

# GALLAUDET COLLEGE

Our 50th  
Anniversary

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GALLAUDET  
UNIVERSITY

1968



**Credits:**

The class banner on the front cover designed by the late John Huang

Interior Design and Layout by Bobby Skedsmo

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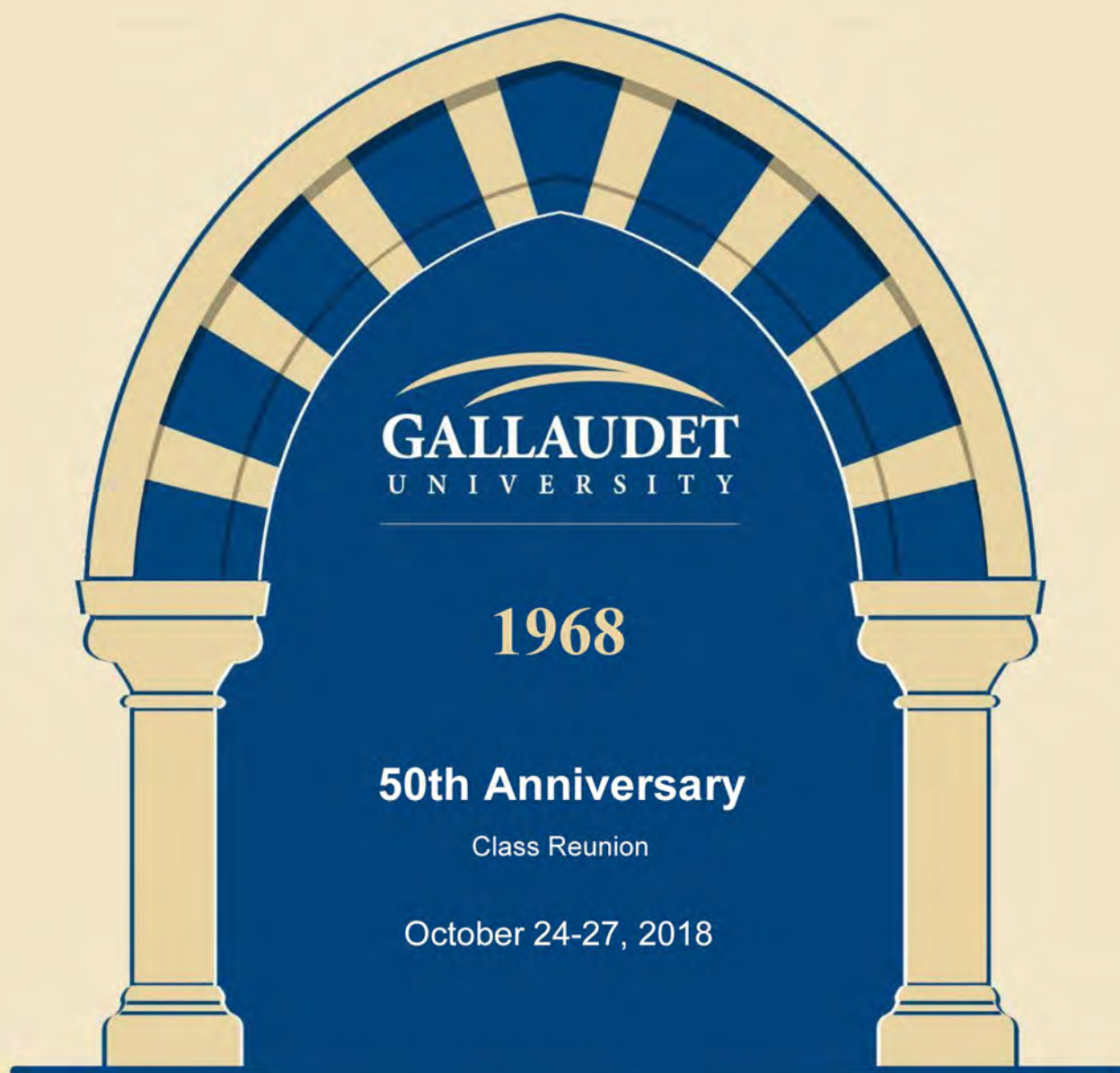
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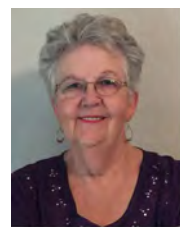


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Dear '68 Classmates:

We finally made it back "Home" to our beloved Kendall Green and Gallaudet University after 50 years! The Reunion Committee is happy that you are able to join us during this Homecoming weekend! Now is a great time to get re-acquainted and greet both old and new friends. Some of us came as Preps, others came as freshmen or joined us in later years between 1963 and 1967 before our graduation in June of 1968! Some might have left and kept in touch over the years. Regardless, we are just happy to see you all here this week!

I am proud to have worked with an amazing group of people on our Reunion Committee! So many of them have spent hours working on different areas – The Class Book, Registration, planning for the Wednesday Night Kick-off dinner and arranging for some great entertainment to bring us back to the roots of our Alma Mater! We will "feel" the beat of drums all week!

Many of our committee members assisted others in different areas, but I wish to recognize those who worked in:

Registration, Database and Membership Search: **Rosalee Connor, Clark Connor and Louis Schwarz**

Class Reunion Book: **Bobby Skedsmo, Francine Skedsmo and Elaine Navratil**

Logo and Vests: **Rosalee Connor, Bobby Skedsmo, Ricky Drake and Steve Holst**

Master of Ceremonies and Program Book: **Ricky Drake**

College Bowl Challenge: **Kenneth Rothschild**

Wednesday Night Kick-off Dinner and Hospitality: **Michael Moore, Alex Richey, Ida Wylie Mapes, Betty York and Ricky Drake**

Class of 1968 Gift Fund: **Louis Schwarz**

We also are indebted to **Abigail "Abby" Drake**, '97 & G-'99, Assistant Director, Office of Alumni Relations, for her fantastic assistance in getting things set up for us during our reunion. She also served as our go-between for registration and hotel reservations and answered many of our questions during or video call meetings! Also assisted us in getting interpreters set up for our deaf-blind classmate for different functions during the 4-day reunion event.

We also want to thank **Sorenson VRS** for assisting us in setting up our monthly Video Conference Calls that allowed us to meet "online" to get our reunion plans rolling!

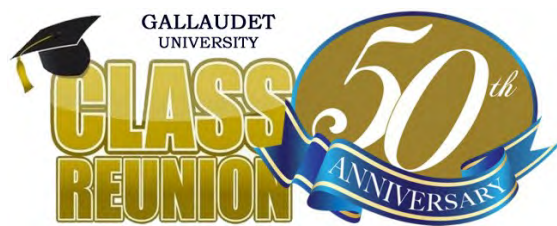
Looking forward to seeing you all on the campus over the next few days. We hope you have a grand time!

Elaine Navratil

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elaine Navratil".

Reunion Chair





Dear '68 Classmates,

After several years of preparations and meetings, we finally reached the anticipated milestone – Class of 1968 - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion! I want to thank each of you for your physical attendance.

Our Class of 1968 had frequent reunions at Gallaudet University, National Association of the Deaf conferences, and Deaf Seniors of America conferences. Now, at this reunion, there are over 92 attendees, as compared to 91 classmates at our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion in 1993.

Fifty years have changed the face, posture, gait, width, and height. Have 50 years flown by so fast? Have we improved with age? In the 1960's, we were in our 20-25's and had different clothing styles! Maybe you may not recognize several classmates and may need to read their name tags!

Now fifty years later, this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion is a four-day event, even if we remain dear old friends across decades of non-communication. Also, you will see several big changes and tremendous physical growth of the Gallaudet campus since the last time. You were there as well as the incredible strides that Gallaudet University has made into global prominence.

It is with deep sadness that our 70 of our classmates have departed in the past years (9 in the first 25 years and then 61 in the last 25 years). Hence, this makes the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion so precious for us all to meet one more time.

Our Class of 1968 will continue to strive for more impromptu reunions across the nation at least once every year.

I want to thank **Elaine (McHowell) Navratil** for being our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion chair, and she did the job well! Also, her reunion planning committee for their fantastic job.

As the chair of the Class of 1968 Gift Fund, due to our reunion's gift coinciding with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion traditional gift giving, I seriously expect to set a record that will remain for years to come. Our class is uniquely successful, incredibly talented, and competitive that I would love for you to be a part of this effort to reach the \$25,000 goal!

We will continue to celebrate our mighty 1968 class reunion traditionally on the Gallaudet campus every five years. Be sure to attend the homecoming weekend, and to wear your Alumni Emeriti medallion and vest proudly!

I am excited and looking forward to hugging each of you at our most unforgettable 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion!

Louis J. Schwarz

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Schwarz".

Alumni Class President



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



October 2018


Dear Members of the Class of 1968:

I am delighted to welcome you back to Kendall Green for your golden anniversary class reunion! You may not recognize our campus, with its many new and renovated buildings and athletic facilities. You also will be amazed and intrigued by the renaissance of our neighborhood. NoMa, the Atlas District, and Union Market, just across Sixth Street, are among our city's premier destinations.

Gallaudet University continues to be an academically challenging educational institution dedicated to ensuring that its graduates are ready to become productive citizens nationally and globally. Currently, Gallaudet's enrollment stands at approximately 1,700 students, representing almost every state and more than 30 countries. Undergraduate students can choose from more than 40 different majors, and the University offers a growing number of master's, specialist, certificate, and doctoral programs.

Just as you did 50 years ago, today's students are forging bonds that will support and sustain them throughout their lives, and creating memories that will last forever. When you mingle with your former classmates and rekindle college memories this week, please think of what Gallaudet means to you and about how you can help ensure that the University's current and future students succeed and reach their full potential. Support from alumni is critical, so please make a gift today in honor of your golden anniversary. On behalf of our students of today and tomorrow, I thank you.

I look forward to seeing you this weekend, especially at your class luncheon and the medallion ceremony. Best wishes.

Warmly,  
  
Roberta J. Cordano, J.D.  
President



## ALUMNI RELATIONS



October 2018

To the Members of the Class of 1968!

Gallaudet University and the Gallaudet University Alumni Association join me in welcoming you back home. Homecoming is by far the busiest and most exciting time for the Alumni Relations staff, and your class's 50th anniversary reunion is one of our most important and most meaningful events. We wish to congratulate you on reaching such an important milestone!

The University is pleased to host a luncheon to honor and recognize your very special class. It will be held at the Peikoff Alumni House ("Ole Jim") on Friday, October 28.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to Assistant Director Abigail Strauss Drake, '97 & G-'99, for the support she has given to your class throughout the year. I also want to recognize the fantastic work your reunion committee is doing for the class. The goal is to make this weekend enjoyable for everyone.

It does not matter if this is your first visit to Kendall Green in a long time or if you come here often; we welcome you as a family member!

Enjoy your reunion this weekend!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "SM Sonnenstrahl".

Samuel M Sonnenstrahl, '79 & G-'84  
Executive Director, Alumni and Donor Programs





October 2018

To the Class of 1968!

On behalf of the Gallaudet University Alumni Association and its more than 8,500 members, I would like to congratulate you on your golden anniversary!

Being an alum is something that brings me tremendous pride. You are one of the main reasons for this. Like many before and after us, you have left an indelible mark on the campus and elsewhere. This contributes to what we know as the Gallaudet community, both on and off campus.

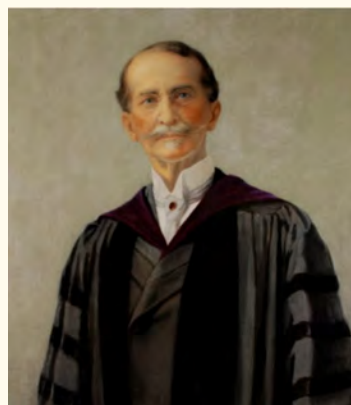
Gallaudet alumni are known for their ardent support for the University. During the past decade, alumni have given more than five million dollars to Gallaudet. We thank those who give and encourage others to do the same.

There is no other place like Gallaudet in the world!

Have a great reunion this weekend!

Donalda K. Ammons, '74  
President

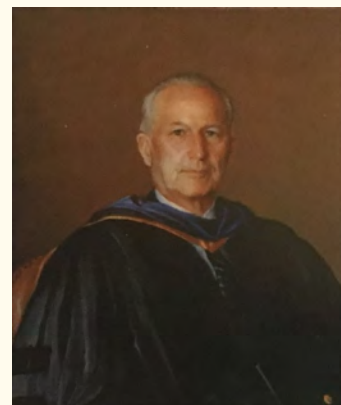
## Gallaudet University Presidents



Dr. Edward Miner Gallaudet  
1864-1910



Dr. Percival Hall  
1910-1945



Dr. Leonard M. Elstad  
1945-1969



Dr. Edward C. Merrill, Jr.  
1969-1983



Dr. W. Lloyd Johns  
1983



Dr. Jerry C. Lee  
1984-1987



Dr. Elisabeth Ann Zinser  
1988



Dr. I. King Jordan  
1988-2006



Dr. Robert R. Davila  
2007-2009



Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz  
2010-2015



Dr. Roberta "Bobbi" Cordano  
2016 - Present

## What Was It Like in 1864?

At the time of the establishment of the collegiate department of Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb (now known as Gallaudet University) in 1864, Washington, D.C. was different from what it is today.

- Civil War was underway in its third year... lots of soldiers in the Capital city, and the city was heavily protected by about 60 military forts all around.
- The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Station was the only gateway for soldiers to arrive in the city. The present Union Station was nowhere to be found.
- Kendall Green was located just outside of the city limits. There was a military hospital camp erected on the property.
- The L'Enfant plan for Washington D.C. was not adhered to. The thousands of trees in the city that we see today were absent.
- The construction on the U.S. Capitol's new cast iron dome was just completed.
- Washington Monument was still unfinished.
- Many roads were unpaved, including Boundary Street (now Florida Avenue) in front of Kendall Green.
- West Virginia Ave along the side of Kendall Green was non-existent. What was there before? Look at the 1865 map on the next page.



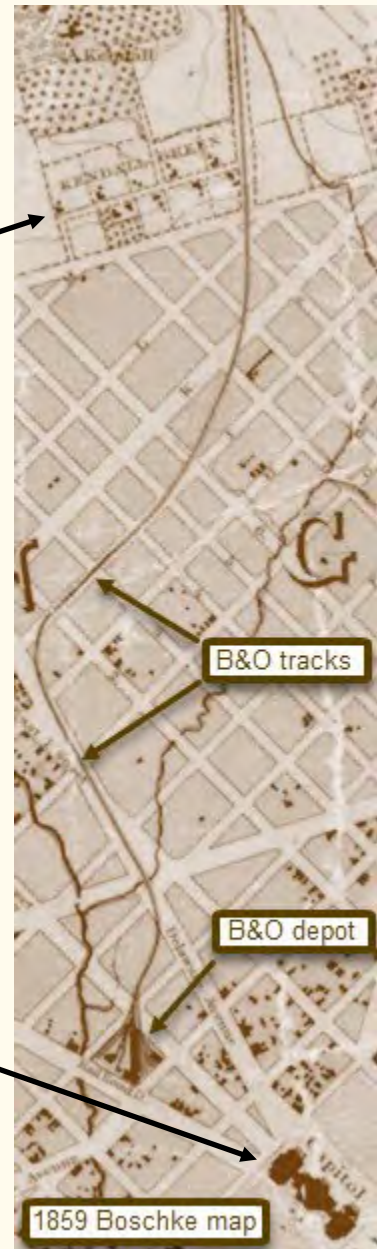




The Rose Cottage, also known as the “Cradle of Gallaudet,” was where college students took classes 1864-1866.



The Baltimore & Ohio railroad station in the Capital City. The Nation’s first railroad, B&O, completed a 32-mile branch line between Baltimore & Washington in 1835.



#### Did you know?

On May 24, 1844, **Samuel F. B. Morse** sent the first telegram, “**WHAT HATH GOD WROUGHT**,” over wires from the U.S. Capitol to the B&O station and then on to Baltimore along the right of way of the B&O railroad. **Yes**, the telegram went along the side of Kendall Green.

For his inauguration in 1861, President-elect **Abraham Lincoln** took his first train ride lasting 12 days from his home in Springfield, Illinois, to the B&O station in the Federal City. In 1865, his funeral train left the same station following the same train route back home. **Yes**, both trains passed along the side of Kendall Green.



This 4-4-0 steam locomotive drew Lincoln’s Funeral Train. (The “4-4-0” means **4** leading wheels, **4** driving wheels, and **0** trailing wheels.)



## ... In the 1880s - 1900s



The 1903 Baist map shows that the B&O Railroad yard, including the roundhouse for servicing steam locomotives, is located right next to Kendall Green.

In response to the City Beautiful movement, B&O proposed moving its station north to the intersection of Boundary Street (renamed as Florida Avenue in 1890) and Delaware Avenue. This plan called for a new route going THROUGH the grounds of Kendall Green and Mrs. Patterson (next door). President Edward Miner Gallaudet protested against this proposal.

The proposal of having a single train terminal (Union Station) for all railroads serving in the city far outweighed all other proposals, and was supported by Congress and President "Teddy" Roosevelt in 1901.

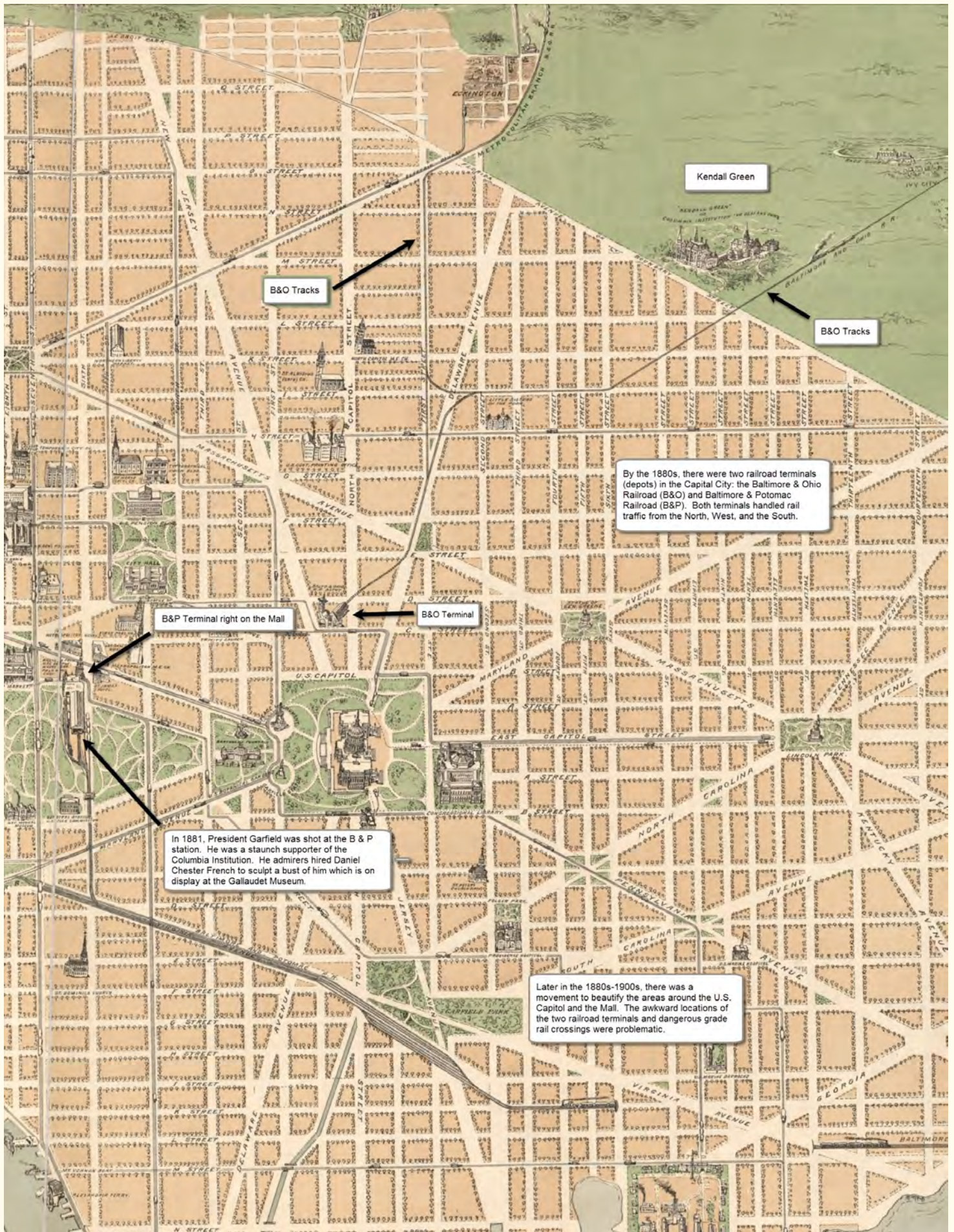
Union Station was opened in 1907. A new tunnel was built under 1st Street to channel trains running between Union Station and South, and to shorten the B&P route from Baltimore to Washington.



Thankfully, both B&O and B&P depots were replaced, and new tracks were built north and west of Kendall Green. The vacant roadbed of the old B&O tracks along the side of the Columbia Institution (now Gallaudet University) was named West Virginia Avenue in 1908.

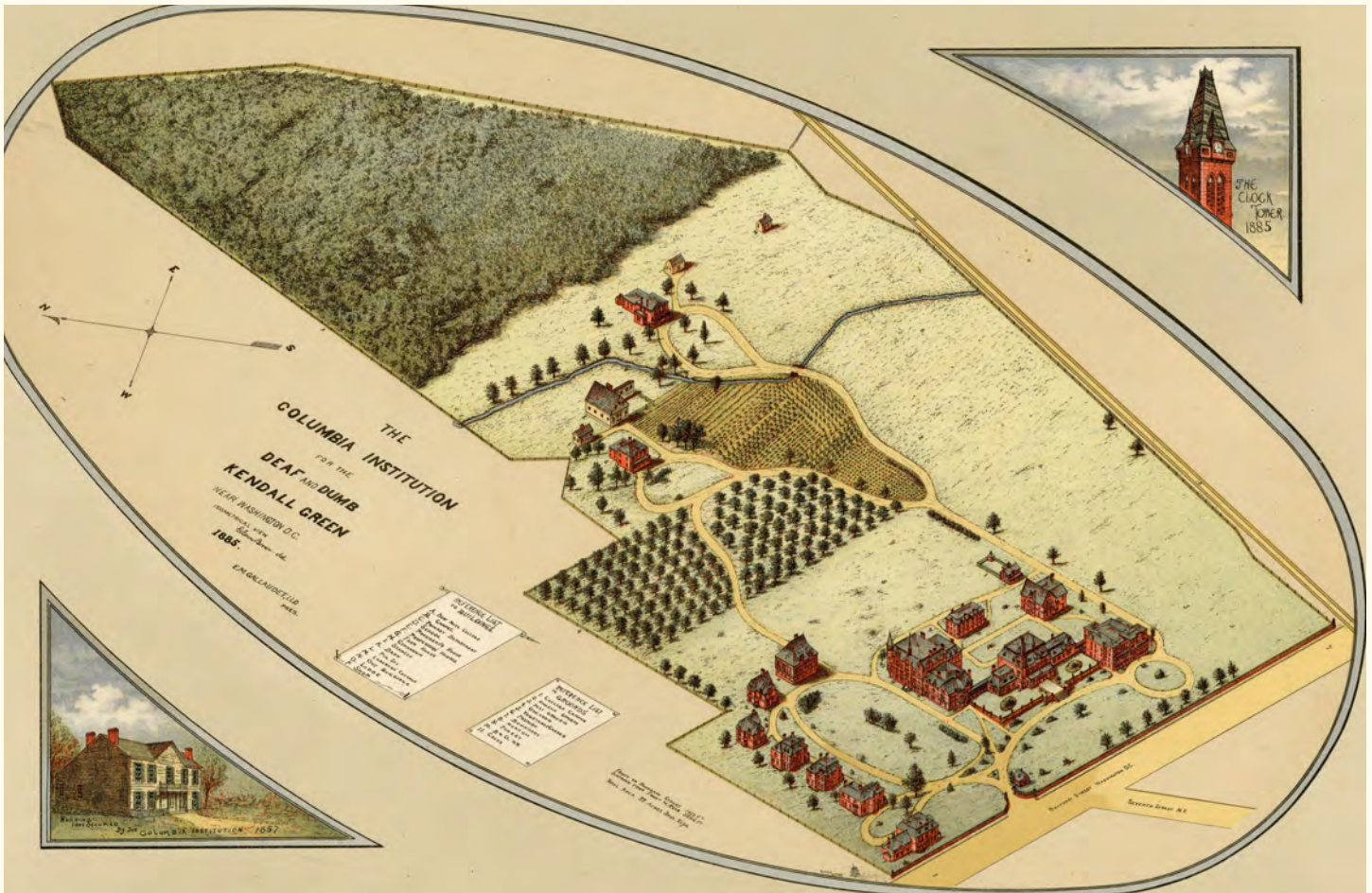




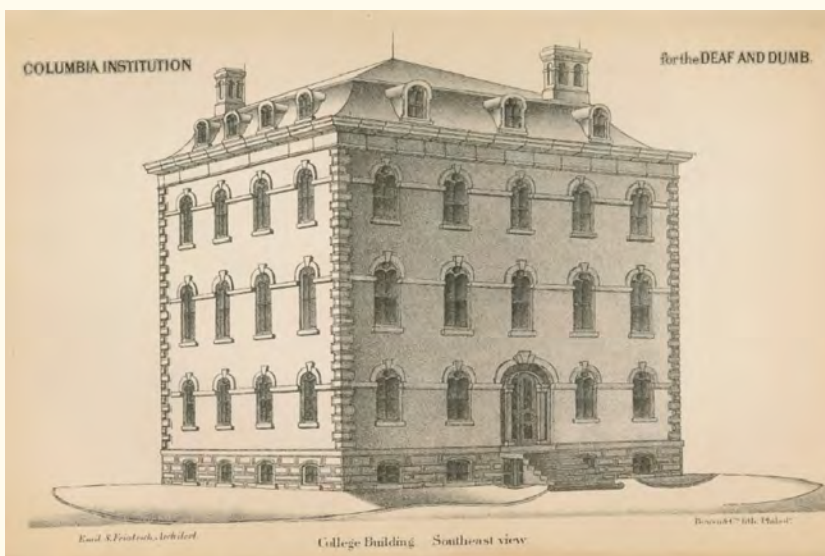




## Kendall Green of the Past



### The Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb Kendall Green in 1885



This **College Building**, built in 1866, is the oldest surviving structure on Kendall Green. It was later renovated and became a part of the newly built structure called **College Hall** (1877). It is now known as the **East Wing of College Hall**





In 1864-1866, college students took classes in the Rose Cottage on the right, also known as the “Cradle of Gallaudet”, prior to the completion of the new College Building on the left in 1866.

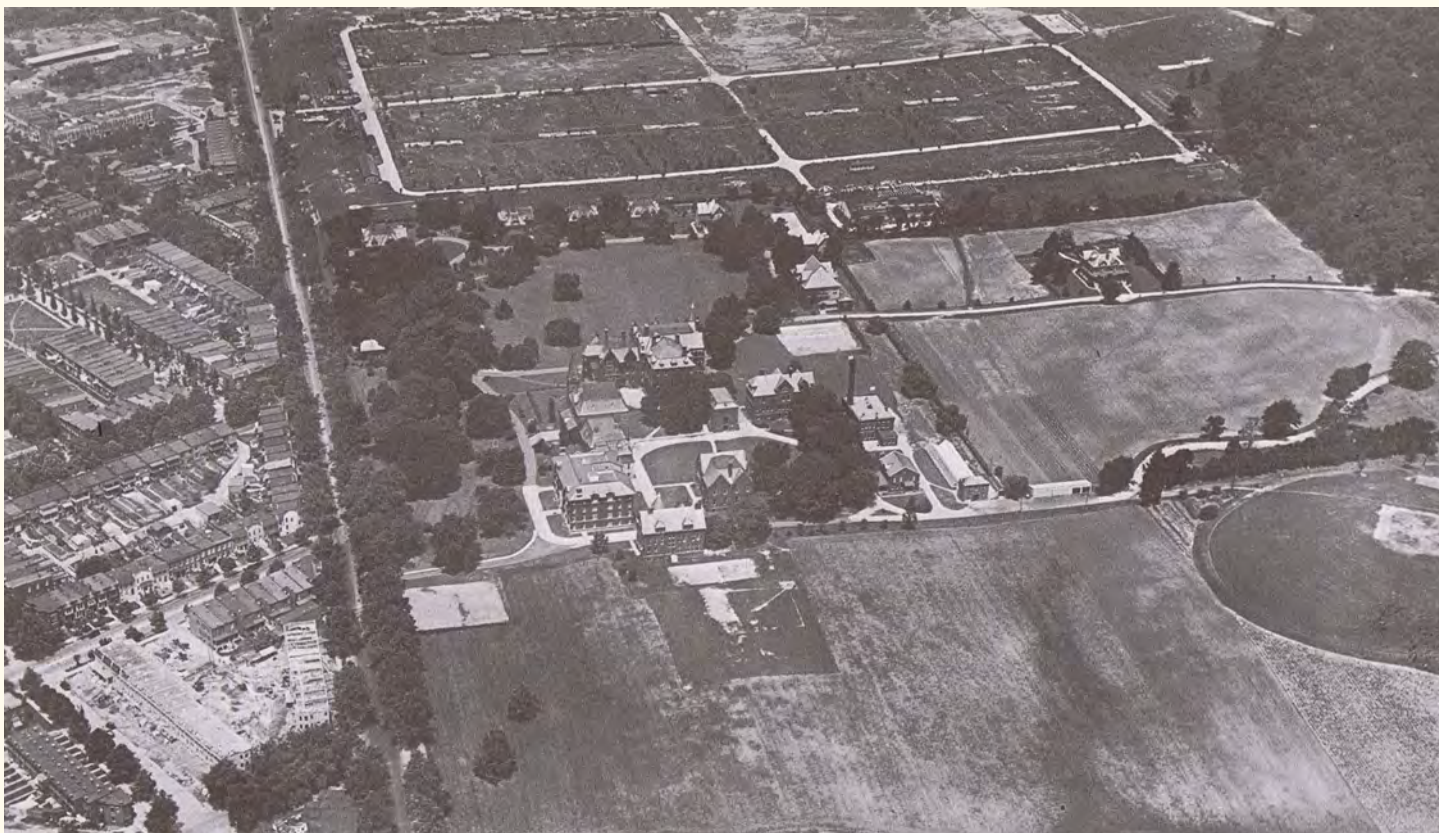


Both College Building (1866) and Chapel Hall (1871) stood side by side.



See how the former College Building is connected with College Hall





The first aerial view of our college-Kendall Green was taken on June 30, 1922. Construction of homes was still underway on West Virginia and Florida Avenues. This picture is from the Tower Clock 1964.

## History of Gallaudet Buildings



President Edward Miner Gallaudet



Edward Miner Gallaudet Residence



# History of Gallaudet Buildings



Ballard House (1867)



Melvin Ballard



Fay House (1875)



Edward Fay



Denison House (1875)



Edward Denison



Hall (1918), the only building erected during President Hall's tenure.



Sophia Fowler



Henry L. Dawes



Olof Hanson



Henry L. Dawes

Dawes House (1886), designed by Olof Hanson of Class 1886, was first used as a dorm for Kendall School boys. The building is named after Henry L. Dawes who served in Congress for 36 years (1857-1893): 9 terms as Congressman and 3 terms as Senator. He served on Gallaudet Board for 34 years (1869-1903).



Edward M. Gallaudet Memorial Building (1956)



Dr. Edward M. Gallaudet



Peet Residence Hall



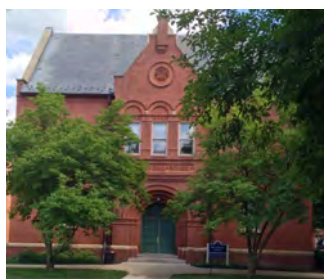
Dr. Elizabeth Peet



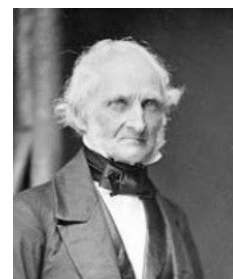
Ely Residence Hall (1959)



Dr. Charles Ely



Kendall Hall (1885, formerly Kendall School)



Amos Kendall



## History of Gallaudet Buildings



Elstad Auditorium (1963)



Dr. Leonard M. Elstad



Ballard West (1966, formerly Krug Residence Hall)



Professor and Dean of  
Men Walter Krug



Ballard North (1966, formerly Cogswell Residence Hall)



Alice Cogswell



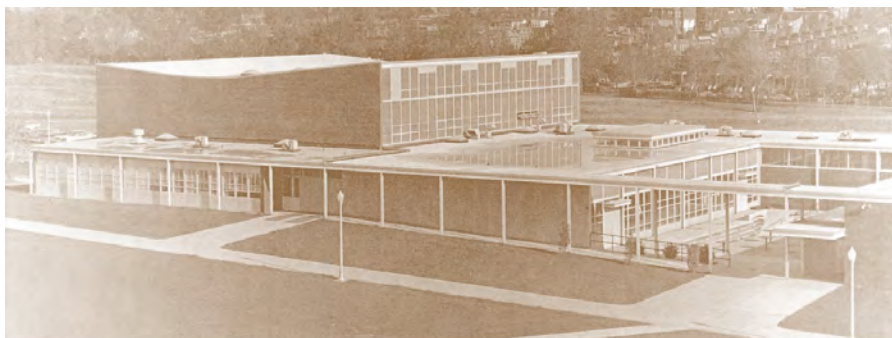
Washburn Arts Center (1966, renovated 2002)



Cadwallader Washburn, an 1890 graduate



# History of Gallaudet Buildings



Frederick M. Hughes  
Memorial Gymnasium

Frederick M. Hughes

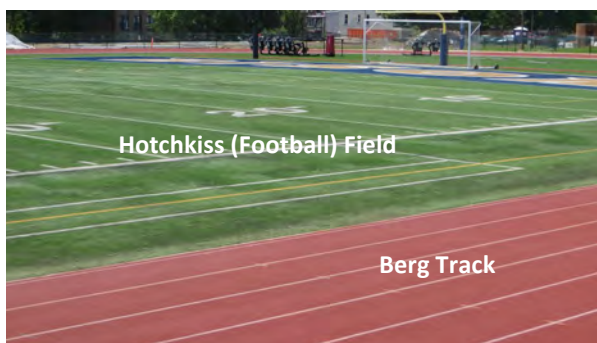


Peikoff Alumni House  
"Ole Jim" (1881)

David Peikoff



Frederick Law Olmsted



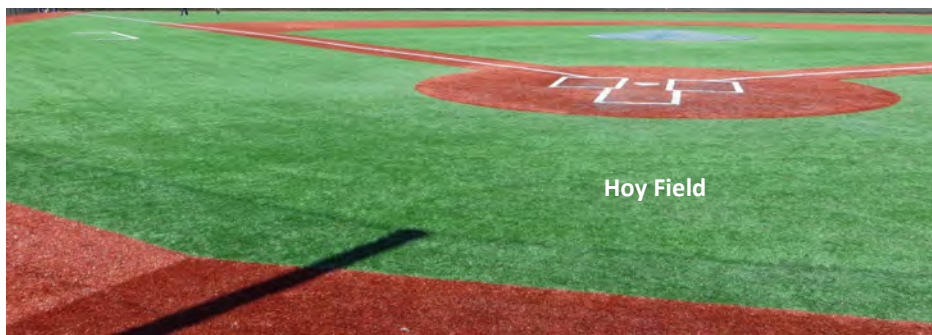
Hotchkiss (Football) Field

Berg Track



John Hotchkiss

Thomas Berg



Hoy Field



William "Dummy" Hoy



## New Gallaudet Buildings



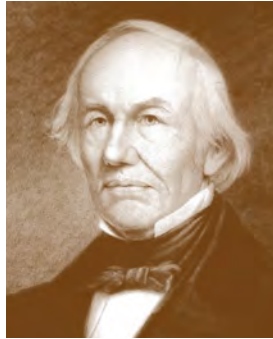
Benson Hall (1972)

Clerc Hall (1971)

Carlin Hall (1979)



Professor and Dean of Women  
Elizabeth Benson



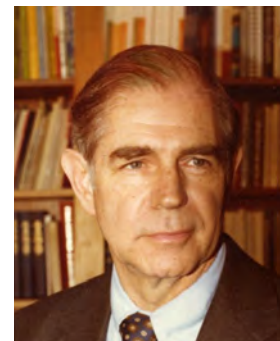
Laurent Clerc



John Carlin



Merrill Learning Center (1981)



Dr. Edward C. Merrill



Field House (1982)

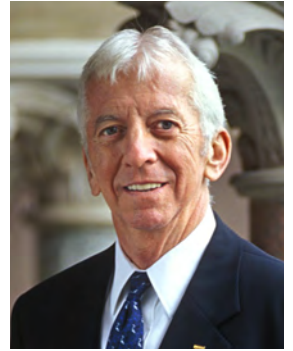


Bison Statue (1986)

## New Gallaudet Buildings



I. King Jordan Student Academic Center (2002); The former Student Union Building (1959) is now a part of this center.



I. King Jordan



James Lee Sorenson Language and Communication Center (2008)



James Lee Sorenson



Living-Learning Residence Hall #6 (2012) is the newest building on campus.



Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Hotel (1995)  
Is where we stay during our 50th Anniversary Class Reunion.



## Some Buildings Have Come and Gone!

These buildings do not exist anymore, but they were there while we were students in the years of 1963 to 1968.



House 5



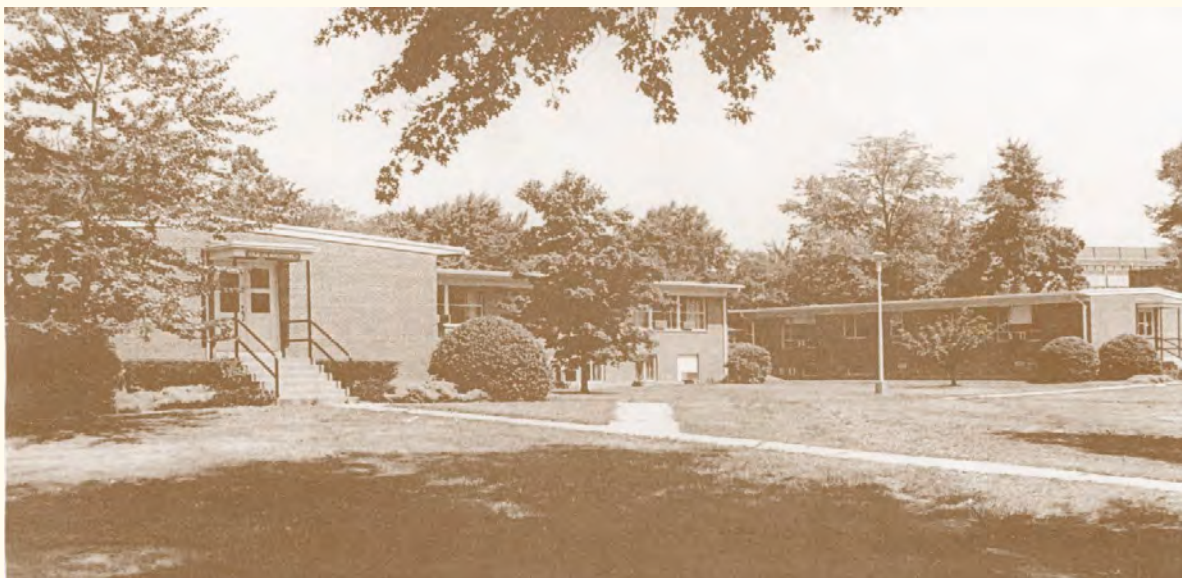
House 6



Drake House (House 7 and 8)



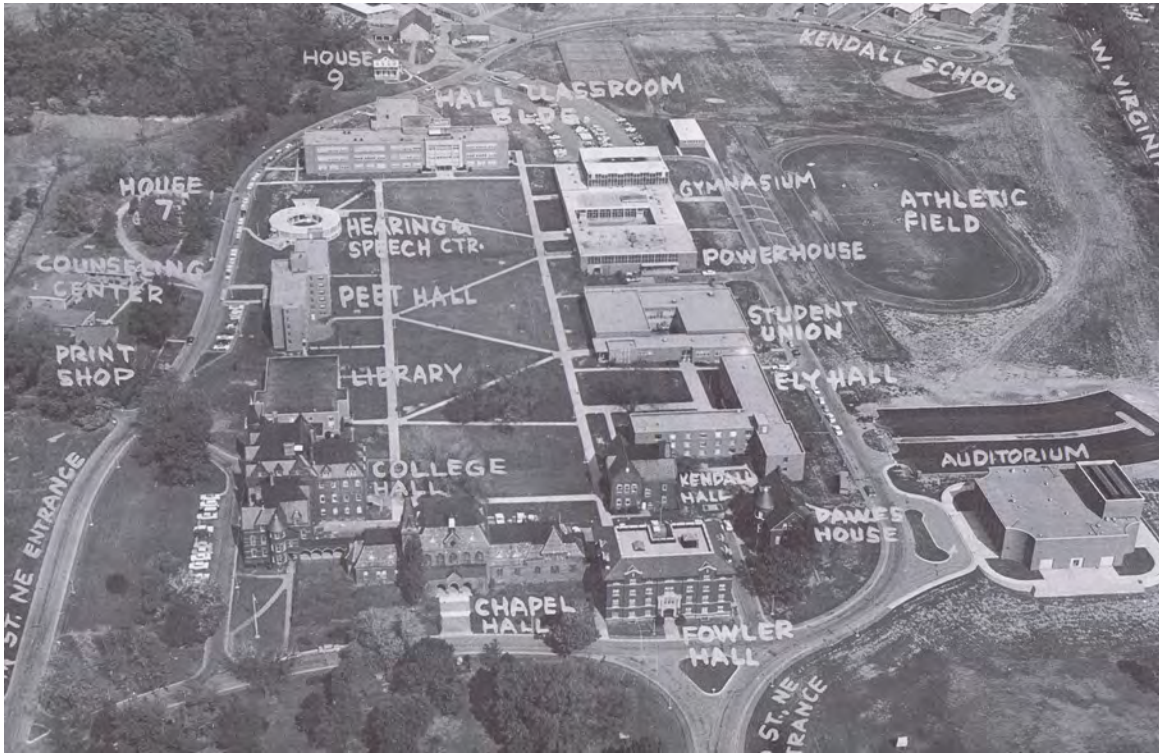
House 9 and Barn



West Office Building (formerly the Counseling Center); this building was originally built for Kendall School black students.



## Kendall Green - Then and Now



This aerial view was taken during our time at Gallaudet in the fall of 1963.



This map of 2016 year comes with additional information about today's buildings on Kendall Green and most of the buildings are named in honor of notable Gallaudet members.

## What is changed and future for Gallaudet?



Gallaudet University continues to review the future plans in the light of its mission and enrollment. The 10-year Facilities Master Plan was recently updated to address possible changes on Kendall Green through 2022.

In addition, Gallaudet University has been involved with the plans for the future of the Capital City Market (25 acres total) west of Kendall Green. Gallaudet owns almost 4 acres in the market area.

The Gallaudet 2022 Campus Plan is a ten-year update to our existing 2012 Facilities Master Plan required by the District of Columbia Zoning Commission. The 2022 Campus Plan articulates the university's vision for the campus and provides guidance for the physical development of campus facilities.

The Gallaudet University Board of Trustees approved the scope and intent of the 2022 Campus Plan during their May 2012 meeting, and the university moved forward with the zoning application with the assistance of consultant teams Stantec, Dangermond Keane Architecture, Symmetra Design, and legal counsel Holland & Knight.



This illustration gives an idea as to what a new campus gateway at the corner of Florida Avenue and the 6th Street might look like.

New buildings bridge to surrounding neighborhoods and to the city by creating a new, dramatic, wide pedestrian entrance to the University - "Olmsted Gate"- from the corner of Florida and 6th Street,





Union Market was established in 1931 and has been renovated as the new Capital City Market.

For the west side of 6th Street, the development is now undergoing dramatic transformation of this area, With neighborhood serving retail and business services and possibly multi-family rental housing. It creates a campus vision that integrates Gallaudet with the community while facilitating on- and off-campus development.



The Union Market has a bright future as defined by people, passion and will be Gallaudet's discovery destination.

## Planning Principles

Gallaudet University established the Office of Campus Design and Planning in 2009 to guide the future development of campus grounds and buildings with an inclusive and integrated approach. Thoughtful stewardship and campus development is implemented through innovative partnerships with campus and community stakeholders often with the assistance of respected design and construction professionals. A full range of design and planning services as well as campus design standards are provided to the Gallaudet community to ensure that physical assets support program needs within a campus setting expressive of the historic legacy while building a sustainable campus of the future as a model.

## 2012 Facilities Master Plan

The 2002-2012 Facilities Master Plan serves to establish a framework for the development of capital projects to support the role, mission, and academic vision of Gallaudet University. This Facilities Master Plan is proactive and responsive, and communicates the key issues of density, adjacency, circulation, green and open space, and the impact of the University upon the adjoining community. The four major goals of the Facilities Master Plan are to:

- Provide a campus plan for the university and the Board of Trustees that articulates the university's vision for the campus.
- Continue to build upon the relationship of the university, the community, and the District of Columbia.
- Provide guidance for the physical development of the campus.
- Fulfill the requirements for the submission of a Master Plan Document to the District of Columbia Zoning Commission.

Gallaudet University has been an active and vital part of the city and both have benefited from the economic, cultural, and educational aspects of this partnership. The relationship of Gallaudet to its neighborhood is important; Gallaudet University is an integral part of the city and the Master Plan approach recognizes the University's desire to continue its role within the community.

### **Projects Completed**

Ballard, Fay Dawes House Renovations  
MSSD Student Residence  
Phase I Infrastructure Completed

### **On-going Projects**

6th Street Gate / Olmsted Green / 7th Street Entry  
Appleby Site Mixed Used Development  
Renovations in EMG building  
Student Learning Commons  
Phase II Infrastructure Improvements

### **Long-range Future Projects**

MSSD Academic Building and Athletic Fields  
Academic / Research: New and Renovated Facilities  
Campus Life: New Residence Hall, Student Center,  
Recreation Center  
Mall Improvements  
Phase III Infrastructure Improvements

### **Long-range possible demolitions under study**

Hanson Plaza  
Peet Hall  
Merrill Learning Center  
Edward Merrill Gallaudet Memorial Building

## **Campus Plan Development**

All new buildings and renovation are based on DeafSpace design concepts, accessibility and campus life. Deaf people inhabit a rich sensory world where vision and touch are a primary means of spatial awareness and orientation such as follows:

1. Sensory reach
2. Space and mobility proximity
3. Light and color
4. Acoustics

In support of these planning principles, highlights of the 2022 Campus Plan include:

- Renovation of three historic campus buildings which are part of the Gallaudet College Historic district (a part of the U.S. National Historic Landmark district)
- Creation of a new pedestrian entrance to campus from the corner of Florida Avenue and 6th Street Northeast.
- Construction of a new residence hall for the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, a residential high school program located on campus.
- Establishment of a new student learning commons to replace the library on the current site of EMG Memorial Building.
- Refurbishment of the "Gallaudet Mall" to enhance the space as an outdoor gathering area.



## 50 Years Prior to Our Graduation



Senior Class - 1917-1918



Preparatory Year - 1963—1964



Freshmen Year - 1964 – 1965





Sophomore Year - 1965—1966



Junior Year - 1966 – 1967





Senior Year - 1967 – 1968



Class of 2018 (50 years later)