty on December 3.

These events were only the beginning and the following year students would garner more changes to the rules and regulations.[272]

1941.

January 1941. *The Madison Quarterly*

The Madison Quarterly was introduced in January 1941, shortly after the discontinuance of *The Virginia Teacher.* Containing articles on varying topics by professors at Madison and elsewhere, this new journal was published through November 1949.[273]

February 17, 1941. *First Ms. Madison*

In early 1941 a new tradition, one that continues to this day, was begun at the school – the election of Miss Madison.

The first Miss Madison titleholder was sophomore Jean Bell, who was chosen by the student body during an assembly on Monday, February 17. Bell was presented with a silver cup on which her name, followed by her new title, "Miss Madison, '41," was engraved. This cup would be given to subsequent winners, whose names and titles would be added.

Sponsored by the Art Club, the Miss Madison contest was initially styled as a beauty contest, with the winner representing Madison's most beautiful girl.

At the time, the Art Club's guidelines stated that candidates were to be judged "strictly on the beauty points of posture, proportions, grooming, and facial expression." Or, as *The Breeze* put it, voting was for "the prettiest face, the best figure," and the best posture. "It is a beauty contest," wrote the student paper, "not one of popularity, personality, or friendliness."

Over the years, however, the contest became less about physical beauty and more about substantive qualities.

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[272] For mention of the issue of wearing stockings and barging into the faculty meeting see, "Student Rebellion & Misc Memories," in *Jones, Nancy B., Collection, Box 1,* Folder 3, SC# 5013; and Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 73. Discussion of radio's on campus can be found in, Dingledine, 197, 238; *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – November 13, 1956,* entry dates 27 November 1940, p. 76 and 3 December 1940, pp. 76-77;

[273] *The Madison Quarterly* 1, no.1 (January 1941); Dingledine, 172, 234.

In early 1942, a second Miss Madison was elected, but after this the contest was not held for two years. In the fall of 1944, when the contest resumed, winners were chosen for their "personality, good looks, and leadership qualities" as representing "Madison's most typical student." By 1946, only seniors were eligible for the title.

In the early 1950s, Ms. Madison was chosen for her "wholesomeness and friendliness" and by the end of the decade the "typical Madisonite" was selected based on academic achievement, citizenship, community involvement, "poise, and dignity."

Now conducted under the auspices of the Student Government Association, today's Ms. Madison contest seeks to select the female graduating senior who is considered the best exemplar of the spirit, character, and quality of James Madison University.[274]

May 15, 1941. The "May Revolt"

Reflecting the changing times, the student body (primarily the freshman and sophomore classes) strenuously demanded a broadening of privileges during the month of May. During this so-called "May revolt," students threatened a sit-in, a hunger strike, a class boycott, and a march on Hillcrest (the president's residence).

None of these actions occurred, but the threats did prove effective. A student committee was formed that met with the faculty to negotiate alterations to the rules and regulations. The students sought a host of changes in their social privileges:

- more weekends off-campus;
- non-compulsory attendance for movies and other campus entertainment'
- longer lights-on time during final exams; and
- freedom from wearing stockings on certain occasions.

Most demands, however, centered around easing the restrictions on dating, dancing, and various other interactions with men.

On May 15, the faculty unanimously revised the regulations governing student privileges. The protests had worked. Privileges were broadened and, said one student, "We took off those doggone stockings."[275]

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[274] The contest was not held during the 1942-1943 and 1943-1944 school years. *The Breeze:* "Club Sponsors Beauty Contest," 7 February 1941; "Vote for Madison Beauty Tonight" and "Vote for Beauty!" 14 February 1941; "Bell is Elected 'Miss Madison,'" 21 February 1941; "Art Club To Hold Contest Monday To Choose Typical Madison Girl," 17 November 1944; "Sarah Overton Chosen Most Typical Madison Girl in Art Club Contest," 1 December 1944; "Miss Madison," 8 February 1946; "Art Club Nominates 'Miss Madison' Candidates; Selects From Senior Class," 9 November 1951; "Eleven Candidates for Miss Madison," 20 February 1959. Dingledine, 243; *The Bluestone* (2006): 88; "Mr. and Ms. Madison Nominations," <http://www.jmu.edu/jmuweb/students/news/students5770.shtml> [10 July 2006].

[275] See, Dingledine, 238-239, for a general discussion of the "uprising." The regulations were printed in *The Breeze,* see, "Dr. Duke Presents Revised Lists of Social Regulations to Students," *The Breeze,* 16 May 1941.*Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 - 1956,* entry dates 13 May, p. 89 and 15 May, p. 91;

November 10, 1941. ***First Representatives in "Who's Who Among Students"***

In late 1941, eight students were selected to be the first representatives of the school in the prestigious *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*, an annual publication recognizing those students with outstanding campus leadership and scholastic achievements.

JMU students continue to be honored with this recognition.[276]

December 7-20, 1941. ***WWII: Pearl Harbor, School War Efforts Begin***

Pearl Harbor

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, just two weeks before the fall quarter was set to end, Japanese planes attacked the U.S. naval fleet stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

When news of the attack arrived in Harrisonburg around 2:30 p.m., students had only recently returned from church services and the afternoon Sunday dinner. Back in their dorms, the girls were changing and relaxing. Some were studying. Many had their radios (which had been authorized for dorm room use only a year earlier) tuned to soft music.

This typical, quiet, carefree Sunday afternoon was disrupted by stunning news bulletins which burst over the airwaves: "There has been a Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor! American soil has been invaded! American lives have been lost!"

School War Efforts Begin

On December 8, the United States declared war on Japan and, as had happened during the First World War, patriotism and a sense of duty and service quickly swept the campus.

The student paper, *The Breeze,* called on students to remain calm and "to continue with the business of preparing" themselves to take their places in the world. Students needed to be prepared not only academically to meet the coming challenges, but also occupationally, for they would "be called to the jobs which the men of the nation must vacate, in order to serve in the fighting forces."

In addition to preparation, the paper stressed the need for full cooperation with the school administration in its war-related activities and urged students to begin buying defense stamps and bonds, something it would do throughout the conflict.

In the last days of the fall quarter (which ended on December 20), the school organized what would be the first of many war courses – a Red Cross first aid class. This course was given for the benefit of the local community and over two dozen town and county students attended.

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[276] "Representatives to Who's Who are Chosen," *The Breeze,* 14 November 1941; Dingledine, 243; Honors Program, <http://www.jmu.edu/honorsprog/AwardsRecognitions.shtml> [10 July 2006].

The College's defense activities would be ramped up fully beginning in early 1942 and would continue until the conclusion of the war. During the conflict at least eight of the College's professors would leave to serve in the military.[277]

1942.

January - June, 1942. ***WWII: Civilian Defense Committee, School Year Defense Activities***

Civilian Defense Committee

As the nation was gearing up for war in early 1942, so too was Madison College.

Not long after Pearl Harbor, President Duke appointed a Civilian Defense Committee (CDC) to oversee the College's war efforts during the conflict. The CDC was composed of both faculty and students and was headed by Mrs. Bernice Varner of the Home Economics Department.

On the evening of January 13, the CDC met and outlined a comprehensive plan for defense-related courses and extracurricular defense activities to be implemented during the winter and spring quarters.

Beginning on January 21, numerous regular and volunteer courses would be offered. There would be classes (taught by the school faculty) in home nursing, first aid, nutrition, canteen work, and Signal Corps training (with the latter including instruction in Morse Code). Certificates would be awarded to those students who successfully completed the courses.

Further, rooms would be designated on campus where students could assemble to knit, sew, and prepare surgical dressings. Materials for these activities would be supplied by the Red Cross. A special bulletin board, to be used for war news and CDC announcements, was placed in the lobby of Harrison Hall so students could keep abreast of important developments.

School Year Defense Activities

By the end of the school year in June, over 100 students had completed the various defense courses implemented by the CDC and received certificates. Students who participated in the sewing and knitting groups made children's clothes and hospital garments and sewed approximately thirty long-sleeved garments and knitted over twenty-five sweaters for soldiers and civilians.

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[277] "Bluestone Journal: The Afternoon that Broke the Rules – Madison's WWII Years," *Montpelier* (Fall 1997), <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/issues/fall97/journal.html> [13 May 2006]; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill,* 81-82; "Christmas, 1941 . . .," *The Breeze,* 12 December 1941; Bernice Reaney Varner, "Madison College Defense Activities, 1942-1943," in *Duke, Samuel P., 1919-1949*, Vertical File, Folder 1, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 230.

The student body also engaged in numerous other defense related activities. Students in the Art Club, for example, made posters advertising defense stamps and war bonds, while campus sororities collected books for servicemen and sold war bonds and stamps. Other students aided in the campus salvage program to gather discarded paper and metal and visited local families offering to help those who were interested in planting defense (or victory) gardens.[278]

February 27, 1942. ***WWII: Victory Book Campaign***

In late February, *The Breeze* reported that Madison students had contributed approximately 250 books and 250 magazines to the Tri Sigma sorority's "V Book Campaign," which was part of a national drive to collect reading materials for those serving in the military.[279]

June 1942. ***WWII: Supporting the Troops***

The school yearbook for 1942 was dedicated to: "Those men everywhere who are fighting that democracy may live."[280]

June 15 - August 28, 1942. ***WWII: "The Summer Quarter and National Defense"***

As a result of the war, Madison introduced a special wartime summer program in 1942.

Special courses relating to national defense were offered by the Health, Physical Education, and Home Economics Departments. The History Department offered a special course on Japan and the Far East.

The school also promoted the ability of students to obtain a four-year degree in only three years. Because the school operated on a virtual year-round basis, students could complete their education early by enrolling in the summer quarters.

Described as "the accelerated program" of study, this option had been available since the school's first year, but now, with the country plunged into war, the importance of educating students as quickly as possible came to the fore.

Such wartime summer programs would continue until the end of the conflict.[281]

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[278] No exact date for the establishment of the CDC seems to be available. According to Dingledine, 246, it was established "soon after Pearl Harbor." No mention of the committee is made in the faculty minutes for December 1941, however, and the first time the student paper mentions the committee is in January 1942. "Mrs. Varner Heads Defense Committee," *The Breeze,* 16 January 1942; "Defense Moves in Full Swing on Campus," *The Breeze,* 27 February 1942; Varner, "Madison College Defense Activities, 1942-1943"; "Various Defense Activities are Near Completion," *The Breeze,* 24 April 1942.
[279] "V Book Campaign Is Completed Here," *The Breeze,* 27 February 1942.
[280] *The Schoolma'am* (1942): n.p.; Dingledine, 248; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill,* 90.
[281] "Thirty-Second Summer School Opens June 15," *The Breeze,* 29 May 1942; *Bulletin of Information, Madison College* 8, no. 4 (May 1942): 1, 4.

June 15 & 17, 1942. ***WWII: Air Raid Blackouts***

World War Two brought a new experience to the campus – the air raid blackout. Fear of enemy air raids led the state to impose mandatory test blackouts to ensure that communities could quickly "go dark" should enemy planes appear in the skies.

On the evening of the 15th (the first day of the summer session), the College participated in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County's first test blackout.

At approximately 9:35 p.m., all the telephones and bells throughout all the college's buildings began ringing. This was the signal for the school to "go black" – *all* lights, including candles, flashlights, and even cigarettes, were to be immediately extinguished. The blackout lasted until 10 p.m.
Two days later, a statewide, dusk-to-dawn blackout was imposed. This time, no signals were given, but as the sunlight faded that Wednesday evening, the school again went black.

Early in the blackout there was a thirty minute air raid test during which time all traffic was suspended, all pedestrians were to be off the streets, and telephone use was prohibited. After the test, traffic could resume, but with dimmed lights. A ban on smoking in the open was in place for the duration of the blackout and in order to monitor the test, a Civil Air Patrol plane flew over the area.[282]

Fall 1942. ***WWII: University Farm Closed, "Scraps for Defense," War Book Display***

University Farm Closed

In the fall of 1942, the strains of war led the school to close its camp (now called University Farm), located about twelve miles east of Harrisonburg along the Shenandoah River. The thirty-one acre camp, which had been a popular destination for students and faculty since the 1930s, would remain closed for nearly three years, not being used again until the summer of 1945.

"Scraps for Defense"

During the fall quarter, the school participated in a nationwide drive to collect scrap metal for the war effort. The Art Department collected 160 pounds of copper and tin left over from craft courses, while *The Schoolma'am* and *The Breeze* contributed more than half-a-ton of copper and zinc from their obsolete cuts.

Ultimately, the College contributed over 13,500 pounds of scarp metals to the national total of nearly three million.

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[282] Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 83, erroneously cites June 6 as the date of the first trial blackout. *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956,* entry date 15 June 1942, p. 125; "Blackout Here Tonite Between 9 and 10 P.M.," *Daily News-Record,* 15 June 1942; "Blackout Here Termed Success; All Lights Out," *Daily News-Record,* 16 June 1942. *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956,* entry date 15 June 1942, p. 125; "Dusk-To-Dawn Blackout Over Virginia Tonight," *Daily News-Record,* 17 June 1942; "Blackout in City and County is Termed Success," *Daily News-Record,* 18 June 1942.

War Book Display

At the request of the school's student teachers, the library set up a display of books for young people (mostly in the upper grades and high school) that dealt with war issues.

The titles included: "War Time Handbook for Young Americans," which focused on the country's civilian defense program and included humorous cartoons; "Defending America," which discussed soldiers, insignias, and the machines of war; and "Little Oscar's First Raid," which told how a young boy named Oscar took care of himself during an air raid.[283]

November 1942. ***WWII: War Work Plan Adopted, Military Drill, Forums & Projects***

War Work Plan Adopted

Although campus war activities had been implemented the previous year, during the month of November 1942, the school put itself on a definitive war footing as students adopted a comprehensive war work plan and enlisted in numerous war related activities for the 1942-1943 school year.

Things got underway during a Monday morning assembly on November 2 when the student body endorsed the defense activities plan offered by the school's Civilian Defense Committee. In accordance with guidelines put forth by the Federal Government, the plan included a physical fitness component, war and morale projects, and study of current international problems.

Students were asked to enlist for four hours of war work per week. Two hours were to be spent in military drill and calisthenics and two hours in various other activities such as forums and war projects.

Military Drill

The Second World War brought the return to campus of the military drill, an activity which had been briefly implemented around the end of the First World War.

Students began enlisting for the military drill and calisthenics program on November 5 and by the middle of the month seven-hundred and thirteen (over half the student body) had signed up.

Both an officer's training corps and a drum corps were established and at the end of the month the students were formed into six companies. Dress parades, with the students wearing a uniform of sweaters, skirts, and saddle shoes, were scheduled to be conducted at least once a month.

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[283] "College Opens Camp Again," *The Breeze,* 14 September 1945; Dingledine, 248. The school received $67.56 for its scrap metal. *The Schoolma'am* contributed 885 pounds of copper and 105 pounds of zinc while *The Breeze* gave 25 pounds of zinc. "Scraps for Defense," *The Breeze,* 9 October 1942; "13,500 Pounds of Scrap Metal Nets $67.56 for College to Date," *The Breeze,* 23 October 1942; "Staffs Contribute Half Ton of Metal to War Production," *The Breeze,* 15 January 1943; Dingledine, 248. Unfortunately, the books that were on display are no longer in the library's collection. "Library Reference Room Displays New Books that Deal with War Facts," *The Breeze,* 2 October 1942.

Forums & Projects

Over one-hundred students signed up for the special forums that were given on defense subjects, such as current problems in international relations, aircraft identification, and nutrition, and even more participated in the numerous war projects that were offered.

Many of the projects (each sponsored by a student organization) were carried over from the previous year. Students signed up in large numbers to help with stamp and bond sales, to make surgical dressings, and to help in the salvage and collection of needed war materials. The Art Department, meanwhile, continued to make defense posters and numerous courses and projects continued to be offered to local residents.

New projects for the year included, airplane spotting, work in the local children's home and nursery schools, and work in the school's victory garden. Further, special campus morale projects would be conducted by the Glee Club, the Choral Club, and the Stratford Dramatic Club (Stratford Players), among others.[284]

November 20 & 27, 1942. *"The Breeze": Death At Twenty?*

In 1942, the student paper, *The Breeze,* turned twenty . . . and almost stopped blowing.

In the lead article of the November 20 issue of the paper, the editorial staff called for "Change!" What did they want to change? They wanted to change the name of the school paper.

The Breeze, they said simply, "is not an appropriate name for Madison's newspaper." "It [was] an ill-chosen, almost foolish name" and it was "close to meaningless." The only thing going for it was tradition – which was not sufficient. "Twenty years is long enough," wrote the editors. It was time for a new, better, and more representative name.

The staff's argument and "wholehearted" endorsement for the change apparently struck a chord. When the next issue of the paper was published on November 27, the column "Girl About Campus" posed the name change question to students and the unanimous reply (at least of the four responses printed in the paper) was "Let's change it!" In January, the student body would do just that.[285]

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[284] Please note that an error regarding the number of students who signed up for military drill exists within the following article, "Recruits Number 613; Forum Plans Changed," *The Breeze,* 13 November 1942. In the article's headline, 613 students are said to have enrolled, but in the text, the numbers given add up to 713. The number in the headline was likely the result of a typographical error. "Students Unanimously Accept CDC Plan; Will Enlist for Four Hours Weekly in Military Drill, Forums, Projects," *The Breeze,* 6 November 1942; Dingledine, 247; "Bluestone Journal: The Afternoon that Broke the Rules – Madison's WWII Years"; "Drummers to March in Military Drill," *The Breeze,* 27 November 1942. "Plan Defense Schedule; Hours are Assigned," *The Breeze,* 20 November 1942.

[285] It was reported that a vote on the issue was to be held on November 30, but no record of this actually occurring was located by the author. It is possible the vote was simply postponed until the following year. "Change!" *The Breeze,* 20 November 1942; "Flip of Coin Decides Name of 'Breeze' at HSNS in 1922" and "Girl About Campus," *The Breeze,* 27 November 1942.

1943.

January 10, 1943. ***"The Breeze": Is This Goodbye?***

The previous November, *The Breeze's* editorial staff had begun a movement to change the name of the campus paper. On Monday, January 10, the student body met and voted on the issue.

Students were given two choices for a new name – "The Madisonian" or "MadCap." As an alternative for those who did not like these names or who wanted to keep the original name, "The Breeze" was included as a voting option. Well over half of the student body voted and when the votes were tallied it was clear a change was desired. There were 274 votes for "The Madisonian," 270 for "MadCap," and only 78 for "The Breeze."

Despite such a democratic undertaking by the students, the final judgment on the name change fell to the President, the Faculty Committee on School Publications, and the faculty, who would render their decision in February.[286]

February 9, 1943. ***"The Breeze": Long Live "The Breeze"!***

In January, students had voted to change the name of the student paper from *The Breeze* to *The Madisonian.* This proposal, however, was rejected by the faculty during a Tuesday evening meeting.

The faculty considered the students' decision to be somewhat hasty and feared it might be regretted later. They also cited tradition and argued that overuse of the name "Madison" could cheapen the school's name.[287]

February 26, 1943. ***WWII: All-School Victory Revue & Madison College Bond Queen***

On Friday evening, February 26, students, aiming to "have a good time and help Uncle Sam, too," put on an all-school "Victory Revue" program to raise money for the war through the sale of defense stamps and war bonds.

For the event (which was held in Wilson Hall), seventeen campus organizations presented skits in a competition for the grand prize of a $25 war bond and Madison's first Bond Queen was elected. The price of admission was a war stamp of any denomination.

The winner of the skit competition was the Glee Club, whose members, dressed as "Victory Belles" in red, white, and blue, sang a medley of war songs. Later, following the conclusion of the evening's final performance, came the "grand finale" – the announcement of the winner of the Bond Queen contest.

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[286] Enrollment for the year 1942-1943 was 1,023, see, Dingledine, 236. "Students vote to Change Name of 'Breeze' to 'Madisonian': Mad Cap Runs Close Race with Winner," *The Breeze,* 15 January 1943;
[287] *Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956,* entry date 9 February 1943, p. 145; "Faculty Votes to Keep Name 'Breeze' for Paper; Reject Proposal of New Name for Publication," *The Breeze,* 12 February 1943.

Sponsored by *The Breeze*, the contest to elect the Bond Queen had begun on the 22nd. Students voted by purchasing defense stamps, with the penny value of each stamp counting for the same number in votes. Senior Dot Wilkinson received the most votes and was crowned as the first Bond Queen of Madison College. She was subsequently entered into the National Bond Queen contest.

The event collected $365 in defense stamps and $125 in war bonds and was said to have been "one of the top performances ever presented" at the school.

The success and popularity of the program led to a second Bond Review and the election of a second Bond Queen in the fall of 1944.[288]

March 1943. ***WWII: Red Cross Drive***

Efforts on behalf of the Red Cross had always been common at the school, so when the organization started a fundraising drive in March 1943 seeking to raise $125 million dollars, students and faculty unhesitatingly participated.

Beating the campus goal by almost $700 dollars, students and faculty contributed $1,697.49 to the Red Cross drive.[289]

April 1943. ***WWII: Victory Garden, Suspension of Military Drill, War Swimming Course***

Victory Garden

In early April, as part of their contribution to the war effort, Home Economics students planted a Victory Garden in a small plot behind the Library which included potatoes, beans, lettuce, radishes, carrots, and onions.[290]

Suspension of Military Drill

Also in April, the school's military drill program which had been implemented in November of 1942 was suspended.

Although enthusiasm for the program had initially been very high (well over half the student body enlisted), jealously of student officers gradually developed and student participation noticeably decreased. It was thought best to scrap the program and focus instead on calisthenics and regular physical education classes.[291]

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[288] *The Breeze:* "Campus Revue to Announce Bond Queen," 19 February 1943; "All School Victory Revue Reveals Bond Queen Tonight," 26 February 1943; "Glee Club Wins Honors In Revue; Wilkinson Elected Bond Queen" and "Victory Revue Totals $365.00 in War Stamps, Bond Sales," 5 March 1943; "Bond Review Will Be After Thanksgiving; All Organizations To Present Skits Nov. 30," 17 November 1944. Dingledine, 248.
[289] *Faculty Minutes, 1938-39 – 1956,* entry date 13 April 1943, p. 149; "All Out Drive Nets Total of $1697.49," *The Breeze,* 9 April 1943; Dingledine, 248.
[290] "Home Management Girls Plant Food for Victory," *The Breeze,* 16 April 1943; Dingledine, 247-248.
[291] "Military Drill is Suspended," *The Breeze,* 16 April 1943; Dingledine, 247.

War Swimming Course

In mid-April, Madison College became one of the first institutions in the country to offer a wartime swimming and water safety course to women.

Based on a program for men who intended to enter military service, this wartime swimming course required participants to swim 200 yards fully clothed; to swim, float, and tread water for ten minutes continuously; and to swim, fully clothed, under water at a depth of about eight feet for a distance of forty-five feet.
Participants also had to master various lifesaving and self-lifesaving techniques, such as pulling a fully-clothed victim through the water and removing ones shoes, shirt, and pants while in deep water, then inflating the pants to make a floating device and using that device to stay afloat for five minutes.

According to *The Breeze,* fifteen students passed the course, demonstrating "the skill required for swimming tactics to be used in actual warfare conditions."[292]

May 8, 1943. ***WWII: Patriotic May Day***

As it had done in 1918 during the First World War, the school chose a patriotic theme for its annual May Day celebration in 1943. The program, entitled the "Songs and Dances of the Allied Nations," began at 4 p.m. on the Quad in front of Wilson Hall with a processional.

Led by a specially formed May Day Band, the May Queen and her court gracefully strolled onto the main campus grounds in flowing, pure white dresses. In recognition and support of a nation at war, the Queen and her maid of honor carried special bouquets of red, white, and blue carnations.

After the crowing of the Queen, students performed numerous traditional songs and folk dances honoring the allies (just as they had done twenty-five years earlier). An "inspiring" part of the program was the inclusion of over two dozen flags representing the Allied Nations, which fluttered in the campus breeze during the performances.

For the finale, a selection of songs and dances of the United States was performed, including a stirring rendition of the National anthem. That evening, the flags of the Allied Nations were used to decorate the gymnasium for the May Day dance.[293]

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[292] "Madison has a Knack for Making History; Is First to Give Functional Swimming Course," *The Breeze,* 23 April 1943.
[293] "May Day," *The Schoolma'am* (1943): n.p.; "Maids Select Attendants For May Celebration," *The Breeze,* 16 April 1943; "Band Processional to Begin Fete," *The Breeze,* 7 May 1943; "Bluestone Journal: In the Merry Month of May," *Montpelier* (Spring 1998); Dingledine, 248.

1944.

May 5-6, 1944. ***President Duke: 25th Anniversary***

In 1944, as President Samuel P. Duke marked his twenty-fifth year in office, a two-day celebration was held to honor Madison's second president.

A capacity crowd was present in Wilson Hall on Friday afternoon, May 5, for a ceremonial assembly honoring Duke. Numerous state officials, educators, and friends praised the president's leadership and accomplishments.

The main speaker, Virginius R. Shackelford (a member of the State Board of Education), gave an address entitled "The Contribution of Samuel P. Duke to the Education of Virginia Women" and representatives from the alumnae, the student body, and the faculty extended greetings.

Early that evening, some 250 out-of-town guests attended a banquet in the Bluestone Dining Hall (in Harrison) in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Duke. Later, a reception for local citizens was held in Senior (Converse) Hall.

On the second day, a morning symposium discussing the state of teacher education in Virginia was conducted in Wilson Hall. This was followed in the afternoon by the May Day Festival and a May Day Dance that evening.[294]

Fall 1944. ***WWII: Waste Paper Drive***

In the fall of 1942, the school had participated in a nationwide drive to salvage scrap metal for the war effort. In 1944, a project was begun to collect waste paper, which, at the time, was deemed "more important and more urgent than the salvaging of metal scrap."

With the slogan, "Keep 'Em Full," collection boxes were placed around the campus with pick-ups being made twice a week.[295]

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[294] A program and a booklet of the entire proceedings for Duke's anniversary celebration can be found in *Duke, Samuel P., 1919-1949*. "Dr. Duke Will Be Honored on 25th Anniversary," *Daily News-Record,* 5 May 1944; "Dr. S.P. Duke is Honored on 25th Anniversary," *Daily News-Record,* 6 May 1944; "Faculty, Students To Celebrate Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of Dr. Duke's Presidency," *The Breeze,* 28 April 1944; "Special Programs Honor Dr. Duke In Anniversary Weekend Celebration," *The Breeze,* 5 May 1944.

[295] "Defense Council Holds Drive For Salvaging Waste Paper," *The Breeze,* 3 November 1944.

1945.

April 1-30, 1945. ***WWII: Clothing Drive for War-Torn Europe***

During the month of April, there was a campus drive to collect usable clothing for the war-ravaged populations of Europe. Drop-off locations were set up in the dormitories and sorority houses and it was hoped that over 1,000 articles of clothing would be donated.

Faculty and students came very close to reaching this goal, giving over 800 items to the drive, including some 200 sweaters, 75 skirts, 27 coats, and 150 pairs of shoes and socks.[296]

May 1945. ***WWII: May Day "Peace" Program, Victory In Europe, Bond Drive, War's End***

At 4 p.m., on Saturday, May 5, a capacity audience packed the Wilson Hall auditorium for the annual May Day celebration. With an Allied victory in Europe all but formally secured, the theme chosen for the event was "The Promise of Peace."

With the college orchestra playing, student flag-bearers marched down the auditorium's aisles carrying the flags of the Allied nations. Next, the May Queen and her court – all of whom carried ribbons and flowers of red, white, and blue – entered the auditorium and took their places on the stage. After the crowning of the Queen, the main program was begun.

As they had done for the 1943 May Day celebration, students performed representative dances of various Allied nations. This year, however, the focus was on the so-called "three guardians of peace" – England, Russia, and the United States. Traditional dances from each were presented.

As usual, May Day was capped off with an evening dance in the gymnasium.

Victory in Europe

Two days after the May Day festival, the promise of peace came closer to reality when Germany surrendered unconditionally to the Allied forces.

Bond Drive

Although the war in Europe was over, fighting in the Pacific continued. "We have one more enemy on our list," wrote *The Breeze* – "Japan," and "Madison's fighting dollars are needed now as much as ever."

To help raise money, the school held another campus bond drive, this time with a "pin-up boy" theme. Students were asked to submit their favorite pictures of fathers, brothers, boyfriends, "or what have you." These photos, which were posted in the lobby of Harrison Hall, would then be voted on through purchase of stamps and bonds.

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[296] *The Breeze:* "Clothing Drive for War Torn to Begin Apr. 1," 30 March 1945; "Drive for Clothing is Under Way," 6 April 1945; "800 Garments are Collected in Drive," 20 April 1945; Dingledine, 248.

War's End

On May 11, *The Breeze* called on students to support the war by voting for the pin-up boy, but it also urged a more prolonged commitment, asking them to "keep buying bonds until the celebration of complete victory."

It would be another three months before "complete victory" would be had. On August 14, Japan finally surrendered and the Second World War was over. [297]

1946.

May 1946. *Library: First Microfilm Reader*

In late May, *The Breeze* reported that the library had "just received" its first microfilm reader.

Unlike today's tabletop monoliths, this microfilm reader was apparently portable. "A person may carry the machine," said the paper, "and set it up any place since it can be folded similar to a portable typewriter, the only requirement is that it has to be run by electricity."[298]

September 16, 1946. *Here Come the Boys*

When the girls of Madison College arrived to register on Monday, September 16 for the institution's thirty-eighth school year, there was a distinctly different element present – MEN. For the first time in the institution's history men were to be enrolled as students for the regular session (previously, male students could only attend the summer sessions).

The admission of men during the regular session was a result of the Second World War. Returning veterans were guaranteed a college education under the G.I. Bill and Virginia's coeducational colleges and universities felt the strain of accommodating the large influx of new applicants. Thus, the doors of the state's women's colleges were opened to men to relieve some of the pressure. Male enrollment, however, was both limited and not a long-term guarantee.

First, men were allowed to enroll only as day students. This meant they could attend classes and be provided with board, but could not live on campus. Second, the admission of men had not been established on a permanent basis and their continued enrollment would be reliant upon yearly approval by State authorities.

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[297] The May Day celebration had been scheduled to take place on the Quad, but bad weather forced the festivities inside. "May Day Program 'Promise of Peace' Begins Before Wilson at 4 Tomorrow," *The Breeze,* 4 May 1945; "Madison College May Day Festival Indoors this Afternoon at Four," *Daily News-Record,* 5 May 1945; "MC May Day Attracts Throng," *Daily News-Record,* 7 May 1945. A copy of the program for "The Promise of Peace" celebration is available in, *May Days,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. *The Breeze:* "Theme of Drive is Pin-Up Boy," 20 April 1945; "Defense Committee to Head Annual Campus Bond Drive," 27 April 1945; "Vote for Your Pin-Up," 11 May 1945. Dingledine, 248.

[298] "Madison Memorial Library Receives Microfilm Reader," *The Breeze,* 24 May 1946.

Ultimately, however, September 16, 1946 did mark the beginning of JMU's slow transformation into a fully coeducational institution, which came about officially in 1966.

By the end of registration on Wednesday, September 18, Madison College had thirty-nine male students had enrolled (approximately thirty of whom were Veterans). By the end of the school year in June 1947, this number would rise slightly to fifty-three. The following year (1947-1948), the College counted 101 male students.[299]

September 27, 1946. ***"~~Girl~~ Man About Campus"***

The appearance of male students during the regular session would ultimately lead to many changes in campus life – some large, some small. An example of the latter occurred on September 27 when the long-running *Breeze* column, "Girl About Campus," which posed a selected question to the student body, was temporarily displaced with a new column – "Man About Campus."

The column asked some of the new arrivals "What do you think of being at Madison with so many girls?" Most said they found Madison inviting and friendly and some told how they had been referred to in class as "miss" by the professors. One complained that there were too many distractions and not enough bridge players.

The traditional "Girl About Campus" column returned in subsequent issues, but only briefly. When the October 18 issue of *The Breeze* was released, the column was gone, replaced with the gender-neutral, "If You Ask Them."[300]

October 1946. ***First Male Athletic Team: The Madison Dukes***

In October, the male students organized the school's first male sports team – a seventeen-man basketball squad named the Madison Dukes.

The name "Dukes" had been chosen unanimously by the team both to honor the school's president, Dr. Samuel P. Duke, and also hopefully, according to Walter Eye who played forward on the team, to encourage Dr. Duke to "fork over some money to buy balls and equipment." He did.[301]

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[299] "Registration At Madison Opens," *Daily News-Record,* 17 September 1946; "GI's Getting Accustomed at Madison College and Like It," *Daily News-Record,* 20 September 1946; Dingledine, 253, 271; G. Tyler Miller, "Attendance of Men Students at Madison College," Report to the State Board of Education, 20 March 1952, p. 8, in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1951-1956*, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 5, Binder 7/1951-5/1956, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 96.
[300] "Man About Campus," *The Breeze*, 27 September 1946.
[301] "Boys Organize for Basketball," *The Breeze,* 18 October 1946; Dingledine, 253; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 96.

1947.

January 4, 1947. ***President Burruss: Death of Julian Ashby Burruss (1876-1947)***

At six o'clock Saturday morning, Dr. Julian Ashby Burruss, JMU's first president, died at his home in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Burruss had served as president for eleven years, from the beginning of the institution in 1908 until 1919 when he left to accept the presidency of his alma mater, Virginia Polytechnic Institute.[302]

January 11, 1947. ***First Madison Dukes Game***

On Saturday, January 11, the school was represented in athletic competition by a male team for the first time in its history.

That evening, before a record crowd in the Reed (Keezell) Hall gymnasium, the recently formed Madison Dukes basketball team hosted the all-male team from Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg for the first game of the season.

In the first quarter, the Dukes took the lead . . . and never gave it up. When the game ended, the score was 31 to 24. The Madison Dukes had won their first match. They went on to a 4-3 season.[303]

May 1947. ***First Fraternity***

In mid-May, twenty-five male students were granted permission by the faculty to form a men's "social club." Not long after, the group adopted the name Sigma Delta Rho and became the institution's first fraternity. Student Beryl Snellings, a veteran who had served in the North Atlantic during the Second World War, was elected president.

Today, there are twelve fraternities on campus.[304]

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[302] Burruss was born on August 1, 1876 in Richmond, Virginia. "Dr. Burruss Dies At Blacksburg," *Daily News-Record,* 6 January 1947.

[303] "Madison Dukes to Play Mary Washington Cagers," *The Breeze,* 10 January 1947; "Madison Dukes Are Winners," *Daily News-Record,* 13 January 1947; *The Schoolma'am* (1947): 169; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 96; Dingledine, 253.

[304] "Men Students Organize Club, Elect Snellings," *The Breeze,* 16 May 1947; *The Schoolma'am* (1948): 152; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 96; Dingledine, 254; "GI's Getting Accustomed at Madison College and Like It," *Daily News-Record,* 20 September 1946. A listing of the current campus fraternities and sororities is available at, <http://www.jmu.edu/ucenter/sos/FratSorLife/newchapters.htm> [10 July 2006].

June 1947. ***Yearbook: First Male Student Pictures***

Although still retaining its feminine moniker *The Schoolma'am*, the yearbook for 1947 carried within its pages the first male class pictures. Two sophomore and fifteen freshman male faces were interspersed among the demure images of the graceful Madison girls.[305]

September 15, 1947. ***Beginning of Semester-Based School Year***

Since its opening in 1909, the school's academic year had been based on the quarter system. Four quarters – fall, winter, spring, and summer – were offered, with completion of any three quarters equaling one year. But, beginning with the 1947-1948 school session, the institution, following a national trend, switched to the semester-based system.

The semester schedule back then, however, was a little different than it is today. The fall semester began in mid-September and extended over the Christmas holiday, not ending until late January. The spring semester started at the end of January and graduation was held in early June. The semester schedule changed in 1972-1973 to September through December (giving students the now much anticipated Christmas break) and January to May.

It was not until the 1977-1978 session, however, that today's familiar schedule in which the fall semester begins in late August and ends in early December and where the spring semester starts in early January with graduation held in early May, was adopted.[306]

October 1947. ***Football Comes to Madison***

Today's championship football team began modestly and indeed somewhat meekly in the fall of 1947.

During the week of October 24, President Duke gave the male students permission to play football and five touch football teams, each with eight players and each sponsored by one of the school's sororities were formed. The teams and their sponsors were:

1) ASA Raiders (Alpha Sigma Alpha)
2) Pi Kap Commodores (Pi Kappa Sigma)
3) Sigma Dynamos (Sigma Sigma Sigma)
4) Tau Terrors (Alpha Sigma Tau).
5) Theta Thugs (Theta Sigma Upsilon)

In early October, the back campus had been selected as the playing field and yard lines were marked and goal posts were placed. The field was christened the "Duke Bowl." With faculty

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[305] *The Schoolma'am* (1947); Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 96.

[306] The State School Board had authorized the change in 1946 and the faculty made plans to switch to the semester system at a September 1946 meeting. *Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956,* entry date 14 September 1946, p. 211. The date range for the semesters is based on the author's examinations of the academic calendars contained in the school's annual catalogs from 1947 to 1973. *Bulletin, Madison College* (1947-1948); Dingledine, 227.

members as referees, the first football games were played the week of October 27, on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, at around 4:30 in the afternoon.[307]

1949.

May 23, 1949. ***President Duke: Ill Health Forces Resignation***

Poor health led to the resignation of President Duke, in 1949, after thirty years of leadership.

Duke had suffered two strokes in 1948, one in May and one in September (the latter leaving him partially paralyzed). Duke was unable to carry out his duties and for the 1948-1949 school year a five-member executive committee, headed by College Dean Walter Gifford, saw to the school's administrative needs.
Still battling ill-health in 1949, Duke submitted his resignation to the State Board of Education. With regret, the Board accepted his resignation on Monday, May 23. It became effective on August 1.

Moving forward, the Board appointed a committee to select his replacement.[308]

June 6, 1949. ***First Male Regular Session Graduates***

During the school's fortieth annual commencement ceremonies, the first male regular session students were graduated; they numbered five.[309]

July 2, 1949. ***President Miller: Elected***

On Saturday July 2, after several meetings and the consideration of numerous candidates, State Board of Education President Blake Newton announced the Board's unanimous decision that G. Tyler Miller, Virginia's State Superintendent of Schools, would be the next president of Madison College.

Miller, the institution's third president, would replace Samuel P. Duke who had announced his resignation in May.[310]

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[307] *The Breeze*: "The Sportlight," 24 October 1947; "Men Students Organize Campus Football Teams," 31 October 1947; "Raiders Defeat Dynamos; Dynamos Top Terrors As MC Football Season Opens," 7 November 1947; "Men Have Two Football Games," 14 November 1947; and "Men Play Two Football Games," 21 November 1947. Dingledine, 253-254.
[308] "Dr. S.P. Duke Resigns at MC," *Daily News-Record,* 24 May 1949; "Miller May Succeed Duke," *Daily News-Record,* 25 May 1949; Dingledine, 254. The executive committee established in Duke's absence held its first meeting on October 12. The minutes of the committee are available in, *Executive Committee Minutes, 1948-1949*, PR 99-1116, Box 1, Folder 1, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.
[309] Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill*, 99; *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970,* Annual Events Office Collection, AN 93-0916, Box 1, Folder 3, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.
[310] "G. Tyler Miller Named As Madison President," *Daily News-Record,* 5 July 1949.

August 1, 1949. ***President Duke: Resignation Effective, Named President Emeritus***

On August 1, the resignation of the institution's second president, Samuel P. Duke, became effective. Also on this date, Duke officially became president emeritus of the College, having been unanimously elected to the position by the State Board of Education in May.[311]

September 1, 1949. ***President Miller: Third President, 1949-1971***

Forty-seven year old G. Tyler Miller officially assumed his duties as the institution's third president on Thursday, September 1, 1949, just a few weeks prior to the start of the institution's forty-first school year.

Miller, a Rappahannock County native, had attended Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal and had graduated from the Virginia Military Institute with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He had also done some graduate work at the University of Virginia.

Prior to coming to Madison, Miller had over two decades of experience in the education field, serving at different times as a high school principle, a division superintendent for schools in two counties, and president of the Virginia Education Association. From 1946 to 1949 he was the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

At the time of Miller's arrival, twenty-three buildings were being employed by roughly 1,500 students, faculty, and staff on a main campus of sixty-two acres. Twenty years later, when Miller's presidency ended with his retirement on December 31, 1970, the school, had grown to over 300 acres and enrollment had passed 4,000.

During this time, nineteen major buildings had been constructed, including several residence halls, such as Logan, Gifford, Wayland, and Shorts (the first male dormitory), and a fine arts building (Duke Hall), a new dining hall (Gibbons Hall), and an infirmary (Health Center). There was also Anthony-Seeger Hall (then an elementary school) and Burruss Hall.

Like his predecessors, Miller, too, would work to expand the school's academic horizons. Under his leadership, the school would introduce a general education program and a graduate program, begin awarding master's degrees, diversify and expand its offerings in the liberal arts, and become fully coeducation (in 1966).[312]

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[311] "Dr. S.P. Duke Resigns at MC," *Daily News-Record,* 24 May 1949.

[312] "G. Tyler Miller Named As Madison President," *Daily News-Record,* 5 July 1949; Dingledine, 255.The school also owned the nearly thirty-one acre Shenandoah River camp, known today as University Farm. According to the school's catalog there were five academic buildings, seven residence halls, six houses and other buildings (such as Shenandoah and Wellington Apartments), and five special buildings (including the Cottage and the Heating Plant). *Bulletin, Madison College*, [Register for 1948-1949]; "The Inauguration of G. Tyler Miller," 47; "JMU Presidents," JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/presidents.shtml> [3 May 2006]. *Images of James Madison University, 1908-1983: Blue Stone Hill to JMU*, 55-58, Harrisonburg, VA.: James Madison University, 1983.

September 17, 1949. ***President Miller: First Meeting with the Faculty***

The new president met with the entire faculty for the first time during the first faculty meeting of the 1949-1950 school year. Miller spoke briefly, expressing his appreciation for the warm welcome he had received.[313]

December 9, 1949. ***President Miller: Pre-Inaugural Reception***

The evening before President Miller was to be formally inaugurated, a reception was held for the public in Senior (Converse) Hall. Over 500 people from Harrisonburg and the surrounding counties attended.[314]

December 10, 1949. ***President Miller: Inauguration***

On Saturday, December 10, President Miller became the first president to be formally inaugurated. Miller's predecessors – Presidents Burruss and Duke – had arrived on campus with little fanfare or celebration.

The inauguration exercises began at 11 a.m. before a capacity crowd in the Wilson Hall auditorium. Among those in attendance were delegates from 130 universities and colleges, numerous members of the State Board of Education, and Governor William H. Tuck.

The impressive ceremonies included a full academic processional (accompanied by the college orchestra), a salutation from the Governor, and a speech in appreciation of President Emeritus Duke delivered by M'Ledge Moffet, Class of 1911 and Dean of Women at Radford. The high point, however, was Miller's inaugural address, which followed his induction as president by Blake Newton, President of the State Board of Education.

In his address, Miller outlined a definitive plan for the institution's future growth. He called for full legal authority to allow male students to enroll on a permanent basis and for the establishment of the College as a coeducational institution. He advocated for a revision of admissions standards and the implementation of post-graduate programs and stressed the institution's need for more dormitory space, a new science building, and a fine arts building.

During his tenure, which ended in December 1970, Miller would achieve the majority of his goals.[315]

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[313] *Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956,* entry date 17 September 1949, p. 267.
[314] "Miller To Be Inaugurated As Madison President," *Daily News-Record,* 10 December 1949.
[315] A nice article contrasting the different receptions received by the University's first two presidents - Burruss and Duke - with that of its third, G. Tyler Miller, is, Nancy Bondurant Jones, "From Lukewarm to Grand Fashion," *Montpelier* (Fall 1999), <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/issues/fall99/bluestone.htm> [29 May 2006]. The complete inaugural proceedings, including Miller's address, can be found in, "The Inauguration of G. Tyler Miller," *Bulletin, Madison College* 7, no. 1 (January 1950). For a good analysis of the address, see, Ray V. Sonner, "Madison College: The Miller Years, 1949-1970," (Ph.D. diss., University of Virginia, 1974): 28-38. "Miller Inaugurated As President of Madison," *Daily News-Record,* 12 December 1949; Dingledine, 255; Hilton, "Changing from a College to a University," 15.

1951.

March 16, 1951. ***First James Madison Day***

On February 24, 1951 Virginia Governor John S. Battle had officially declared March 16 to be James Madison Day and designated Madison College as the site of the state's commemoration ceremonies.

On March 16, the College and the State of Virginia celebrated the 200th anniversary of the birth of James Madison, the nation's fourth president and the College's namesake.

Guided tours of Madison Memorial Library were given in the morning. On display were manuscripts written and signed by the fourth president as well as personal objects such as Madison's pocket knife.

In the afternoon, exercises were held in the Wilson Hall auditorium. The main address was given by Dr. Raymond B. Pinchback, Dean of the University of Richmond, who discussed Madison as the father of the Constitution. There was also a tribute to President Emeritus Samuel P. Duke. Some 1,100 people attended, including Governor Battle, members of the Virginia General Assembly, and several descendents of James Madison.

In 2000, James Madison Day incorporated and replaced Founders Day as the University's annual celebratory event.[316]

September 20, 1951. ***Burruss Hall: Groundbreaking***

With several members from the science faculty and administrative staff looking on, President G. Tyler Miller and Percy Warren, head of the Biology Department, broke ground at 2 p.m., Thursday afternoon for the school's new science building.

The contract for the building, which would be named Burruss Science Hall after the institution's first president Julian A. Burruss, had been awarded two days earlier to the Neilson Construction Company of Harrisonburg (now Neilson Builders).

The new building was desperately needed to alleviate the overcrowded conditions of the existing science facilities (located in Maury Hall). It would be completed in 1953 for approximately $600,000.[317]

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[316] "Va. Officials to Attend Madison Program Today," *Daily News-Record*, 16 March 1951; "Governor Leads James Madison Anniversary Ceremonies Here," *Daily News-Record*, 17 March 1951; *Anniversaries: 200th Anniversary of Birth of James Madison, 1951,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

[317] "Governor Approves Building Plans, Bid," *The Breeze,* 21 September 1951; "Miller, Officials Break Ground for Building," *The Breeze,* 28 September 1951; Dingledine, 257.

Fall 1951. ***Dean's List Introduced***

With the start of the 1951-1952 school year, Madison introduced the Dean's List to recognize outstanding student academic achievement. This new recognition replaced the "A" and "B" honor rolls and required students to maintain a GPA of 3.25 or higher.

To make the Dean's List today, a GPA of 3.5 to 3.89 (with a course load of at least 12 credit hours) is required. There is also a President's List for students with a GPA of 3.9 or above.[318]

1952.

May 1952. ***Yearbook: First Color Photograph Used***

Since it was first issued in 1910, the school's yearbook, *The Schoolma'am,* included only black and white photos (accept for a few photos in the earliest yearbooks that had been hand-colored by students in the manual arts classes).

It was not until 1952 that the yearbook first used an actual color photograph. That year, *The Schoolma'am* was issued with a picture cover (the first), which consisted of a full-color photograph of Wilson Hall and "the Rock."

Inside, however, the photographs remained in black and white. Color photographs did not begin appearing inside the yearbook until 1957.[319]

October 1, 1952. ***Largest and Most Pivotal Land Purchase in JMU's History***

In late 1952, for the sum of $70,000, Madison College purchased approximately 240 acres of land adjoining the campus to the east and southeast. This acreage was the remaining portion of the original Newman property, forty-two acres of which had been purchased back in 1908 as the original site for the institution.

To this day, acquisition of the land (called the "back campus") remains the single largest and most pivotal real estate purchase ever made by the institution for it nearly quadrupled the size of the main campus (which was about sixty-two acres at the time) and made continued growth and expansion possible.

Future development of this area would, most importantly, lead to the erection of numerous residence halls, which ensured the continued growth in enrollment. The area also become home to man-made Newman Lake (1967) and Bridgeforth Stadium (1975).

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[318] Carrie Moyers, Student Records Manager, Office of the Registrar, provided the inauguration date of fall 1951. Dingledine, 270; James Madison University, *James Madison University Bulletin* 29, no. 1, Undergraduate Catalog (May 2005): 29.

[319] Throughout its history, the yearbook has been issued with a picture cover only on two occasions – 1952 and 1955; the latter was black and white. *The Schoolma'am* (1952) and (1955).

Such growth and expansion was partly responsible for the institution obtaining university status in 1977. Simply put, without this purchase, JMU would not have become what it is today.[320]

1953.

September 1953. ***Burruss Hall: Completed***

Two years after ground was broken, the doors to the school's new science building, Burruss Hall, were opened.

The building, named in honor of Madison's first president, Dr. Julian A. Burruss, was originally called Burruss Science Hall). It provided fresh accommodations for all of the school's science departments (geology, biology, chemistry, physics, and geography), which had been existing in cramped quarters in Maury Hall, as well as the mathematics department. There were of course numerous classrooms, laboratories, and offices, but also a darkroom and a "radio laboratory."

Immediately to the east a small greenhouse was built for use by the Biology Department while directly behind the building a parking lot was laid over what had been the school's first hockey field.

Burruss Hall was the first building to be officially named after one of JMU's presidents. Duke Hall, named for the second president, Samuel P. Duke, followed in 1967. In 1975, Miller Hall was named for G. Tyler Miller, the institution's third president and in 1984 Madison Memorial Library was renamed Carrier Library in honor of JMU's fourth president, Dr. Ronald E. Carrier, and his wife, Edith J. Carrier.

Burruss Hall is presently home to the departments of Biology and Mathematics & Statistics.[321]

1954.

March 1954. ***Graduate Program Authorized & Established***

As part of a cooperative extension-learning venture with the University of Virginia, Madison had been offering a few graduate courses during the summer sessions since 1952 with credit for these courses able to be applied towards the University's Master of Education degree. But, in 1954, Madison began its own independent graduate program.

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[320] "Land Owned by Madison College"; "College Quadruples Its Size; Purchases Farm for $70,000," *The Breeze,* 10 October 1952, p. 1; Dingledine, 256-257; Sonner, 93-95; Hilton, "Changing from a College to a University," 16; Jones, *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill,* 109-110; Fred Hilton, "42-Acre Campus Grows," pp. 16-17, in, "James Madison University, 1908-1983," Special to the *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1983.
[321] Dingledine, 257; "Major Buildings."

In March, after nearly five years of effort and advocacy on the part of President Miller and three years of faculty committee study, the State Board of Education authorized JMU (Madison College) to establish its own graduate program and to award the degrees of Master of Science in Education and Master of Arts in Education.

The program was first implemented at the start of the 1954-1955 session in September.[322]

July 10, 1954. ***Anthony-Seeger: Land Purchased***

For $29,350, the College purchased 4 ½ acres of land at the corner of Main and Grace Streets to serve as the future site of a campus elementary school.

Completed in 1958, the building, named Anthony-Seeger, was used as a training ground for the College's student-teachers.[323]

September 24, 1954. ***Graduate & General Education Programs Inaugurated***

When the school's forty-sixth year got underway in September 1954, two new and important academic programs were launched.

First, a graduate program leading either to a Master of Science or Master of Arts in Education was inaugurated, albeit on a limited basis. The school offered only one graduate course in the evenings during each semester in 1954-1955. Full implementation of the program began with the 1955 summer session when about twenty courses in ten different fields were offered and 100 students were enrolled in the program.

Second, the school introduced a General Education program designed to ensure that all students explored the "major areas of human knowledge and experience" and to give them "impetus and direction toward citizenship in a democracy."

Today, the College of Graduate and Professional Programs (established in 2001) oversees graduate studies. Students can pursue numerous master's degrees, Educational Specialist degrees, and Ph.D.'s in Philosophy and Psychology.

The *General Education: The Human Community*, or GENED, program, meanwhile, is now *the* core academic program at JMU and all students are required to successfully complete the program during their matriculation at the institution.

Despite the passage of more than fifty years, the program's goals and philosophy remain fundamentally the same – to provide "a strong foundation of knowledge, skills, and experience"

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[322] Dingledine, 267-268; *Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956,* entry date 13 April 1954, p. 363; *Bulletin, Madison College* 12, no. 4 (March 1955): 6.
[323] The purchase price comes from, "Land Owned by Madison College." Dingledine, 259, rounds the price up to $29,500.

and to promote "the cultivation of habits of the mind and heart that are essential to informed citizens in a democracy and global community."[324]

1955.

April 25, 1955. ***President Duke: Death of Samuel Page Duke (1885-1955)***

After a prolonged illness, Madison's second president, Dr. Samuel P. Duke, passed away on Monday morning, April 25 at his home on South Main Street.

Duke was president of Madison for thirty years, from 1919 until 1949 when declining health forced him into retirement.[325]

1956.

May 1956. First Mr. Madison

Nearly fifteen years after the first Ms. Madison was elected and ten years after men were first admitted as regular session day students, the school elected its first "Madison's Man of the Year" – senior, George Dewey "Jack" Lefell, Jr. Lefell was featured in the May 1956 edition of *The Schoolma'am* along with Miss Madison.

Today, Mr. Madison is chosen along with Ms. Madison as representing the symbolic best of James Madison University.[326]

June 3, 1956. ***First Master's Degrees Awarded***

The College had inaugurated its graduate program in the fall of 1954 and in the spring of 1956 the first master's degrees were awarded.

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[324] Students began arriving on September 19 for the 1954-1955 year; classes started on the 24th. G. Tyler Miller, Report to the State Board of Education, 19 October 1955, in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1951-1956.* Miller's report states that twenty courses in ten departments were offered, while *Bulletin, Madison College* 12, no. 4 (March 1955), lists twenty-three courses in nine departments. *Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956,* entry date 13 April 1954, p. 363; see also, the following commencement program pamphlets entitled, "Some Significant Facts About Madison College": 5 June 1955, 3 June 1956, and 5 June 1960, in *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970.* Dingledine, 266-268. Dingledine puts the number of students enrolled in the graduate program at 106. His number is in contradiction with Miller's 1955 report to the State Board of Education. *Bulletin, Madison College* 12, no. 5 (February 1954): 64; *James Madison University Bulletin* 29, no. 1, Undergraduate Catalog (May 2005): 86

[325] Duke was born on September 5, 1885 in Ferrum, Virginia. Letter dated 13 April 1944, p. 1, in *Duke, Samuel P., 1919-1949;* "Dr. S.P. Duke, Former Madison President, Dies," *Daily News-Record,* 26 April 1955; "Students Mourn Passing of Samuel Duke," *The Breeze,* 29 April 1955.

[326] *The Schoolma'am* (1956): n.p.; "Mr. and Ms. Madison Nominations," <http://www.jmu.edu/jmuweb/students/news/students5770.shtml> [10 July 2006].

During the final exercises of the forty-seventh annual commencement program (held at 3 p.m. in the Wilson Hall auditorium) two students, Vivian Berry Fauver, of Harrisonburg, and Everett Erskine Wilfong of Dayton, became the first students to receive master's degrees from the institution. Both were awarded the Master of Arts in Education.[327]

1957.

May 1957. ***Yearbook: First Interior Color Photograph Used***

Five years earlier, the cover of *The Schoolma'am* consisted of a full-color photograph of Wilson Hall and "the Rock." This was the first time the yearbook had employed a genuine color photograph (hand-colored photographs had been used in some of the early yearbooks).

In May 1957, the first real color photograph appeared inside of the yearbook. It was a two-page aerial photograph of the campus blanketed in snow, which served as the opening pages for that year's edition.

There were no color photographs the following year, but in 1959 there were two. The first was of a student sitting on a stack of books happily looking through her copy of the yearbook and the other was a front shot of Wilson Hall.

Color photographs did not see heavy use in the yearbooks until the 1990s and the first color class pictures did not appear until 2005.[328]

May 4, 1957. ***Six Buildings Named in Honorarium***

During the 1957 Homecoming luncheon, President Miller publicly announced the new names that had been chosen for six campus buildings. Five were named after former faculty members and one after an important legislator.

Two of the buildings were dormitories that had been built in the mid-1930s and were in use at the time.

- Senior Hall (1935) was renamed Converse Hall in honor of Henry A. Converse who began teaching during the summer sessions in 1912 and became a regular faculty member in 1919. During his tenure, Converse served as registrar (1919-1939), professor, and head of the Mathematics Department (1919-1945).
- Junior Hall (1936) was renamed Cleveland Hall in recognition of Elizabeth P. Cleveland. A member of the original faculty, Cleveland served for thirty-four years (1909-1943) and was the first head of the English Department.

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[327] *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970*; Dingledine, 268
[328] *The Schoolma'am* (1957): n.p.; *The Schoolma'am* (1959): n.p.; Dingledine, 101; *Bluestone* (2005).

Two other buildings, also dormitories, were under construction at the time.

- Wayland Hall (formerly Dormitory No. 39) was named in honor of Dr. John W. Wayland, a member of the first faculty and former head of the History Department (1909-1931), as well as an eminent historian and author. The building was first occupied in September 1958.
- Dormitory No. 33 was designated Gifford Hall to recognize the contributions of Dr. Walter J. Gifford, former dean and head of the Education Department (1919-1954). It, too, was first used in September 1958.

The final two buildings were only in the planning stages at the time.

- An elementary school, built on campus to provide for teacher training, was named the Anthony-Seeger Campus School in recognition of the work of Katherine M. Anthony (1919-1955) and Mary Louise Seeger (1913-1952). Both had served as faculty members in the Education Department. The school opened in September 1958.
- The college infirmary (which would be completed in April 1959) was to have been called Keezell Infirmary, after the late Senator George B. Keezell, who had led the fight to have the school established in Harrisonburg. Ultimately, however, the name was not adopted. Instead, the building remained known as the College Infirmary until 1961 when it became the Walter Reed Infirmary. At the same time, the former Reed Hall was renamed Keezell Hall.

Wayland and Gifford Halls, the Anthony-Seeger school, and the infirmary were formally dedicated during the school's 50th anniversary celebration in March 1959.[329]

1958.

March 14, 1958. ***50th Anniversary: Golden Anniversary Celebration Begins***

On March 14, a yearlong celebration in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the institution's establishment was kicked off with the Founders Day program.

Just before noon, the entire student body and members of the faculty crowded into the Wilson Hall auditorium. The program featured a tribute to Senator George B. Keezell, the "father of the institution" and former chairmen of the school's Board of Trustees.

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[329] The luncheon, which began at 1 p.m., was held in the Bluestone Dining Hall in Harrison. The names for the buildings had been approved by the State Board of Education on March 28. See the letters written to the various individuals informing them that the buildings were to be named in their honor, in, *Naming of Buildings, 1957-1980,* Disciplinary and Budget Reports Collection. PR 2000-0516, Box 2, Folder 25, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. Dingledine, 28, 116, 158, 162, 176, 229, 230, 232, 276; "Colleges In May Days Today; Bridgewater and Madison to Hold May Pageants," *Daily News-Record,* 4 May 1957; "MC Buildings To Honor Educators and Legislator," *Daily News-Record,* 6 May 1957; "Dorms Are Named Gifford, Wayland, Converse, Cleveland," *The Breeze,* 17 May 1957; "Reed Hall Renamed Keezell Hall In Honor of Late Senator Keezell," *Daily News-Record,* 24 March 1961.

The keynote address, "Madison College: The Heritage of Her Past," was given by Professor Raymond C. Dingledine.[330]

May 2-3, 1958. ***50th Anniversary: Arts Festival and May Day Celebration***

The second major event of the Golden Anniversary celebrations was a two-day arts festival on Friday and Saturday. It included art exhibits, readings and lectures, a play, a film, and a concert.

The festival was interwoven with the traditional May Day celebration, which was held on the afternoon of May 3 on the Quad. That evening the May Day Ball was held in the Keezell (Reed) gymnasium.[331]

July 8-9, 1958. ***50th Anniversary: Institute on Public Education***

The College's annual Institute on Public Education, which had been started in the summer of 1944 to promote improvement in education, held its fifteenth meeting in July 1958. Normally a one-day event, it was expanded into a two-day affair in observance of the ongoing 50th anniversary celebrations.

The theme for the meeting was "Education in an Age of Science: The Need for a Balanced Curriculum." The main speaker was nuclear physicist, Ralph E. Lapp.

During the event, the college's achievements over the last fifty years were noted and honored.[332]

September 8, 1958. ***Anthony-Seeger: Opens***

When JMU opened in 1909 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, its primary mission was to train public school teachers. For decades, students used the local public schools to observe and practice their chosen profession. After fifty years, training teachers remained a major function of the institution and on September 8, 1958, Madison College opened its own elementary school, the Anthony-Seeger Campus School.

Anthony-Seeger was a fully functional elementary school, serving both the community – through the teaching of its children by experienced public school teachers – and Madison, by providing further opportunities for student teacher training, primarily through observation.

Approximately 175 children in kindergarten through sixth grade were enrolled. The school's facilities were first-rate and included an auditorium, a cafeteria, a playground, centers for reading, speech, hearing, and child guidance, and, later, a nursery school.

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[330] *Anniversaries, 50th in 1959,* Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Smith, "Previous Anniversaries"; the 1958 Founders Day program is available in, *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970*; "Founders' Day Ceremonies Initiates Beginning of The Golden Anniversary," *The Breeze,* 14 March 1958.
[331] *Anniversaries, 50th in 1959*; Arts Festival program available in, *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970;* Dingledine, 285.
[332] Smith, "Previous Anniversaries"; Dingledine, 251, 273; *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970.*

The one-story brick building was named for Katherine M. Anthony and Mary Louise Seeger, both former faculty members in Madison College's elementary education department.

Constructed by the Nielson Construction Company, the building, plus grading and the playground, pushed costs past $425,000. The building itself received national praise at the time and won an award for architectural excellence from the American Institute of Architects.

Anthony-Seeger remained an elementary and training school until June 1982, after which JMU began using it as an academic classroom building. In 2000, the classrooms were moved to help diminish the amount of student pedestrian traffic crossing South Main Street.

Today the building houses the offices of the Center for Assessment and Research Studies and the student paper, *The Breeze*, among others.[333]

September 21-26, 1958. ***Fiftieth Year: Madison Opens for its 50th Session***

On Sunday, September 21, Madison's fiftieth school year got underway as freshman began arriving on campus. Throughout the week students registered, were assigned dorm rooms, went through orientation, took placement and screening tests, met with their advisors, and attended meetings, receptions, and parties (such as the freshman "Coke" parties where everyone mingled and drank Coca-Cola). Classes began at 8 a.m. on Friday, September 26.

Student numbers reached record levels during the 1958-1959 session. Over 450 new students had registered during the week, the largest opening registration up to that time. Total enrollment for the year reached 1,442, the highest single-year enrollment of the first fifty years. One hundred sixty-one men were included in this number.

Also, two new dormitories – Wayland Hall and Gifford Hall – were opened to students for the first time.[334]

1959.

March 13, 1959. ***50th Anniversary: Final Observances Begin***

On March 13, the first program of the final two-days of celebration of the institution's 50th anniversary was held.

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[333] Dingledine, 259, 270; Jones, *Rooted on Bluestone Hill*, 125. See also, "Teachers" and letter of 11 September 1958, in Anthony-Seeger Campus School Collection, AS 93-0303, Box 1, Folder A-S, 1958-1978, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; James Madison University, Office of Media Relations, "JMU to Move Classes from Anthony-Seeger," 12 April 2000, <http://web.jmu.edu/mediarel/PR-thisRelease.asp?AutoID=616> [2 September 2006].

[334] "MC Opens 50th Year Next Week," *Daily News-Record,* 19 September 1958; "MC Will Open Today With Over 450 New Students," *Daily News-Record,* 22 September 1958; G. Tyler Miller, Annual Report to the State Board of Education, 21 July 1960, p. 5, in *President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1960*, Board of Visitors Collection, PR 99-1122, Box 5, Folder 3, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.; Dingledine, 272.

The program was a Social Sciences symposium, held in Wilson Hall and presided over by Dean Percy H. Warren. The symposium's theme was "Emerging Horizons in an Age of Science."

Drs. Robert Charpie (nuclear and theoretical physics) and Ashley Montagu (anthropology and social biology) spoke on the national and international impact of scientific advancements.[335]

March 14, 1959. ***50th Anniversary: Founders' Day Program***

The final event marking the end of the school's year-long Golden Anniversary celebration was a special Founders' Day program, presided over by President Miller.

The program, conducted in the Wilson Hall auditorium, began at 10:45 Saturday morning with an organ prelude. Following a formal processional (accompanied by the College orchestra), came an invocation and a performance by the college choir.

Next, President Miller welcomed the ceremony's special guests and salutations to the college were delivered by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the President of the Association of Virginia Colleges, and the presidents of Madison's Alumni Association and Student Government Association.

In a special feature of the ceremony, Dr. Raymond C. Dingledine, associate professor of Social Science and History, introduced and presented to the College his recently published history, *Madison College: The First Fifty Years, 1909-1958.* (This work remains the premier chronicle of JMU history.)

Dingledine's presentation was followed by the program's main feature – the formal dedication of the six major buildings built between 1950 and 1959. They were:

- Logan Hall. A dormitory completed in November 1950 and named after Conrad T. Logan, former professor and head of the English Department (1919-1948).
- Burruss Science Hall. The new home of the science and mathematics departments. It was completed in September 1953 and was named for Dr. Julian A. Burruss, JMU's first president (1908-1919). Today it is known simply as Burruss Hall.
- Wayland Hall. A dormitory first occupied in September 1958. It is named for Dr. John W. Wayland (1909-1931). Wayland was a member of the first faculty and former head of the History Department.
- Gifford Hall. A dormitory occupied in September 1958 and named after Dr. Walter J. Gifford, former dean and head of the Education Department (1919-1954).
- Anthony-Seeger Campus School. A model elementary school for teaching training. Completed in September 1958, it is named for Katherine M. Anthony (1919-1955) and Mary Louise Seeger (1913-1952), both former faculty members in the Education Department.

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[335] See the program for symposium in, *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970; Anniversaries, 50th in 1959;* "Madison College, 50th Anniversary Edition," *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1959; Smith, "Previous Anniversaries."

- College Infirmary (later Reed Infirmary; today the University Health Center). The school's medical facilities. Completed in April 1959.

After the dedication, the buildings were formally accepted by a representative of the State Board of Education.

The main address of the day was delivered by the president of Hampden-Sidney College, Dr. Joseph C. Robert. At 1 o'clock, there was a luncheon for delegates and guests, followed at 2 p.m. by guided tours of the six newly dedicated buildings.

The *Daily News-Record,* meanwhile, commemorated the school's fiftieth anniversary with the publication of a giant, 22 ½" by 14 ½'' special edition, which included over forty articles on the institution and its history.[336]

May 29-30, 1959. ***Fiftieth Year: Closing Exercises Begin***

At 4:30 p.m. Friday afternoon, the proceedings of the fiftieth commencement were inaugurated with a garden party in Hillcrest for that year's graduates. This was followed later in the evening by a concert in Wilson Hall by the Music Department and Concert Choir and a graduate's coffee in Alumnae Hall.

Saturday, the 30th, began with a Senior breakfast. Class day exercises, a Senior picnic, and a movie filled up the afternoon, while a Senior dance in the Reed (Keezell) Hall gymnasium polished off the evening. From midnight to 2 a.m., the sorority houses and dormitories were open for coffee.[337]

May 31, 1959. ***Fiftieth Year: Fiftieth Annual Commencement Exercises***

On Sunday morning, a commencement sermon was given in Wilson Hall. In the early afternoon, a luncheon for graduates and their families and friends was given in Bluestone Dining Hall in Harrison.

The final graduation exercises began at 2:15 p.m. in Wilson Hall. Approximately 1,500 people were in attendance.

Addressing the graduates was Louis T. Rader, head of the Specialty Control Department of General Electric in Waynesboro. Rader spoke on the need for teachers to voice their opinions and promote awareness of the wisdom and values derived from a liberal arts education.

Next, Dean Percy Warren introduced the graduating class of 205 students. President Miller then presented the graduates with their diplomas. One Masters Degree, 159 B.S. degrees, eighteen

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[336] The infirmary was renamed in 1961 after Walter Reed. See the "Fiftieth Anniversary Founders' Day" program, in, *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970; Anniversaries, 50th in 1959*; Smith, "Previous Anniversaries"; Dingledine, 256, 260, 276; "Reed Hall Renamed Keezell Hall In Honor of Late Senator Keezell," *Daily News-Record,* 24 March 1961. "Madison College, 50th Anniversary Edition," *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1959.
[337] *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970*; "Madison to Start Finals on Friday," *Daily News-Record,* 28 May 1959.

B.A. degrees, nine Bachelor of Music degrees, and eighteen Secretarial diplomas were awarded.[338]

Numerical Comparison: *First Year (1909-1910) & Fiftieth Year (1958-1959)*

From September 1909 through May 1959, a total of 26,821 students had been enrolled at the school. Of this number, approximately 9,698 had been graduated.[339]

	1909-1910	**1958-1959**
Campus Size[340]	48 acres	336 acres (including University Farm)
Buildings[341]	3	32
Faculty[342]	15	108

[338] *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970;* "334 Awarded Diplomas as Colleges Hold Exercises," *Daily News-Record,* 1 June 1959.

[339] As with other statistics presented in this timeline, numbers vary depending on the source. The number of students enrolled during the first fifty years comes from *Bulletin, Madison College* 17, no. 3 (April 1959): 2, and appears to be a solid statistic. The number of graduates as of May 1959, however, is a bit harder to determine and the number presented here is an approximation based on the author's research of available sources. Dingledine, 287, gives the number of graduates for the first forty-nine years as 9,493 (his book was completed and published well before the Class of 1959 was ready to graduate). This same number appears in *Bulletin, Madison College* 17, no. 3 (April 1959): 2, which also predates the Class of 1959. By taking this number and adding to it the number of graduates from May 1959 (205), one arrives at the number 9,698. See also, "Table 3-6, Degrees Conferred 1909 Through 1995," <http://www.jmu.edu/instresrch/statsum/199596/3-6.htm> [26 April 2006]. This source provides the slightly higher number of 9,762, but likely includes graduates of the 1959 summer session.

[340] The campus of 1909-1910 was comprised of two plots of land, one measuring "42 acres, 2 roods, 37.7 poles" (roughly 42.75 acres) and the other, "5 acres, 28 poles" (approximately 5.2 acres). Together these plots totaled 47.9 (or 48) acres. See, "Deed of Sale" and "Land Owned by Madison College." The 1910 catalog states that the school comprised forty-nine acres of land. See, *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 17. This figure is also cited in Dingledine, 145. In these cases, it is the author's belief that the figure was simply rounded up by one acre. The campus of 1958-1959 was comprised of numerous plots of land, including the nearly thirty-one acre College Camp (University Farm). While the total amount of land owned by the College was 336 acres, the school's contiguous campus encompassed 302 acres (62 main campus acres + 240 acres constituting the largely undeveloped back campus area). *Bulletin, Madison College,* 17, no. 3 (April 1959): 48; "Land Owned by Madison College."

[341] In 1909-1910, the school had three primary buildings – Science (Maury) Hall, Dormitory No. 1 (Jackson Hall), and a Cottage (the Newman farmhouse that had been purchased with the property). There was also a fourth very small building or shack used as the school's laundry. It, however, is not generally counted towards the total number of buildings. In 1958-1959, there were seven academic buildings, ten residence halls, three on-campus homes serving as dorms, five off-campus homes/apartments (such as Shenandoah and Wellington Apartments) used for student and faculty accommodations, four "special service" buildings (such as Alumnae and Hillcrest), as well as a heating plant, a greenhouse, and a garage. *Bulletin, Madison College* 17, no. 1 (January 1959): 27; *Bulletin, Madison College* 17, no. 3 (April 1959): 50-53.

[342] The faculty numbers include the president. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 3 (August 1909): 4-6; Wayland, Letter to President Miller. The April 1959 catalog lists 108 full and part-time faculty members. *Bulletin, Madison College* 17, no. 3 (April 1959): 12-22.

Student Enrollment - Regular Session[343]	209	1,442
Student Enrollment - Summer Session[344]	207 (1910)	773 (1958)
Graduates[345]	0 (20 in 1911, the first year students were graduated)	205
Virginia Counties Represented	38	87
Major Virginia Cities Represented	5	27
Other States Represented	2	16, plus D.C.
Foreign Countries Represented[346]	0	8
Library Statistics	General: • Location: One room on the first floor of Maury (Science) Hall • Seating Capacity: 40 • Staff: 1 librarian; 4 student assistants	General: • Location: Madison Memorial Library, one of the largest college libraries in Virginia • Seating Capacity: 350 • Staff: 4 full-time librarians; 1 part-time librarian; 22 student assistants

[343] *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 126; "Some Significant Facts About Madison College," 31 May 1959, in *Commencement Programs, 1941-1970.*
[344] *The Normal Bulletin* 3, no.3 (May 1911): 134; *Bulletin, Madison College* 18, no. 3 (April 1960): 255.
[345] *The Normal Bulletin* 5, no. 3 (May 1913): 100; Dingledine, 67; *Bulletin, Madison College* 18, no. 3 (April 1960): 244-252.
[346] The numbers for representation during the 1909-1910 school year can be found in *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 7. For the 1958-1959 school year, see, *Bulletin, Madison College* 18, no. 3 (April 1960) : 252-254. According to the catalog (p. 252), there were nine foreign students representing seven countries and one continent – Canada, France, Holland, Iran (2 students), Mexico, Turkey, Yugoslavia, and South America.

	Collection: • Volumes: 1,500-2,000 • Periodicals/Magazines: "a large number" [347]	Collection: • Volumes: over 86,000 • Periodicals/Magazines: over 325 • Newspapers: 14 • Other: large microfilm, record, and movie collections[348]

[347] According to the library's accession book for the year, the school cataloged 1,512 volumes between September 1909 and August 1910. The school's May 1910 catalog, meanwhile, puts the number at "about two thousand." This is the number given by Dingledine, 40, as well. *Library Accession Books, 1909-1937*, v. 1. *The Normal Bulletin* 1, no. 4 (November 1909): 4; *The Normal Bulletin* 2, no. 3 (May 1910): 5, 22; *Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914*, insert dated 2 December 1913, p. 75; Dingledine, 33, 40.

[348] *Bulletin, Madison College* 17, no. 3 (April 1959): 42; "Madison's One of Largest College Libraries in State," in, "Madison College, 50th Anniversary Edition," *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1959.

Bibliography

Alma Mater (and Other Songs). Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains event programs and typed lyrics to numerous songs, including the different alma maters.

Anniversaries: 20th in 1928, & 25th in 1933. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This collection contains event programs, letters, articles, and manuscripts on the school's first two anniversary celebrations.

Anniversaries: 50th in 1959. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This collection contains letters concerning the planning of the anniversary events, invitations, event programs, menus, banquet seating arrangements, addresses delivered during the ceremonies, and newspaper clippings.

Anniversaries: 200th Anniversary of Birth of James Madison, 1951. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains various documents pertaining to the institution's celebration of James Madison's 200th birthday.

Anthony-Seeger Campus School Collection. AS 93-0303. Box 1. Folder A-S, 1958-1978. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A collection of numerous letters, documents, and various ephemera concerning the history of the Anthony-Seeger Campus School.

Bachelor of Arts Degree, 1935. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

An assortment of letters, forms, data lists, reports, and newspaper clippings regarding the issue of granting the school authority to award Bachelor of Arts degrees.

Baird, Nancy Chappelear. "James Madison University As Remembered By Nancy Chappelear Baird, 1918-1944." In *Dingledine, Raymond C., Madison College: The First 50 Years*. Vertical File. Folder 1. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A one page reminiscence of the work of George Chappelear, head of the Biology Department and Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, by his daughter. This remembrance was probably written for Raymond Dingledine, who had asked numerous individuals for their memories while writing his book on the school's history.

"Bluestone Journal: In the Merry Month of May." *Montpelier* (Spring 1998). <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/issues/spring98/journal.html> [21 May 2006].

A short article on the history of the May Day celebration.

"Bluestone Journal: The Afternoon that Broke the Rules – Madison's WWII Years." *Montpelier* (Fall 1997). <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/issues/fall97/journal.html> [13 May 2006].

Discusses, in brief, the institution's activities during World War II.

Board of Trustees, Minutes, 1908-1914. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. <http://www.lib.jmu.edu/special/jmuhistorical/documents/BOVminutes1908_1914.doc> [18 January 2006].

The minutes of the Board of Trustees which served as the school's governing body from 1908 to 1914. Covers all the major events of the school's first seven years from the purchase of the original site for the school, to the selection of the first president, to the building of dormitories and academic buildings. A transcribed version of the handwritten ledger is available online.

The Breeze. Harrisonburg, VA.: James Madison University, 1922-

The student newspaper.

_____. [Internet Homepage]. <http://www.thebreeze.org/> [May 8, 2006].

The online access point for *The Breeze*. Contains the most current issue of the publication and provides a link to archived back-issues.

Buildings, JMU. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains various documents pertaining to the school' buildings.

Bulletin, Madison College. Harrisonburg, VA.: Madison College, 1944-1977.

The college catalog from February 1944 to March 1977.

Bulletin of Information, Madison College. Harrisonburg, VA.: Madison College, 1938-1943.

The college catalog from March 1938 through the spring of 1943.

Bulletin of Information, State Teachers College. Harrisonburg, VA.: State Teachers College, 1935-1938.

The college catalog from February 1935 to February 1938.

Burruss, Julian A. "Federal Aid for Home Economics." *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (January 1919): 1-10.

An article by the president of the school reporting on the details of the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 (which provided federal funds for the development of vocational education programs around the country) as they pertained to the school and its Home Economics program.

Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Numerous documents concerning the first president of the institution – letters, articles, and newspaper clippings. Contains a thick stack of news releases from the school for the years 1914 to 1919, each of which briefly relates school activities and happenings.

Campus Maps. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This folder contains maps of the campus for various time periods.

Carroll, Mary Lou. "The History and Development of Physical Education at Madison College." 30 April 1955. [Student Paper]. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.

A 1955 student paper examining the development of the University's athletics and physical education programs from 1909 to 1946.

Chappelear, George W. "Buildings and Grounds." *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 101-106.

Summarizes the school's property acquisitions and construction of campus buildings up to 1931. Includes dates, costs, and buildings' contents, as well as architectural drawings of Wilson Hall.

"Chapter 322: An Act to Create the Virginia Normal School Board . . . ." 27 March 1914. In *Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia; Session Which Commenced at the State Capital on Wednesday, January 14, 1914,* 567-577. Richmond, 1914.

The General Assembly Act of 1914 which abolished the Board of Trustees and changed the institution's name from the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg to the State Normal School for Women at Harrisonburg.

"Chapter 434: An Act to Amend and Re-enact Section 2 of the Act of the General Assembly entitled An Act to Create the Virginia Normal School Board . . . ." 21 March 1916. In *Acts and Joint Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia; Session Which Commenced at the State Capital on January 12, 1916,* 749-750. Richmond, 1916.

The General Assembly Act of 1916 which authorized the Virginia Normal School Board to confer degrees in education.

Commencement Programs, 1910-1940. Annual Events Office Collection. AN 93-0916. Box 1, Folder 2. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of commencement invitations and programs for 1910-1940. Notably, 1919 is missing.

Commencement Programs, 1941-1970. Annual Events Office Collection. AN 93-0916. Box 1, Folder 3. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of commencement invitations and programs for 1941-1970.

Daily News-Record. Harrisonburg, VA.

The local Harrisonburg newspaper. Established in 1913 and still published today.

Dawson, Susan E. "James Madison University: An Environmental History." A Burruss Research Project Paper, James Madison University, 2000.

A history of the campus grounds from 1908 to 2000.

"Deed of Sale: H.M. Newman and Wife Lorena Mallie to the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg." 8 July 1908. Deed Book 83, pp. 314-316. Clerk of the Court's Office, Rockingham County Courthouse, Court Square, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The executed deed of the institution's initial land purchase in 1908. Includes the plat.

Dingledine, Raymond C., Madison College: The First 50 Years. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains two folders with numerous letters of correspondence solicited from former students by Dingledine during the writing of his book, *Madison College: The First Fifty Years.*

Dingledine, Raymond C., Jr. *Madison College: The First Fifty Years, 1908-1959.* Harrisonburg, VA.: Madison College, 1959.

Covers in great detail the first fifty years of the institution. Discusses everything from curriculum growth to student social life to expansion of the campus.

Drama: Class and Other Student Plays. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains numerous ephemera (programs, pamphlets, etc.) relating to student plays performed at the school.

Duke, Samuel P., 1919-1949. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains booklets and pamphlets celebrating Duke's first twenty-five years of service as well as several documents relating biographical information on the second president. Also, numerous articles and letters.

Duke, Samuel P. "Introducing Madison College." *The Virginia Teacher* 19, no.3 (March 1938): 56-57.

Duke discusses the changing of the institution's name from the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg to Madison College. Duke outlines three rationales justifying both the name change itself and the choice of namesake.

_____. "The New State Teachers Colleges." *The Virginia Teacher* (February 1924): 31-35.

President Duke explains the reasons behind the changing of the institution's name from the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg to the State Teachers College at Harrisonburg. Duke outlines twelve reasons, providing details on each.

Executive Committee Minutes, 1948-1949. President Samuel Duke Collection. PR 99-1116. Box 1, Folder 1. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

The minutes of the committee established to run the school's day-to-day operations during President Duke's absence due to illness.

Faculty Minutes, 1909-1915. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 6. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Ledger containing the handwritten faculty minutes for 1909 to 1915.

Faculty Minutes, 1915-1921. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 6. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Ledger containing the handwritten faculty minutes for 1915 to 1921.

Faculty Minutes, 1921-1924. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 6. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Ledger containing the handwritten faculty minutes for 1921 to 1924.

Faculty Minutes, 1927-1938. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 8, Oversize. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Ledger containing the handwritten faculty minutes for 1927 to 1938.

Faculty Minutes, 1938-1939 – 1956. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 6. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Faculty minutes for 1938-1939 through November 13, 1956. Handwritten. Numerous gaps.

"The First Capital Campaign." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/campaign.shtml> [10 July 2006].

Discusses the efforts of alumnae to raise the capital to build Alumnae Hall in the early 1920s.

"The First Student." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/firststudent.shtml> [24 April 2006].

A brief article about the first two students, Nannie Sword and Eleanor Beatrice Marable. The information contained in the article is derived from Dingledine's *Madison College: The First Fifty Years, 1908-1959.*

Founder's Days. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains event programs and other ephemera related to the Founder's Days celebrations.

"Graduation History." JMU Centennial Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/commencement.shtml> [9 March 2006].

An article chronicling the history and evolution of the school's commencement ceremonies from 1910 to the present.

Harrisonburg Daily News. Harrisonburg, VA.

One of several local papers of the early twentieth century. School news regularly made the front page. Unfortunately, many issues are no longer available.

Harrisonburg Daily Times. Harrisonburg, VA.

One of several local papers of the early twentieth century. Many issues are no longer available.

Hilton, Fred D. "Changing from a College to a University: Madison College to James Madison University, 1971-1977." Master's thesis, James Madison University, 1996.

This work focuses on Ronald Carrier, the institution's fourth president, as the epicenter of the transformation of JMU from a small, primarily female teachers college to a comprehensive, regional, coeducational, liberal-arts university. It examines Carrier's leadership role and numerous policy initiatives which coalesced to enable the change to occur.

_____. "Down by the (Shenandoah) Riverside." *Montpelier* (Winter 1981): 6-8.

A brief history of the University Farm up to 1980.

_____. "May Day's Crowning Glory Couldn't Escape Changing Social Climate." *Madison* 29, no. 2 (Spring 2006): 19.

A brief article on the history of the May Day celebration.

History: Misc. Reminiscences. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A small file containing only three documents. A 1954 Founders Day address by Mary Louise Seeger; a short essay on the history of the school by Jessie [Gibbons?] dated summer 1982; and a folder with 2 newspaper clippings from 1933 - one by President Burruss, the other by Miss Cleveland

"The Home Economics Department of Madison College." 1 March 1941. In *Home Economics*. Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A seven page article describing the history of the institution's Home Economics program up to 1941. Primarily discusses curriculum changes and the various department heads and faculty members over the years, but briefly touches on degrees, the Smith-Hughes Act, and the practice house.

Hudson, Ruth S. "Dramatics at the College," *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no.4 (April 1931): 121.

Discusses the history of dramatic performances at the school from 1910 to 1931. Primarily consists of chronological listings of all the professional drama companies that visited the school as well as all the plays presented by students, including those of the Senior Class and the Stratford Players.

Images of James Madison University, 1908-1983: Blue Stone Hill to JMU. Harrisonburg, VA.: James Madison University, 1983.

A pictorial history of JMU issued in commemoration of the institution's 75th anniversary.

"The Inauguration of G. Tyler Miller." *Bulletin, Madison College* (January 1950).

The complete proceedings of the inauguration ceremonies of JMU's third president, G. Tyler Miller.

James Madison University Bulletin 29, no. 1, Undergraduate Catalog, 2005-2006 (May 2005). Harrisonburg, VA.: Division of Academic Affairs, JMU, May 2005.

The current University catalog.

"James Madison University, 1908-1983." Special to the *Daily News-Record,* 14 March 1983.

A collection of articles on the history of the school. Issued as part of the University's Diamond Anniversary celebrations.

James Madison University, Office of Institutional Research. "James Madison University, 2005-06 Facts and Figures." 3 March 2006. <http://www.jmu.edu/instresrch/statsum/2005_06/FactsFigs.pdf> [12 June 2006].

Part of the OIR's statistical summary for 2005-2006. Contains basics facts and figures such as the size of the campus, the number of buildings, and the number of students enrolled.

_____. "Table 3-6, Degrees Conferred 1909 Through 1995." <http://www.jmu.edu/instresrch/statsum/199596/3-6.htm> [26 April 2006].

Part of OIR's 1995-96 Statistical Summary. Gives the number of degrees conferred by year from 1909 through 1995.

James Madison University, Office of Media Relations. "JMU to Move Classes from Anthony-Seeger." 12 April 2000. <http://web.jmu.edu/mediarel/PR-thisRelease.asp?AutoID=616> [2 September 2006].

A news release discussing the moving of classrooms from Anthony-Seeger Hall.

JMU Centennial Celebration. [Internet Homepage]. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/> [4 May 2006].

The central online resource for the Centennial Celebration. Provides dozens of links to historical information on the school.

"JMU Presidents." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/presidents.shtml> [3 May 2006].

Brief summaries of the institution's five presidential administrations.

Johnston, Althea Loose. "Athletics at the College." *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 123-125.

A very short, yet informative article on the development of athletics at the College from 1909 to 1930. Written by the woman who headed the Physical Education Department and coached basketball.

Jones, Nancy B. Collection. SC# 5013. Box 1, Folder 4. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains letters of correspondence between President Burruss and Beatrice Marable and a speech by Marable.

Jones, Nancy Bondurant. "From Lukewarm to Grand Fashion." *Montpelier* (Fall 1999). <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/issues/fall99/bluestone.htm> [29 May 2006].

Contrasts the different receptions received by the University's first two presidents - Burruss and Duke - with that of its third, G. Tyler Miller. The article also provides a good summarized account of the inauguration of President Miller.

_____. "Heads, It's The Breeze, Tails, It's Campus Cat." *Montpellier* (Fall 2001). <http://www.jmu.edu/montpelier/2001Fall/HeadsTheBreeze.shtml> [13 May 2006].

A brief article on the origins and life of the first student paper, *The Breeze*. Recounts how the paper got its name, discusses early content, mentions controversies, and shows how it has evolved physically and journalistically.

_____. *Rooted on Blue Stone Hill: A History of James Madison University*. Santa Fe, NM and Staunton, VA: Center for American Places in association with the Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, 2004.

A history of JMU from 1908 to 1998.

Kinnear, Duncan Lyle. "A Short History of Virginia Tech: The Burruss Administration, 1919-1945." n.d. <http://spec.lib.vt.edu/archives/125th/kinnear/burruss.htm> [25 May 2006].

This online article summarizes the highlights of Julian Burruss's tenure as president of Virginia Tech.

"Land Owned by Madison College." In *University Farm.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This document, signed by the College's Business Manager, lists the properties and buildings purchased by the institution from 1908 to 1954. Includes dates, costs, and acreages.

"Letters from MC Alumnae." Madison College, 50th Anniversary Edition. *Daily News-Record.* 14 March 1959.

Two letters of remembrance and congratulation submitted to the *Daily News-Record* by alumnae for the paper's special anniversary edition.

Library Accession Books, 1909-1937. 5 vols. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Handwritten ledgers of the books cataloged by the library from 1909 to 1937.

Logan, Conrad T. "Samuel P. Duke, Builder." *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no.4 (April 1931): 96-98.

Briefly traces Duke's efforts to improve the faculty and enlarge the school during his first twelve years in office.

"Madison College, 50th Anniversary Edition." *Daily News-Record.* 14 March 1959.

An oversize edition of the local newspaper issued as part of the institution's fiftieth anniversary celebration. Contains over forty articles on the institution and its history.

"Major Buildings." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/major_buildings.shtml> [8 January 2006].

An alphabetical listing of the University's major buildings. Includes the year each building was constructed and for whom they are named.

May Days. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains programs and information regarding the school's annual May Day celebrations.

Moffett, M'Ledge. "The Beginning of Student Activities at Harrisonburg." *The Virginia Teacher* 14, no. 5 (May 1933): 93-98.

A first-hand, personal account of life at the school during its first years.

Moody, Pearl Powers. "Our Practice House." *The Virginia Teacher* 10, no. 3 (March 1929): 80-83.

An article about the recently completed home economics practice house by the head of the Home Economics Department at the time. Provides a detailed account of the building's furnishings and includes the floor plan for the first and second floors.

_____. "The Practice House." *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (January 1919): 51-60.

A detailed article on the necessity, implementation, and operation of the school's home economics practice house. Includes a description of the house's interior, discussion of the work performed by students, and budget and expenditure charts.

_____. "Smith-Hughes Teacher Training in Home Economics at Harrisonburg." *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 117-119.

Discusses the Smith-Hughes Act and the development of the school's home economics program.

Name: Madison College. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains information relating to the institution's name change in 1938.

Naming of Buildings (1957-1980). Disciplinary and Budget Reports Collection. PR 2000-0516. Box 2, Folder 25. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This folder consists primarily of letters informing honorees that campus buildings were to be named after them. Includes letters to Dr. John Wayland and Mrs. Bernice Varner,

News Clippings, 1908-1944. Public Relations Collection. PU 88-1015. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A very nice and extensive collection of photocopied newspaper clippings for various dates from 1908-21, 1930, and 1933-44.

The Normal Bulletin. Harrisonburg, VA.: State Normal and Industrial School for Women, 1909-1914; State Normal School for Women, 1914-1919.

The school's first catalog.

The Normal Bulletin, Magazine. Harrisonburg, VA.: State Normal School for Women, 1916-1919.

Magazine edition of *The Normal Bulletin.*

Policy #3103, Guidelines for Groups Using the University Farm. James Madison University. <http://www.jmu.edu/JMUpolicy/3103.shtml> [19 April 2006].

Outlines policies for requesting use of the University Farm.

President's Reports to Board of Trustees & Virginia Normal School Board, 1909-1926. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 4, Binder 1909-1926. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the Board of Trustees and the Virginia Normal School Board (Board of Virginia Teachers Colleges, 1924) by Presidents Burruss and Duke from 1909 to 1926.

President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1927-1934. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 4, Binder 1927-7/1934. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the State Board of Education by President Duke from 1927 to July 1934.

President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1934-1938. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 4, Binder 10/1934-5/1938. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the State Board of Education by President Duke from October 1934 to May 1938.

President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1938-1941. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 4, Binder 7/1938-5/1941. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the State Board of Education by President Duke from July 1938 to May 1941.

President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1951-1956. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 5, Binder 7/1951-5/1956. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the State Board of Education by President Miller from July 1951 to May 1956.

President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1958-1959. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 5, Folder 2. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the State Board of Education by President Miller from 1958-1959. [Note: Miller's 1959 annual report is not available.]

President's Reports to State Board of Education, 1960. Board of Visitors Collection. PR 99-1122. Box 5, Folder 3. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Contains original copies of reports (including annual reports) submitted to the State Board of Education by President Miller in 1960.

Prufer, Margaret M. "A History of the State Normal School at Harrisonburg." *The Normal Bulletin, Magazine* (October 1919): 205-217.

An article about the school's first ten years which mentions many "firsts" in the history of the school to that time. However, it also contains several factual errors, mostly regarding dates, which were likely the result of simple typographical errors.

"Purple and Gold." JMU Centennial Celebration Website, <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/purple_gold.shtml> [25 April 2006].

Discusses the origins of the school's colors.

Records of the Office of the President, Julian A. Burruss, 1919-1945. Record Group Number RG-2/8, Box 1, Folder 19; Box 4, Folder 215; Box 6, Folder 315. Newman Library, Special Collections, University Archives, University Libraries, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA.

A large collection of correspondence and reports by Julian Burruss during his tenure as president of both the Harrisonburg Normal School (1908-1919) and Virginia Tech (1919-1945). Those documents relevant to JMU are mostly reports to the Board of Trustees and the Virginia Normal School Board and certain meeting minutes of the Normal School Board. While JMU possesses the documents cited in this work, they are not currently available to the public through the University.

"Report and By-Laws: Virginia Normal School Board, July 1st, 1914 - January 1st, 1916." Petersburg, VA: Virginia Normal School Board, 15 January 1916. In *Burruss, Julian A., 1909-1918, & News Releases*. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Report and By-Laws of the Virginia Normal School Board.

"The Rock." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/rock.shtml> [3 May 2006].

A very short article on the myth of the "Kissing Rock," the giant limestone rock on the Quad.

"Schedule of Buildings and Cost of Same at Madison College, Harrisonburg, VA." 1 January 1955. In *Buildings, JMU.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A document, signed by the College's Business Manager, listing the names, the costs, and the construction dates of the buildings erected from 1908 to 1953.

Schoolma'am, The. 1910-1915, 1916, 1919, 1938, 1947, 1948. Harrisonburg, Va.: Published by the students of the State Normal School, 1910-23; of the State Teachers College, 1924-37; of Madison College, 1938-1961

The school's yearbook from 1910 to 1961.

Scrapbook, 1932-1967. Stratford Players Collection. SP 98-0211. Box 1. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This scrapbook contains meeting minutes, show programs, letters, season information, and more for 1932-1967.

"The Seal." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/seal.shtml> [6 June 2006].

A brief write-up discussing the history and development of the University's seal.

Seeger, Mary Louise. "Madison College Reminiscences." 15 March 1954. Address at Founder's Day Program, Madison College, 1954. In *History: Misc. Reminiscences*. Vertical File.

A personal account of life at the school during its first years. Discusses the trouble with the boardwalk, mentions that stones were quarried on campus for the first buildings, and talks about how the faculty used to measure the students' dresses to ensure proper length.

Smith, August. "JMU University Farm." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/farm.shtml> [3 May 2006].

A brief history of the University Farm near Port Republic.

_____. "Joan of Arc." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/joan.shtml> [2 May 2006].

A brief article on the presentation of the Joan of Arc statue in 1917 and its possible origins.

_____. "Previous Anniversaries." JMU Centennial Celebration Website. <http://www.jmu.edu/centennialcelebration/annivrsaries.shtml> [8 January 2006].

A good, summarized account of the institution's twentieth, twenty-fifth, fiftieth, and seventy-fifth anniversary celebrations.

Sonner, Ray V. "Madison College: The Miller Years, 1949-1970." Ph.D. diss., University of Virginia, 1974.

Details the administration of JMU's third president G.Tyler Miller.

Student Records Manager. Office of the Registrar, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Student registration records from 1909 to present are available through this office.

Student's Hand Book. Harrisonburg, VA: State Normal and Industrial School for Women; Young Women's Christian Association, 1912/13.

The first student handbook. Outlines the structure, purpose, and activities of the YWCA, the Honor System rules, and various pointers and recommendations for incoming freshman.

Tree Planting. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains two news articles from 1910 covering the first Arbor Day and tree planting ceremonies conducted at the school. There are also several programs for tree planting ceremonies held during the 1920s.

University Farm. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This file contains excerpts from presidential reports for 1929 and 1930 which discuss the farm, articles on the farm from 1959 and 1981, a listing of land owned by the school at the time, and a brief biographical sketch of the Hooke family by Raymond Dingledine.

Varner, Bernice Reaney. "Madison College Defense Activities, 1942-1943." In *Duke, Samuel P., 1919-1949*. Vertical File. Folder 1. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A typed listing of the Colleges war-related courses and volunteer activities for 1942-1943. Signed by Mrs. Bernice Varner who was head of the College's Civilian Defense Committee.

Virginia Teacher, The. Harrisonburg, VA.: State Normal School, 1920-1924; State Teachers College, 1924-1938; Madison College, 1938-1939.

A school publication which was issued both as the school's catalog and as a scholarly magazine.

"Visit Guide - Walking Tour - Bluestone Area." *Office of Admissions*. James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA. <http://www.jmu.edu/admissions/visit/guide/Bluestonearea.shtml> [10 July 2006].

An online, virtual walking tour of the Bluestone Area of the campus (the Quad and the surrounding area). Provides links to images of the buildings as well as brief descriptions of the departments and offices which occupy them and links to those departments.

Wayland, John W. "Anent the Song, Blue-Stone Hill." In *Alma Mater (and Other Songs)*. Vertical File, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A brief account of the origins of the school's first alma mater.

_____. *Historic Harrisonburg*. 1949. Reprint, Harrisonburg, VA: C. J. Carrier Co., 1990.

Chronicles the origins and development of the town and people of Harrisonburg from 1739 to 1949.

_____. Letter to President Duke. 30 June 1943. In *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

This twenty-four page document contains excerpts from Wayland's diary which chronicle several interesting events at the school. It also includes a hand-drawn map of the campus showing the locations of the orchards and quarry pits and a page discussing the school's places of assembly in the early years.

_____. Letter to President Miller. 22 March 1954. In *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A brief letter discussing the institution's first faculty members.

_____. "Significant Incidents in the Early Life of the School." *The Virginia Teacher* 12, no. 4 (April 1931): 87-90.

A brief recounting of notable school happenings during the first two decades. A typed rough draft of this article, dated March 1931, can be found in the Wayland Vertical File.

_____. "Sundry Items Relating to Madison College, Gleaned from the Personal Diary of John W. Wayland." In *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

A lengthy, annotated timeline of events at the school from 1909 to 1931.

_____. "Some Items Relating to the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, Later the State Teachers College, and Now Madison College, with Special Reference to the Several Buildings that have been Erected From Time to Time." 27 March, 12, 13 April 1954. In *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Recollections of former faculty member Dr. John Wayland regarding the buildings and grounds of the school from 1908 through the early 1950s. Presented primarily in timeline form. Includes many specific dates.

_____. "The Harrisonburg State Normal School In Relation to the World War, 1914-1918." In *Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences.* Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Chronicles the activities of the school during the years of World War I.

Wayland, John W.: Personal Reminiscences of College History. Vertical File. Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Letters, speeches, personal accounts of early school happenings, excerpts from his diary, and bibliographies of Wayland's work.

Wendelken, Janet T. "Graduation has Changed Since 1910." *James Madison University News* (5 May 1983): 1, 4.

An article chronicling the history and evolution of the school's commencement ceremonies from 1910 to 1982. This article was heavily used for the Centennial Celebration website article, "Graduation History."