Health

For a new building for the School of Public Health, the university has proposed a new public education classroom and study center on the historic campus near the medical school. The new building will provide more space for students and faculty, and will be located near the existing medical facilities.

By Professor Katherine Munro

History, Heritage, Pioneers and Building

Wits' Medical School
The project, although not fully under construction yet, is set to be completed. The building will be the largest on campus, and it will feature several laboratories and classrooms.

The new building will be located next to the existing science wing, which will be renovated to accommodate the additional space.

The construction is currently underway, and the new building is expected to be finished by the end of this academic year.
In 1992, the University of the West Coast was founded by John and Gladys K. Younghans. The university's mission is to provide educational programs that meet the needs of students in various fields. The university offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in fields such as business administration, education, and nursing.

The campus is situated on a 120-acre site in Bellingham, Washington, and features state-of-the-art facilities, including a library, classrooms, and housing. The university is committed to providing a quality education to its students and is dedicated to preparing them for success in their chosen careers.

The university's commitment to excellence is reflected in its strong academic programs and the dedication of its faculty and staff. The university's location in the Pacific Northwest provides students with access to a wealth of natural resources and cultural opportunities.

As the university continues to grow, it remains committed to its mission of providing a high-quality education to students in the Pacific Northwest and beyond.
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In addition to the above, St. James School has recently acquired a new, state-of-the-art library. The library is designed to provide a comfortable and inviting space for students to study and research. The facility includes a large collection of books, periodicals, and other resources. The library also features a computer lab, a multimedia center, and a quiet study area.

The library is an important resource for students, providing a supportive environment for academic success. The staff is dedicated to helping students develop their skills and knowledge, and the library is open to students during extended hours.

The library is an integral part of the school community, and it is a source of pride for the St. James community. Through the library, students are able to access a wealth of information and resources, and they are encouraged to explore their interests and develop their passions.

The library is located on the first floor of the school building, conveniently accessible to all students. It is open from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM, and it is staffed by knowledgeable and supportive librarians.

The library is an essential component of the St. James School experience, providing a valuable resource for students and faculty alike. It is a place of learning, discovery, and growth, and it is an important part of the school's mission to foster a love of reading and a commitment to academic excellence.

The library is a testament to the school's commitment to providing a high-quality education for all students. It is a reflection of the school's values and beliefs, and it is a source of pride for the St. James community.
In 1949 a new dental school and hospital was planned on the Jan Smuts eastern boundary of the Milner Park Campus. The architect was John Fassler and the unusual building (today occupied by the School of Arts) stands as an important structure of its era. Chipkin states that Fassler was influenced by the work of the French pioneer architect, Auguste Perret. He describes the Dental Hospital as “Perret in doctrine, Perret in substance, Perret in detail”.

The recessed entrance portico with its perforated screens and fluted precast columns rising above the steps, the concave shape to the entrance and the sculptured circular cast stone medallion on the north side of the building all point to the blend of classicism and modernity. The medallion (still to be seen) was of St Apollonia, the patron saint of dentists, and is an early work of Edoardo Villa.

By 1965 the purchase of the Convient School on the corner of Station and Steimens Streets provided additional lecture rooms for the Dental School. In 1997 the Faculty of Dentistry and the Faculty of Medicine amalgamated to form the Faculty of Health Sciences. The School of Oral Health Sciences is the home of dentistry and its allied specialisations and the Wits Central Hospital is located in the Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital.

To be continued...

What are your memories of Wits and its buildings?
Send your stories to alumni@wits.ac.za

References: