

CAMPUS WALKING TOUR

Welcome to Wheaton College. Jonathan Blanchard, the College's first president, gave the College its motto, "For Christ and His Kingdom." He believed the Lord had need of Wheaton College to aid the way for His coming again. **(NOTE: Numbers following buildings listed below may be used as references on the [campus map](#))**

MCALISTER CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC (3) was completed in 1962. A gift from a trust fund in New York in memory of William McAlister and his daughter, Amelie, provided more than half the cost of the Conservatory's construction.

PIERCE CHAPEL (4) was a joint project of Wheaton College and College Church in Wheaton with both sharing the facilities from 1925 to 1935, when the College bought out the Church's share after the Church constructed its own building.

Dr. Willis F. Pierce made a gift to the College to construct balconies in the chapel to provide more space for the expanding student body which held daily chapel services there. The chapel was named for Dr. Pierce's wife, Orlinda Childs Pierce.

EDMAN CHAPEL (5) was built in 1959. The Alumni Association organized fund raising for the chapel, named for Dr. V. Raymond Edman, the College's fourth president. The College's most expansive building program occurred during Dr. Edman's presidency.

HARBOR HOUSE (35) is the College's executive retreat center, dedicated in the Fall of 2001. The house is designed to be a "harbor" and a place of rest for those visiting the campus. The Wheaton College Board of Trustees as well as many prominent visitors meet and lodge in this beautiful new facility. The house contains three private, overnight guest rooms as well as comfortable meeting space, including a state-of-the-art board room.

THE MARION E. WADE CENTER (36) is the newest academic building at Wheaton. The Wade Center was completed in 2001 and houses a major research collection of writings by and about seven influential British authors: Owen Barfield, G.K. Chesterton, C.S. Lewis, George MacDonald, Dorothy L. Sayers, J.R.R. Tolkien, and Charles Williams. The Wade Center contains both a museum and the Kilby Reading Room, an area reserved for research and study of the authors. Museum exhibits of special interest include C.S. Lewis' family wardrobe (inspiration for his children's book, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*) and J.R.R. Tolkien's writing desk (on which he wrote *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy).

In 1950, **BUSWELL LIBRARY** (6) was completed. Robert E. Nicholas, businessman and longtime trustee of the college, gave long hours of service to the College and helped the College remain solvent especially during the depression years of the 1930's. The library was a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas and was originally named for them. An addition was completed in 1975, and in 1980 the library was renamed Buswell after the College's third president.

Completed in 1902, the building now known as **SCHELL HALL** (120) was the home of the Wheaton College Academy until 1945 when the Academy moved to its present location near West Chicago. The Graduate School then occupied the building until 1980, when it moved to the Graham Center.

In 1960 the building was named for our third president, James Oliver Buswell, Jr., who was involved in beginning the Graduate School in 1936. In 1980 Buswell Hall was renamed Schell Hall after Dean Edward Schell, dean of Wheaton Academy for many years until the late 1940's.

BREYER HALL (7) was built in 1953 and named in memory of Dr. John Breyer, a 1905 graduate. Breyer almost dropped out of the College because of financial pressures but was encouraged by President Charles Blanchard that the Lord had led him to Wheaton and would not desert him. Breyer later became a medical doctor, and through his will, left the funds needed for the construction of Breyer Hall.

Connected to Breyer Hall is **ARMERDING HALL** (8). The building houses the science departments and is named for Dr. Hudson T. Armerding, the College's fifth president from 1965 to 1982. The Perry mastodon, which was discovered on the property of Judge Joseph Sam Perry in Glen Ellyn, is on exhibit in the west end. Professor Douglas Block and Wheaton geology students helped excavate and identify the bones, and Edwin Diecke made a large gift to provide the exhibit area for the mastodon.

EVANS HALL and **MCMANIS HALL** (9 and 10) residence halls were built in three sections between 1936 and 1948. Evans Hall is named for Alice Evans, wife of Dr. E. Joseph Evans, a generous supporter of the College and a minister who had a great impact on the life of Dr. Edman as a young man.

McManis Hall was named after Carolyn McManis, the wife of Fred McManis. He lost money in the 1929 crash but was encouraged to contribute to Wheaton College if he regained his wealth, which he did. He donated half ownership in his business, amounting to several million dollars. Both halls were completely remodeled in 1995. McManis Hall is houses the offices for **Conference Services**, located on the south end of the building on the lower level.

FISCHER HALL (17) residence hall was named for Herman H. Fischer, Sr. and Fischer, Jr. Fischer, Sr. was a Wheaton College teacher and administrator for 54 years. Fischer, Jr. was a trustee for 45 years in the position of chairman of the board during many of those years.

The **SPORTS & RECREATION COMPLEX or SRC** (16) provides a convenient and accessible location for sports, exercise, and socializing. Remodeled **King Arena** (formerly Centennial Gym) hosts the College's intercollegiate basketball and volleyball competitions. The new **Eckert Recreation Center** – named in recognition of donors Alfred and Ellen Faye Eckert, who funded the majority of the construction costs – houses an 8,000 square foot strength and conditioning facility, a three-court multi-purpose gymnasium, an elevated track, aerobics and wrestling rooms, and a climbing wall. The **Chrouser Pool** – part of the Fitness Center originally named for Harvey C. Chrouser, a former coach and athletic director – is now a component of the SRC.

The **EDWARD A. CORAY ALUMNI EVENT ROOM** (15), completed in 1942, was an Alumni Association project and originally constructed as a gymnasium. Aptly named Alumni Gym, in 1948, the name of Coach Edward A. Coray was added. A longtime coach at Wheaton, Coach Coray has written a history of Wheaton College athletics. In 2004, the gymnasium was converted into a multi-purpose meeting facility with the completion of the Beamer Center.

Dedicated in October of 2004, the **TODD M. BEAMER STUDENT CENTER** is a central hub for life on campus. The center is named after 9/11 hero Todd Beamer who graduated from Wheaton in 1991. In an attempt to stop the terrorists on September 11, Todd and others rushed the cockpit, and the phrase "Let's roll" became part of the national vocabulary. Many student-related offices are located in the Beamer Center. The Beamer Center also contains Anderson Commons Dining Hall, the Coffee Shop, the College Post Office, and a variety of game rooms and lounges. The Beamer Center is also the home of **The Stupe**. This name is a carry-over from the old gymnasium which had a room set aside for students to sell various items from candy to toothpaste. Called the Student Union, it was not a great success, and students began calling it the "Stupid Onion," with "Stupe" for short. When a more successful refreshment area evolved in the gymnasium and was moved to MSC, a more dignified title, the "College Club," was selected by the College authorities. Students, however, ignored the new name and the "Stupe" was eventually revitalized. Today The Stupe serves a variety of sandwiches and snack foods. It is best known for its ice cream.

Located east of the campus on Howard Street is **TRABER HALL** (18), a residence hall named for George S. Traber, a businessman from New York who was a trustee and generous donor to the College.

The lower building next to Traber is **SMITH HALL** (19). Completed in 1960, this residence hall was named for Mrs. Corinne Smith, dean of women for 30 years until her retirement in 1960. Mrs. Smith was known as the "Emily Post of Wheaton" because of her gracious manners and demeanor.

This residence hall was completely remodeled and refurbished in 1997, with air-conditioning added in 1998.

BEAN STADIUM (24) is the college's varsity soccer stadium, named for Coach Joe Bean who served as head soccer coach for over 25 years. **MCCULLY FIELD** (25), the varsity football stadium, is named in memory of T. Edward McCully, Jr., a 1949 graduate and one of the five missionaries killed in Ecuador while bringing the gospel to the Auca Indians.

East of McCully Field is the **CHASE SERVICE CENTER** (23), home of the College's Physical Plant, Public Safety, and Facility Management. Built in 1977, it was named after Harold Chase, a faithful worker in the Physical Plant Department for 34 years.

Returning to the main campus, the **MEMORIAL STUDENT CENTER** (11), built in 1959, was the first big fund-raising project under the direction of the Alumni Association. The Center is named in memory of 1600 Wheaton men and women who served in the armed forces. Inside the front door on the left is a plaque with the names of Wheaton College men killed in action.

WILLISTON HALL (12) is another of the older buildings, built in 1895. This women's residence hall was also known as Ladies' Hall and the "Red Castle;" it was fully refurbished in 1995.

The **STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING** (13) was completed in 1952. Until the fall of 1988, this building served as the dining hall. Following the completion of Anderson Commons, the building served temporarily for relocated offices and classrooms during the 1988-90 Blanchard Hall renovation. The building was then renamed and now houses several student administrative offices and the College Bookstore.

ANDERSON COMMONS (14), the campus dining facility, was completed and dedicated in October, 1988. Responsible for donating the major amount of funding needed for the project, the Commons is named for J. Emil Anderson, whose construction company also served as general contractor for the project. Bon Appétit Management Company, an independent contractor, manages this area.

BLANCHARD HALL (1) is the original College building and has experienced numerous changes in occupants over the years. Jonathan Blanchard planned the design of Blanchard from a building he had seen at Oxford University in England. The middle section dates from 1853 and was the original Illinois Institute under the direction of the Wesleyan Methodists.

When the Institute failed financially, it was rescued by Jonathan Blanchard and renamed Wheaton College after Warren Wheaton, who donated 50 acres to the College in 1860. One of the stipulations that Jonathan Blanchard made before he would accept the presidency of the College was that the College be named Wheaton College. He told Warren Wheaton that it "will at least save your heirs the expense of a good monument." The building began to expand with the center tower and west extension added in 1872, the east extension in 1892, and the east wing in 1927. The building was named Blanchard Hall in 1925 following the death of Charles Blanchard and named for him and his father, Jonathan.

In 1988, the most extensive renovation of Blanchard Hall began, with the entire interior gutted. Only the outside shell remained. The renovations were completed and the building rededicated in October, 1990.

The **BILLY GRAHAM CENTER** (2) was completed and dedicated in 1980. Each floor is the size of a football field and the columns, cupola and trim are made of fiberglass exterior as stone and wood were found to be less practical or too expensive. Over 1,000 wood piles are pounded 45 feet into the ground below the foundation, and two 20,000 gallon tanks under the porch hold water heated by the boiler.

The **Museum** on the first floor exhibits the role of evangelism in the history of the United States during the past 300 years, with a special exhibit on the ministry of Billy Graham. Included in the

Museum is a walk through the gospel, meditation chapel, and bookstore. Four-and-one-half years of research went into the planning of the Museum with most research virtually from scratch due to limited accumulated history on evangelism.

The **Graduate School**, located on the second floor, was founded in 1936 with 100 students. It currently has over 400 students with departments including Theological Studies, Educational Ministries, and Psychological Studies.

While most religious-oriented collections are denominational, the **Graham Collections** are non-denominational. Located on the third floor of the Graham Center, the material included is of North American origin and from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The purpose of the collection is to be a tool – not a temple – for use by historians, church leaders and the general public. The sprinkler system in the Collections involves a fire-extinguishing gas which is released through the system, thus avoiding any water damage.

The **Graham Archives** houses five basic collections: evangelism, world missions, reference, the Celtic church of Great Britain and Ireland, and general theology. There is also a Special Collections Room which holds books dated before 1820.

W *at Wheaton College believe the Lord has provided these buildings, facilities and people to continue Jonathan Blanchard's vision . . . to provide a college where people can receive a good education and be strengthened in faith to go out and serve the Lord in a world so much in need of Christian leadership.*