

# *Sandstone & Tile*

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COVER: *Early residents pose in front of Encina Hall (Stanford University Archives)*

BELOW: *Encina Hall under construction circa 1891. Note porches on both sides of the main entrance. Their roofs were soon removed.*



E N C I N A H A L L :

Leland  
Stanford's  
*Grand* Hotel  
—OR—  
A Century of Adventure at Encina Hall

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*For a man's house is his castle. . . .* — Sir Edward Coke

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*And after the earthquake a fire. . . .* — I Kings 19:12

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*A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!* — Shakespeare

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BY KAREN BARTHOLOMEW AND CLAUDE BRINEGAR

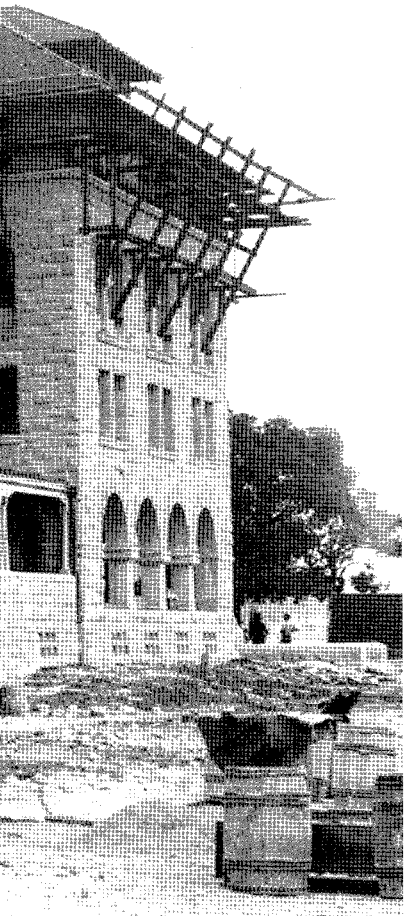
— The Beginning —

**E**ncina Hall would never have been built had Leland Stanford listened to his advisors. Here's how it happened.

Following their decision to establish a university in memory of their dead son, Leland and Jane Stanford spent several months in mid-1884 on the East Coast seeking advice on how to proceed. Among others, they consulted with the presidents of Cornell, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

They were particularly impressed by MIT's General Francis A. Walker, a distinguished Civil War veteran and a respected economist. Before heading MIT, Walker had served in several important government posts.

General Walker turned down repeated offers from Leland Stanford to head the new university, but finally agreed, in April 1885, to serve as an educational consultant. On Walker's recommendation, Stanford later hired, in June 1886, Frederick Law Olmsted, a designer of New York's Central Park and one of the nation's outstanding landscape architects, to produce the master plan for the campus.



In autumn 1886, most likely on the recommendations of both Walker and Olmsted, Stanford hired the Boston architectural firm of Shepley, Rutan, and Coolidge (successors to Henry Hobson Richardson, who had recently died) to design the buildings.<sup>1</sup> Twenty-eight-year-old Charles A. Coolidge was assigned to work with Stanford, Walker, and Olmsted.

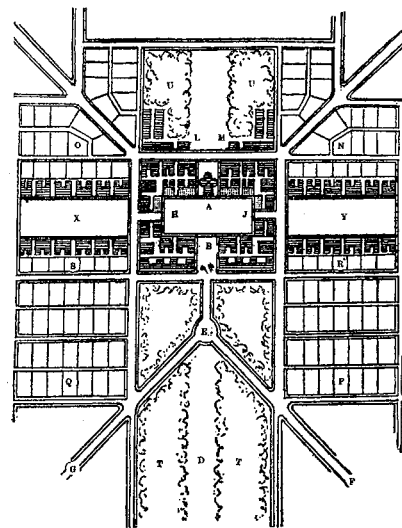
The many and often exasperating problems encountered by these three men as they developed overall architectural and landscape plans that pleased the strong-willed Stanfords have been well described.<sup>2</sup> Less well known is the disagreement over the shape, size, and location of the student residences.

Olmsted's conception of campus designs had been clearly laid out 20 years earlier when he prepared a master plan for California's new state university at Berkeley — he wanted the end result to have the appearance of a large naturalistic park, with the buildings to be “picturesque rather than. . . formal.” He repeated this theme in several additional commissions between 1866 and 1886. Not surprisingly, in 1887 he proposed a similar plan to Stanford, including a “cottage system” of many small student residences set in a park-like landscape.<sup>3</sup>

Likewise, Walker made it clear in his first written report to Stanford (November 30, 1886) that he favored Olmsted's position on cottages:

I would most earnestly and emphatically recommend the introduction of the Cottage System for all the girls and young women. . . . Even for the young men, I believe the same system will be found to be advantageous. Should the increased expense of board in cottages containing from fifteen to twenty-five students be regarded as an important objection to this system, I would still suggest the erection of cottages, for dormitory purposes, around small parks, with a common kitchen and dining room.”<sup>4</sup>

In April 1887, Coolidge personally delivered to the Stanfords the latest master plan that he and Olmsted had developed. After several changes demanded by the Stanfords — including a 90 degree shift in the direction of the Inner Quad — Coolidge was told to prepare, in three weeks, for a cornerstone laying ceremony on May 14, 1887 — young Leland's birthday. The ceremony went well and gave Coolidge a good opportunity to meet the local press. In a long piece published in the *Sacramento Bee* on June 18, 1887, titled “The Model Modern University,” Coolidge is repeatedly referred to as the architect of the “buildings



*Ground plan of Leland Stanford Junior University in 1887. Student cottages were planned at N and O.*

and surroundings.” Coolidge also supported Olmsted's cottage plan:

The plots marked N and O [referring to the 1887 Olmsted-Coolidge plan] are to be reserved for cottages for students. The young men will live in the plot marked O, and the ladies at N. These cottages will be models of the beautiful plain style of architecture, and will, in their construction, carry out the prevailing idea of the University that there is no caste or class among the students. . . it is understood that these cottages will be of wood. Each will have spacious grounds planted with flowers and made altogether as delightful as modest, unassuming homes can be.<sup>5</sup>

Thus, each of Stanford's three advisors favored the “cottage style” for student housing, rather than large dormitories. There is no record of Stanford's immediate reaction to this recommendation. Most likely he simply ignored it.

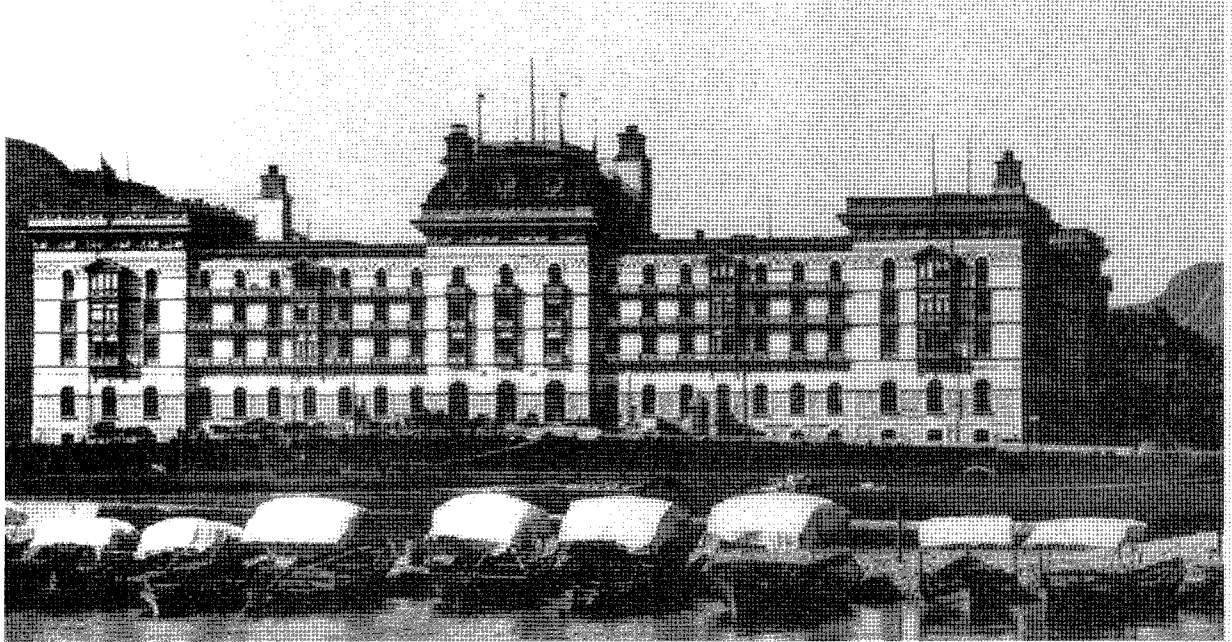
### — Encina Found and Named —

**W**hat Stanford wanted for his men's dormitory, it turned out, was something really grand — something along the lines of a large, modern hotel.

In 1888, after taking the “cure” at Kissengen, a popular resort near Frankfurt, Stanford found the model he was looking for. The discovery came in August, as the party was traveling from St. Moritz, Switzerland, to Bellagio on Lake Como in Italy. Ac-

*continued on page 6*

*'By the lake  
I see a hotel  
very much on  
the order of  
the building  
I have pictured  
in my mind as  
a suitable one  
for the boys'  
domitory.'*



*The Hotel-Kursaal de la Maloja, built in 1884, was the inspiration for Encina Hall.*

## ENCINA'S BIRTHPLACE

It has long been thought that the model for Encina Hall was a hotel in the Swiss village of Silvaplana, about five miles south of St. Moritz.

That's what Bertha Berner said.

As Jane Stanford's secretary and traveling companion, Berner's reminiscences in the *Stanford Alumnus* and a memoir published in 1934, have carried great weight. But Stanford historians have long known the

book contains many errors.

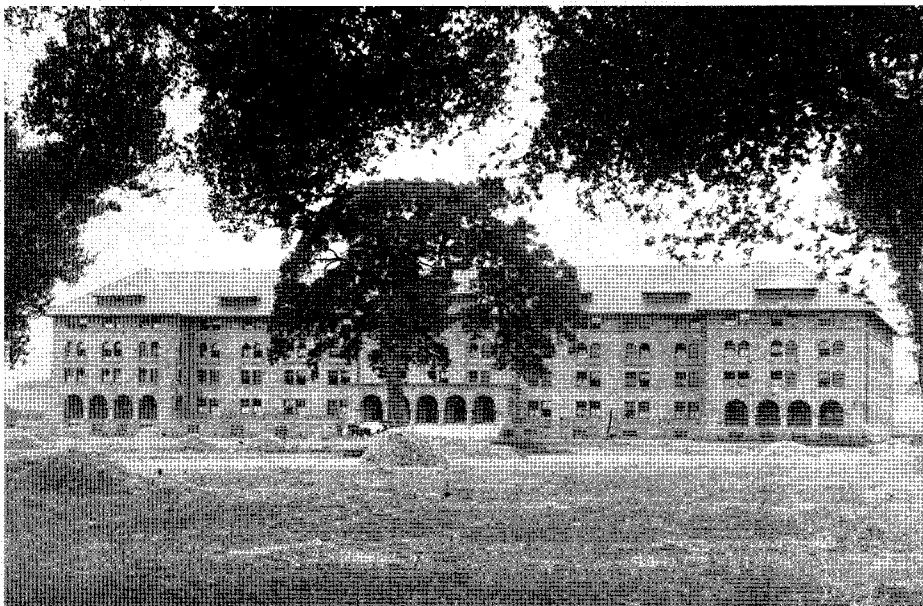
Recently, while retracing the Stanfords' 1888 trip from St. Moritz, Switzerland, to Bellagio, Italy, Norman and Evie Tutorow found Encina's birthplace in Maloja — the next village south of Silvaplana.

The building that Leland Stanford decided to use as the model for Encina was the Hotel-Kursaal de la Maloja, later called simply the Maloja Palace, built in 1884. It is located on the edge of Lake Maloja (also called Lake Sils), about five miles south of Silvaplana.

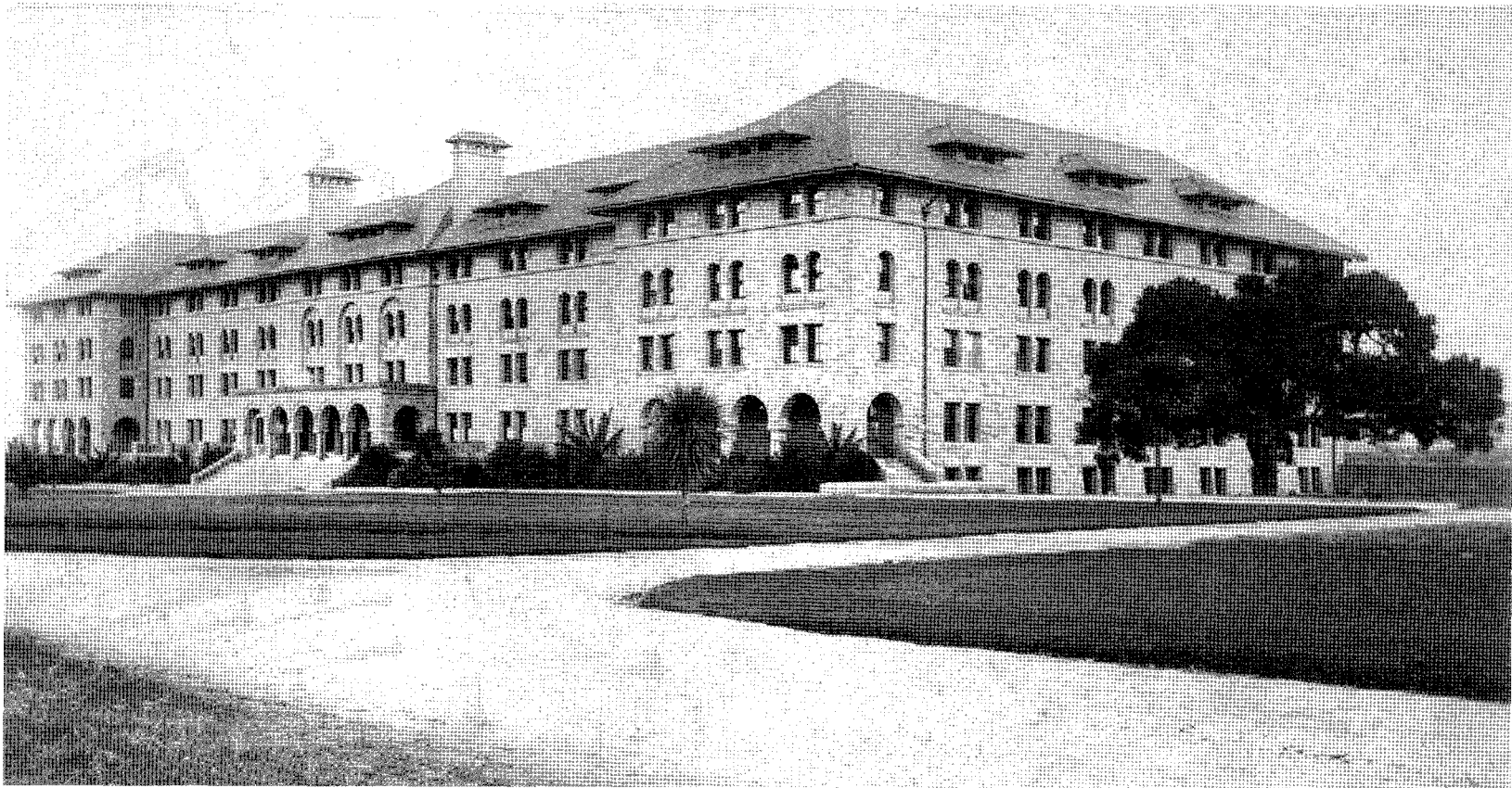
Norman Tutorow has done much detective work over the years as Leland Stanford's biographer, but he considers this to be his best-yet "Sherlock Holmes discovery."

Tutorow reports that "Maloja Palace closed its doors to hotel guests in 1934 and it, too, has served as an administration building. Now, owned by a Belgian company, it serves as a Roman Catholic boys' summer 'colony.'" ❧

STANFORD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



*Encina Hall was completed in 1891 in an open field on the Palo Alto Farm.*



*Encina — Photo taken before the 1906 earthquake shows two chimneys at the front that collapsed and were not rebuilt.*

*continued from page 4*

According to Bertha Berner, Jane's secretary and traveling companion, when they were about 10 miles south of St. Moritz, Leland remarked:

I may see the boys' hall built after all. . . . I do believe down there by the lake I see a hotel very much on the order of the building I have pictured in my mind as a suitable one for the boys' dormitory. We must examine it carefully.<sup>6</sup>

After they arrived at the hotel — the Hotel-Kursaal de la Maloja — Stanford explained his interest to the manager and was given a thorough tour. According to Berner: "Mr. Stanford was most favorably impressed and dictated a letter to the architect at home, enclosing a pencil drawing of the plan of the building, on the margin of which he wrote many suggestions."<sup>7</sup> (See separate story, page 5.)

Why did Leland insist upon a hotel, rather than accept Olmsted's "cottages"? Berner, in the *Stanford Alumnus* in 1915, offered an explanation rooted in one of Leland's early experiences:

Of all the buildings on the campus he wanted to see the boys' hall well built in every respect, comfortable and attractive. An experience he had as a boy, when seeking a higher education, made a deep and lasting impression on his mind, and he intended to save his boys a similar experience.

The experience she referred to occurred as Leland enrolled in his first preparatory school, where he found his room "so far below what he could reasonably have expected" that he left for another school.<sup>8</sup>

Other less personal reasons may have played a part. Paul Yee, in a 1994 senior thesis for Stanford's Program in Urban Studies, offered two additional possibilities:<sup>9</sup>

Mr. Stanford's preference for a hotel-sized residence may. . . have stemmed from the desire for a broader and more unified community of students. This view corresponded with his goal to establish a truly democratic institution. . . .

Or perhaps more to the point:

[Olmsted's] rather ordinary cottages. . . clashed with the Stanfords' vision of a grandiose, historic university.

With the discovery of the hotel at Maloja, Stanford's mind was set. By mid-1889, construction of a massive four-story red-tile-roofed sandstone building, capable of housing about 300, was under way east of the quadrangle.<sup>10</sup>

Though of less importance than picking the design, another indication of Stanford's intense interest in his dormitories is that he insisted on naming them himself. President David Starr Jordan later recalled naming the new streets. Jordan also initially named the dormitories, but later had to reverse himself, as indicated in two of the university's official circulars from spring 1891:

*Circular of Information No. 3:*

Madroño Hall, the dormitory for young men, already finished, is built of stone, four stories high. . . . Manzanita Hall, a similar building for the use of young women, cannot be completed before the spring of 1892.

*Circular of Information No. 4* makes a correction:

Rooms in the dormitory for young men, to be called Encina Hall (not Madroño, as given in *Circular No. 3*), will be assigned in the order in which applications are received.

The explanation for the correction is contained in a telegram sent May 16, 1891, to David Starr Jordan, who had not yet moved to California from Indiana:

I approve proof sheets of your prospectus but have decided to name the dormitories after live oak and white oak which are the principal natural trees in this valley. For the boys dormitory Encina Hall and for the girls dormitory Robles Blanco Hall, being the names for live oak and white oak.

—Leland Stanford<sup>11</sup>

Properly named and properly grand — designed in the Richardsonian-Romanesque style, containing 280,000 square feet and costing \$477,000, nearly as much as the entire Inner Quad — Encina Hall was rushed to completion just in time for the university's opening day. But what of the students? What would they think about it? And, more important, what would they do to it?

## — The Opening —

Encina Hall officially opened to residents on October 1, 1891. It was a joyful day all around. About 1,500 students, faculty, and guests gathered for opening day ceremonies in the Inner Quad under a hot Indian summer sun. They listened to singing, scriptures, and speeches, including one by Leland Stanford and another by David Starr Jordan. It was an especially busy day for Orrin Leslie Elliott, the university's first registrar, who rushed (according to later memories, perhaps slightly exaggerated, of his wife, Ellen) from the ceremonies to his office, where he worked registering students "without pause or intermission, not eating or sleeping, for the next forty-eight hours." This rush of applicants produced the unexpectedly high number of 110 women and 380 men.<sup>12</sup> Of the men, about 300 headed for Encina.

At Encina, they were greeted by Bert Fesler, the master of the hall, who assigned rooms and collected the \$20 monthly fee for room and board. Since Encina was operated by the Stanford Estate Business Office, not by the university, its early management resembled that of a large boarding house.

The grand building was praised by one and all:<sup>13</sup>

— The building is as fine as money can make it. (Frazier Boutelle, writing to his wife about where their son Henry will be living)

— The Hall is simply a palace: equal to the finest hotel. . . ever built. (Melville Best Anderson, professor of English literature, writing to his wife)

— Everything is brand new and of the finest . . . . Our private rooms are also A1 in all respects. (Student Francis Batchelder writing home)

Batchelder proudly described the rooms:

The furniture in each room consists of two single iron bedsteads with bronze trimmings, either two single or one double wardrobe, a large study table, commode, mirror, two rugs, four oak chairs with high backs and a stationary washstand with hot and cold water. The rooms are all heated by steam and will be lighted by both gas and electricity. Just at present, however, we have to do without the hot water, and have no lights but candles. There are several large bathrooms on every floor,

*continued on page 9*

# Who was the *First Student* in Encina?

*Three known candidates vie for the honor of first student to move into Encina Hall:*

**1. FRANCIS (Frank) BATCHELDER** — a student who spent the summer helping University Registrar Orrin Leslie Elliott in the President's Office prepare for the October 1 opening day. Batchelder wrote home often of his struggle to find room and board in the months before the university opened. After several weeks at an old farmhouse, Adelante Villa, in the hills behind campus, he wrote to his mother, using President's Office stationery, on September 21, 1891, describing how he got into Encina that day:

Today I am homeless, and it has looked as if I should not have a place to lay my head tonight except the open fields. You see the young ladies, Miss Fletcher & Miss Pearson, with whom we are boarding wanted our rooms to get ready for their school which opens on Thursday, so we had to move our trunks down to the dormitory and arrange to get our meals over at one of the workmen's camps, because the cooking arrangements are not ready at the dormitory. But we found out this afternoon that we could not sleep in the dormitory. While I write, however, the steward has driven up to the [President's] office and tells us that he has seen Senator Stanford and gotten permission for us to sleep in our rooms at the dormitory, so we are all right after all.

On September 27, Batchelder wrote home that "about sixty students are here now," and that the first meal had been served that morning. The university opened four days later.

**2. WILLIAM GREER** — a graduate student from MIT. In a reminiscence published in *Stanford Mosaic* (1962), Donald Hume Fry, of the Pioneer Class of '95, told of arriving on campus to take entrance exams and finding no place to stay. He gave no specific dates, but it certainly would be sometime in September :

When I reached the hall, I got a shock. Encina was not ready for occupancy. There was no bedding as yet and the kitchen was unfinished. Also, the electric generator, which was to furnish Encina and the whole campus with light, was still in its boxcar. The only good news: there was one student already living in Encina. If one could make it, why not two?

So I set out to find this one and only Encina resident. His name was William Greer — a large, rawboned man with

a big, red beard. He had come from Boston and MIT. He had a solution to the problem which affected many others as well as him — he had brought with him when he came west a camper's bed roll. This on top of the regular mattress made a very comfortable bed. As for "eats" he walked to Mayfield whenever he was sufficiently hungry.

I could not emulate Greer and his bed roll; I accepted, however, a suggestion and a trunk rope, roped two of Encina's mattresses together, then crawled in between them to sleep. It was not a comfortable bed but it worked and had this advantage: I did not oversleep.

I was up and dressed by six o'clock and just in time for a hearty meal our cook had concocted for the night crew of workmen striving to put the finishing touches on Encina. I was the only student to share this — the first meal cooked in Encina.

**3. HERBERT HOOVER** — an orphan from Iowa who had been living with relatives in Oregon, Hoover was short on university requirements and needed to pass additional entrance exams. On August 29, 1891, Hoover and a friend, Fred Williams, left Salem, Ore., for the trip to Stanford. In his 1957 memoir, Hoover wrote:

I arrived at Menlo Park — there being no station yet at Palo Alto — with my bicycle, satchel and directions from Professor [Joseph] Swain to go to Adelante Villa, where a Miss Fletcher would furnish me board and tutoring. . . . when the crucial day came I got by with all requirements subject to some "conditions". . . . A Salem boy — Fred Williams — and I moved into Encina Hall, the men's dormitory, the week before its opening and were proudly its first inhabitants.

David Starr Jordan, in his own memoirs in 1922, supported Hoover's claim:

The best known of all the graduates of Stanford (because probably the best-known man in all the world) is Herbert Clark Hoover, also of the "Pioneer Class" and the first one to whom I assigned a room in Encina Hall, this being No. 38.

It seems likely that Jordan's story is apocryphal. The Stanford Estate Business Office — not the university president — was in charge of Encina. Given his many



## – Trouble Ahead –

Stanford's first student body was heavily weighted with Californians (329 out of 490). Indiana (with students who followed President Jordan and other Indiana faculty) was a distant second with 33. The remainder came from 28 other states, the territory of Hawaii, and five foreign nations.<sup>15</sup>

While the student body offered some diversity and maturity, it was clearly dominated by high-spirited young men from the rural West. For many, this was their first taste of independence. And also, as it soon developed, their first opportunity to enjoy student hijinks. Encina's long, wide halls and cavernous stairwells offered endless possibilities. While the hijinks started with innocent pranks, they soon moved to vandalism and, later, to violence.

Some early examples:

During the first month, several Encina students loosened the brakes on a freight car from a nearby rail spur, which then rolled toward Mayfield, threatening a wreck on the main line (*see separate story, page 10*).

Throwing things down into the lobby became a favorite game. Freshman Henry Boutelle wrote to his parents: "At 11:30 p.m. the lights went out, and the fellows 'fired' a chair, a spittoon, and several other things downstairs. . .the chair came pretty nearly hitting Professor Swain on the head as he walked by."<sup>16</sup>

One student wrote home about the popular trick of "turning up a room." A resident would come home to find "all but the walls of his room inverted, with the inkstand crowning unsteadily the sorry pile."<sup>17</sup>

Students also threw water bags and boxes filled with water from upper windows, timed to explode on the sidewalk in front of someone walking by. "We did that to a fellow yesterday. . .and he was wild, but the water blinded him and he couldn't tell which room."

Another time the letter-writer had bad luck: "Last night I was laying for a man to come out of the bathroom. When he came, I banged him with the pillow and it turned out to be a prof who lives on that floor."

Encina men exchanged broken chairs from their rooms with those in the lobby, the student added, making it dangerous for visitors to "take a seat." He said the lobby looked like a "chair hospital." He also described a new trick: put a wet sponge inside a broom, then lean out the window and "send the water flying through the window of the man above, all over him studying at his table."

An especially noteworthy prank (one that even gained national press attention) occurred in 1894

*continued on page 12*

challenges and the fact that he did not oversee the dorm, it seems highly unlikely that Jordan made room assignments. Hoover, then U.S. secretary of commerce, was indeed famous for his recent European war-relief efforts. The highly successful mining engineer also was a university trustee and a major donor. Perhaps it was in Jordan's interest to somehow "remember" it this way.

On the other hand, Hoover had been part of the group living at Adelante Villa, and he and Williams may well have been two of the unnamed companions Batchelder referred to when he wrote to his mother that Senator Stanford had given permission "for us [emphasis added] to sleep in our rooms at the dormitory."

And given the vastness of the hotel-dormitory, it's quite possible that Greer and Fry were already there, unbeknownst to the Adelante refugees. ☞

*continued from page 7*

and electric bells and speaking tubes in all the corridors to call for anything that is wanted.

Other descriptions also mentioned a Bible in each room and an elevator that was not yet working.

Among the first young men to move into Encina was a future U.S. president, Herbert Hoover. Contrary to later memories, he probably was not the very first (*see separate story, page 8*). But certainly he was one of the best behaved.

During part of the first month, the young women from Roble Hall had to eat at Encina because their kitchen was not finished. The 72 women walked two-by-two, arm-in-arm, the half-mile from Roble to Encina, sat at three tables near the dining room door, and were served separately before the men. A male student, writing home, happily reported: "We get up on the stairs and watch them through the windows. It makes them awfully uncomfortable." A Roble woman put the young men in their place in one of her letters: "It is common knowledge that there are many boys at Encina who are not at all desirable. . . I do not expect to know any of them in a hurry."<sup>14</sup>

## Encina's First Prank: *The Stolen Freight Car*

Within the first two weeks after the university's October 1, 1891, opening, several students loosened the brakes on a freight car parked near Encina and rode the car down grade toward the main line in Mayfield, where they safely stopped it. This student prank briefly caught the fancy of the nation's press, which — seeing a chance to poke fun at Senator and rail baron Leland Stanford — wrote about it, with various elaborations, for about two weeks. A large scrapbook of early articles about the university in the Archives has clips from 27 newspapers that mention the event.<sup>1</sup>

Here are seven that trace the development of the story:

The first in print (at least in the Archives' records) was a somewhat pompous piece in the *Oakland Weekly Journal* on October 18:<sup>2</sup>

It seems that the building materials for the new University was [sic] hauled to the site over a side track running from the main track to the campus. On this track stood a freight car temptingly unguarded for the night. A lot of the students discovered this car one night, pitied its condition of innocuous desuetude, boarded it, let off the breaks [sic] and ran it down to, but not on, the main track. There their first lesson in railroading ended, for the car would not run back up grade, and the boys walked home. The next morning a locomotive had

to go especially from San Jose to push the car up the grade again, and when the philanthropic founder of the University heard of the student prank he is said to have used language not found in the Palo Alto text books, and to have furthermore jumped stiff-legged and declared the whole school of boys should be sent home furthermore. It was hours before he could be made to see that it was only a case of boys will be boys, and submitted only after President Jordan had promised that the students should thereafter study railroading theoretically, only.

The *San Jose Herald* next jumped in on October 21 with even more exciting details:

Stories are already beginning to come from the Stanford Jr. University at Palo Alto. The most interesting one indicates that the students down there are interested in practical railroading. Last week about two hundred of them let off the brakes on a flat car which was standing near the University, and many of them got aboard and started down grade toward the station. In a short time the lads were spinning along at a lively rate and the lads did not stop it until it had reached Palo Alto. The car was missing the next morning, and as it was wanted, a special engine had to be sent from San Jose to haul it back. Senator Stanford was very wrathful when he heard of the incident, and proposed to expel the ringleaders. It was discovered that there were fully 200 boys engaged in the affair, and the Senator gave orders that they should all be required to leave. The order would probably have been enforced but for Mrs. Stanford. She interceded for the youngsters and excused them by saying it was only a boyish prank. She finally succeeded in making Stanford change his resolution, and the boys are still there, though a little less sportive, perhaps.

The *San Jose Mercury* then picked up the story, using a calmer tone, on October 24:

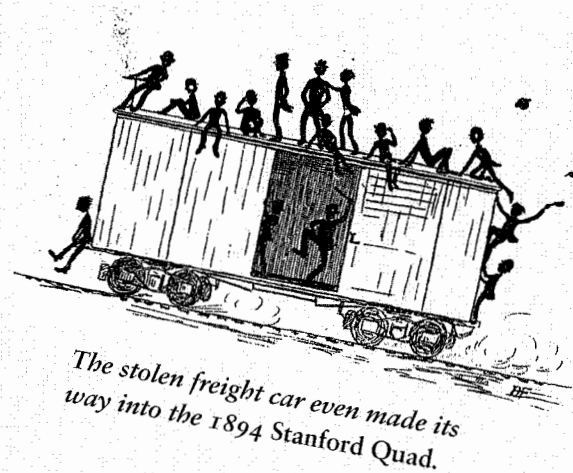
The true version of this matter is that eighteen young knowledge-seekers laboriously started one of the empty box-cars, and finding there was sufficient grade for it to run without pushing, got aboard and rode down to the main track. The next day the boys were called before the faculty and after being warned of the serious consequences which might have ensued from their thoughtless conduct, were allow to go . . .

<sup>1</sup> University Archives, SC15, Vol. 1.

<sup>2</sup> The *San Jose Mercury* had a very brief mention of the story, datelined Palo Alto, October 16, published on October 19.

The story went big time when the *New York Tribune* ran its version on October 25:

ONE OF THE FUNNY INCIDENTS of the week was the running of a flat car from the University grounds down to Palo Alto Station by students who wanted to have a little lark on a moonlight night. When Senator Stanford learned of this escapade, he was greatly wroth, and wanted to expel all engaged in it. He was finally prevailed upon to pass over the matter, but it will go hard with any other students who indulge in frolics.



This was soon followed by another New York paper, the *Recorder*, on October 27, using a lighter touch:

**T**he Leland Stanford Jr. University students at Palo Alto, Cal, are just like any other frisky college boys. The other day two hundred of them threw off the brakes of a flat car on the railroad there and went down grade on a high old lark. The boys escaped accident and punishment.

The *Seattle Telegraph* on October 27 also looked for humor, and credited the faculty for soothing Leland Stanford:

The new Palo Alto University has already been the scene of a students' lark. A crowd of boys found a flat-car on a side track at night and ran off a long distance. A locomotive had to be sent after it, and Senator Stanford used

very strong language and wanted to expel the boys from the institution he founded. It was hours before the faculty could calm him. The senator must learn that boys will be boys. They'll have lots of fun with him yet.

The *Mayfield Palo Alto* on October 29 criticized the excessive coverage and tried to set the record straight:

Just four students — no more — loosened the brakes of a freight-car, standing in the University grounds on a steep grade, and let it run. There was no occasion for any intercession for the participants, as they were only too glad to intercede for themselves, when arraigned.

The story seems finally to have run out of steam at this point, at least in the newspapers, but on campus it became legend.

In their 1900 collection of short stories about life at Stanford during the early years, Charles K. Field and Will Irwin recall the freight car episode in a conversation between two recent fictional graduates, Ralph Shirlock and Harry Rice:

'What was it about the flat-car?' inquired a voice from the pillows.

'Oh,' said Rice, 'that was about the first of those senseless ebullitions of youth that the Shirlock person usually identified himself with. There was a flat-car standing outside Encina on the track there, just about where it turns down cross lots to the main track. This is just what Ralph and his precious gang wanted, of course; they thought it would be a bit of innocent, boyish play to have a little free railroading, so they piled on and turned her loose and slid down to

Mayfield. They barely stopped the car before she switched into the main line, and they all fell off into the gopher holes along the side and made for Mayfield, red-eyed. The Faculty raised Ned when they heard about it, which was proper.<sup>7</sup>

In 1905, the episode found its way into a collection of student memoirs, *The First Year at Stanford*, published by the English Club. Anonymous "Jack," in a letter to a friend, "describes breezily and at length the launching of an empty flat-car from its rest on the spur track in front of the hall with the threatened danger on the main line and the subsequent wide airing given the escape by the papers."

David Starr Jordan, in his 1922 memoir *The Days of a Man*, gives it four sentences, noting it was "an episode characteristic of the happy-go-lucky type of some of our younger men."

Perhaps the last word on the missing freight car — if such a story can have a last word — can be found in an undated letter probably written in 1928 by Archie Rice, a member of the Pioneer Class and former editor of the student newspaper, to Mrs. David Starr Jordan.<sup>3</sup> In the letter he described a recent meeting with a former classmate, Tommy Code, who admitted to Archie that he was one of the ringleaders in the Encina freight-car episode:

The box-car bandits were led by Tommy Code, Newton Booth Knox, and Tracy Russell. They boarded the car up by the '95 oak [near History Corner], took off the brakes, and rode in state down a little past Encina, and then clamped on the brakes again. Some sixty or seventy Encina witnesses then swarmed out to lend a hand in helping push the bulky car, loaded with dynamos and other university machinery, up to its original position. As Tommy tells it, he and Knox and Russell then meekly retreated to Encina and went early to bed! The gang, having worked hard, decided it was entitled to a sleigh ride! So off the brakes and downgrade, almost a mile, to the main tracks, where they got the thing stopped, and then abandoned it.

These words, which have the ring of truth, sound like the real explanation of Encina's first prank. ☞

<sup>3</sup> University Archives, SC007, Box 2, Folder 28. Rice's letter to Mrs. David Starr Jordan appears to follow up an earlier solicitation, either during or after the presidential campaign, for anecdotes about Herbert Hoover.

*continued from page 9*

when someone stole the cigars, wine, and whiskey that Jane Stanford had provided for former President Benjamin Harrison, who was then living in an Encina suite while serving as a guest lecturer. Since liquor was forbidden on campus, Encina residents defended the action and initially refused to pay the university's assessment of \$33.60. Eventually the claim was settled for \$28.55 — all the Encina Club, the student group that represented Encina, claimed it could raise.<sup>18</sup>

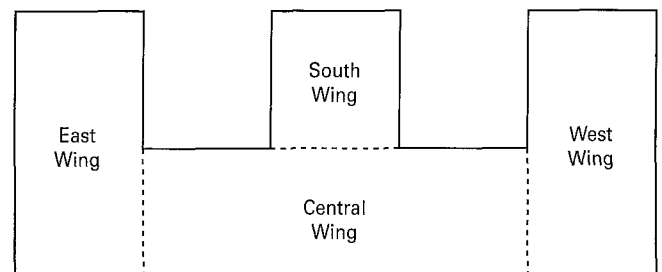
The role that Encina's design played in these pranks was recognized by Andrew D. White, former president of Cornell, who lived in Encina during a spring 1892 lecture series. He gave this advice to the Stanfords:

If you were to furnish more accommodations for students I would urge you not to repeat the Encina plan. For a family hotel it is perfect. . . but the fundamental principle in erecting dormitories is separation and segregation.<sup>19</sup>

In his book on the university's first 25 years, Registrar Elliott in 1937 offered this perspective on the problems at Encina:

Encina men were proud. . . that student activities, student plans, student leadership [were] centered in the Hall. But this pride did not seem to include a personal feeling for the building itself. Its noble architecture, its amplitude, its great dining hall, its furnishings, were not thought of as personal possessions to be cherished and jealously cared for. Accordingly, as time went on, everything that could be abused was abused. Roughhousing spared nothing. Encina was . . . known to outsiders as the "madhouse."<sup>20</sup>

In other words, Encina was too large, too open, too grand. Its long halls and easy access to everyone's room provided too many temptations for mischief.



*Encina's footprint. The wings were divided from each other (along the dotted lines) in the 1958-60 remodel.*

## — Food and Other Problems —

**F**or reasons now unclear, Encina's food was, from the start, a source of constant complaint. Perhaps it was the sheer size of the place — the dining room was a double-height hall up a short flight of steps from the main lobby. It contained 12 large linen-covered tables, each seating 26. Perhaps it was the economics of providing good meals; perhaps it was bad management.

But whatever the cause, complaints came quickly. As one early student wrote home: "Things don't come hot and it's pretty much the same kind of food. . . . We have beans everywhere, boiled and baked, and three times a day. We have cold beef and mutton and more mutton and beef that isn't supposed to be cold; lots of all right milk; dried fruit, stewed or inside heavy lids; there are two kinds of pudding, alternating."<sup>21</sup>

Batchelder wrote that before the end of the first year "some students began to seek other lodging places; or possibly it would be more correct to say that they sought other eating places. Cold soup, tough and dry meat and continued prunes cast a shadow on the pleasures of Encina Hall, so that there began an emigration thence."<sup>22</sup>

The first to leave were the 10 to 15 "bachelor professors" who had moved in — probably in desper-

ation for there were few alternatives — when Encina opened. Most quickly moved out. *Circular of Information No. 6*, dated December 1891, listed 10 faculty at Encina; the university *Register* for June 1892 listed only one still living there.

Several fraternities were chartered in 1891 and 1892, and — shades of Olmsted — as soon as appropriate houses could be found either on campus or in nearby Mayfield the members left Encina. The first to go were the members of Phi Delta Theta, who leased, in early 1892, a large house (called Lauro Hall but later Madroño) built on campus for the bachelor professors. When the professors balked at the \$100 monthly rent asked by the Business Office, a deal was

made with the fraternity (which then subleased rooms to the faculty).<sup>23</sup>

Encina's food problem was compounded by the decision of Jane's brother, business manager Ariel Lathrop, to raise room and board to \$28 a month, effective in fall 1892, without consulting Leland Stanford. This caused quite a stir, for many of the residents were barely able to afford the \$20 rate. Jobs were few — with wages rarely more than 15 cents an hour.

Future university president Ray Lyman Wilbur, after moving into Encina in the fall of 1892, quickly found he could not afford it. In a letter home on October 2, the freshman reported finding a room in a boarding *continued on page 17*

STANFORD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

### REGULATIONS OF ENCINA HALL.

1. Each student will be expected to conduct himself in such a way as not to compromise his standing as a gentleman, or in any way to interfere with the rights of others.
2. All students will be expected to respect the buildings, halls, closets, furniture, etc. Any damage that may be done will be charged to the person who is responsible for the same.
3. It is the wish of the founders that tobacco be not used in the building.
4. Notice must be given in writing to the Master of the Hall, and his consent must be obtained, before any change is made in the occupancy of the rooms. A temporary change of rooms should also be reported to him.
5. Students leaving the Hall to be gone over night are requested to report such absence and its probable duration to the Master of the Hall before leaving.
6. The outside doors will be locked at 10:30 P. M.
7. All bills for board and room must be paid monthly in advance.
8. Any lack of attention on the part of employés should be reported to the Master of the Hall.

BERT FESLER,  
*Master of Encina Hall.*

OCTOBER 1, 1891.

## Boys meet Girls



Although Encina Hall and the women's dormitory, Roble Hall, were on opposite sides of the quadrangle, the distance was not too far to prevent the inevitable socializing. The early efforts, however, created some unexpected tensions.

Despite sharing the same classrooms and curriculum — controversial for its day — formal social contact was handled carefully. The women made the first move, inviting their professors and the young men to a reception on Friday, October 9, 1891. Roble still lacked electricity, but student Lucy Allabach wrote home that the parlor was lit with candles and fires were blazing in the two fireplaces. What to wear had been a big question, with Mrs. Stanford apparently suggesting that the women wear gingham and calico. "Of course this did not meet the approval of the girls," according to Allabach.

The affair was "very pleasant," she wrote, and ended by 9:45 p.m. "We felt better because we knew some of the boys; and the boys because they knew the girls," she wrote. "Some of them seemed nice, many I know were not, and some if they were nice were bores."

A few weeks later, the Encina men tried to reciprocate, but their invitation was not universally well received. Allabach told her family:

All the girls were pleased and some were overjoyed because they knew that the boys were practicing so as to have music for dancing. When this became generally known all the girls were a little displeased with the idea, and some of the mature ones thought that, aside from our not being well enough acquainted, and it being more proper that the girls give the first dance, and that some of the young men were known not to be of the best character, that it was a little soon for us to be giving dances, and it would go in the papers and look as though we were in a hurry for such things.

Worried about their "reputation," the women declined the invitation, explaining in a note to Bert Fesler, master of the Hall, that they preferred not to dance at this early date and on slight acquaintance. In a letter home, Allabach reported:

The boys were howling mad and sent a note over Friday afternoon saying that owing to circumstances over which they had no control, they could not receive us.

The women felt vindicated when a group of Encina men called at Roble and told the women that "we were perfectly right in what we did," according to Allabach.

Francis (Frank) Batchelder might have been in that group. A transfer student from Cornell who spent the summer working in the President's Office for Registrar Orrin Leslie Elliott, Batchelder wrote a friend on November 8 about the men of Encina and the party rejection:

Some of the fellows here are regular hoodlums and some are thoroughly fine fellows, and the young ladies are of an exceptionally nice class and not nearly so cold and formal as a good many of those at Sage [at Cornell]. There are about a hundred of them here to 380 boys. They are sensible girls too. A little while ago they were invited over to a reception in our hall (Encina) with the understanding that there was to be dancing in our dining hall, and they sent word back that they would not come over and dance knowing so little of the boys with whom they were expected to dance. Some of the boys seemed to think this quite an insult, but I think the girls showed good horse sense, don't you? I wouldn't want my sister to dance with some of the fellows here under any circumstances.

In early November, the women again invited the men to a Friday evening reception. Student Henry Moss Boutelle wrote to his mother:

I had a very nice time but there was just standing room and there were four or five fellows to every girl, and if she was very attractive perhaps more. The boys received a paper on which was a part of a verse, and the girls had the other part, and each boy would try to find the other part of his verse. I was too late to get one of the partial verses, but I got there just the same. I succeeded in getting an introduction to three girls which is better than most of the fellows did. I saw President Jordan there and had a long talk with him.

A couple of weeks later, on November 21, the Roble stove broke down, forcing the women to walk to Encina for dinner, as they had done in early October. They ate at 5, which compelled the men to wait until 6. Allabach noted: "They looked at us from over the banisters into the large windows that look on the hall and stood all around everywhere when we came out." Allabach's attitude about the young men had thawed somewhat: "Many of them are nice boys and those who are not, are more silly and young than anything else."

Approximately 20 women stayed at Roble during the Christmas holiday. On December 27, the women hosted a party for the Encina men, as well as several professors and their wives. Guests brought mystery presents that were "fished" from behind a screen using a button hook attached by ribbon to a bamboo pole.

Finally, on New Year's Eve, Encina returned the favor with a party that Allabach described as "the event of the year." The young men and professors living in Encina put on their best attire to receive the 20 Roble women, also dressed in their best.

The men acted out a farce, "The Sleeping Car," by William Dean Howells, using the landing in front of the dining room entrance as a stage. Allabach reported that an "asbestos curtain" was decorated with jokes about Encina's "soup, pie, and other things." She described the farce and the unusual way dinner partners were chosen:

Mr. Anderson of Indiana took the part of auntie and Mr. Clemmens of Iowa that of Agnes. Both did very well and we girls are still wondering where they procured their wigs and costumes and where "Auntie" found her white skirts. It was extremely amusing and well done; one boy had contrived an electric motor which simulated well the noise made by a moving train.

The farce ended, Dr. Campbell sang a solo and then the young men went behind several sheets which had been hung on a suspended wire and which was perhaps half a foot from the floor. Each man put his right foot out and the girls selected their partners by their feet. Each girl held a card on which was a number and when she selected a foot, it was chalked with her number and then when they came from behind the screen they compared. Each girl had to take two boys. . . .

My partner was decided before hand by the master of ceremonies. This interesting proceeding over we marched to the dining room where the tables were ranged in a rectangle minus the side opposite the door. They fairly groaned with their weight of cakes, fruits, nuts and raisins, which found a resting place among ivy wreaths and chrysanthemums. Ice creams, lemonade and tea were also served.

After we had eaten awhile, it would have been impossible to have eaten all, Mr. Fesler, as toast master, welcomed us to Encina Hall and quoted a remark of mine made to him just a moment before. Miss Love responded to the toast, "Social Life versus Study"; Mr. Nicholson to much the same idea; Dr. Wood "The Row"; Professor Samsen, who is to assist in English and had arrived that day, "First Impressions of Palo Alto"; Mr. Burroughs "Life at Encina" and I to "Life at Roble Hall."

Batchelder wrote home that the party "was the first social event we have had in Encina and so was quite a novelty." Apparently one of his family members wrote back about his active social life, provoking this response in late January:

If you think we have many gaieties here I want to disabuse your mind of that right now. You see we are settled right in the middle of a big ranch with our fellow students for our only society. There hasn't been the slightest shadow of gay life all the year. A few informal receptions have been held in Roble Hall, but even these have now been given up.

Judging from letters written by Allabach and Batchelder, it appears the Encina boys never managed to stage a dance that first year. Nor did the Roble women, for that matter.

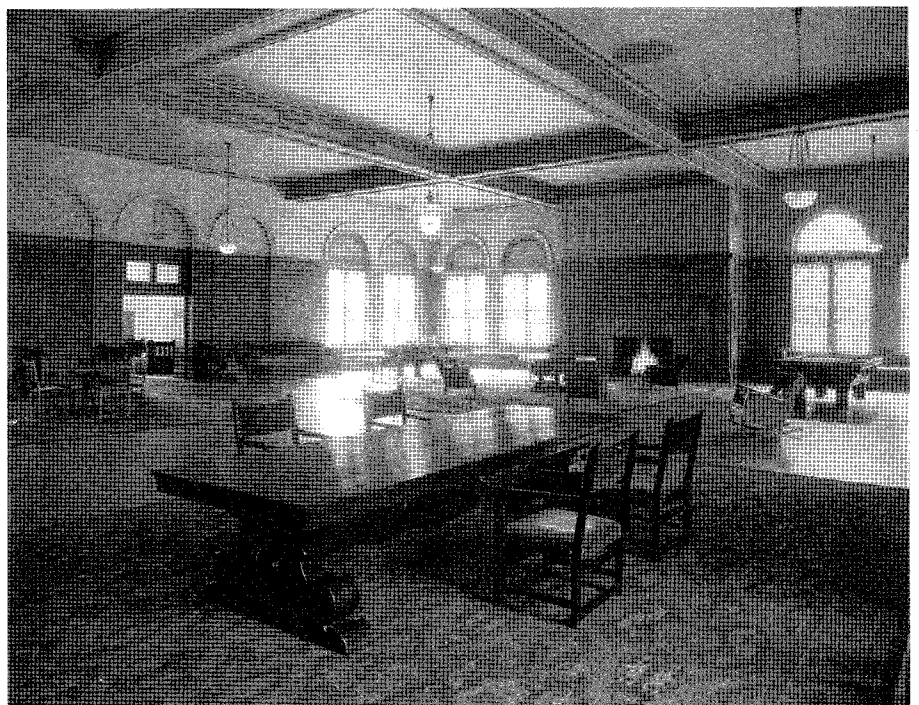
Perhaps they suspected that Leland and Jane Stanford would object. Asked by students in 1897 for permission to stage a student ball in Encina, Jane Stanford communicated her rejection of the request in an April 23 letter to President Jordan. Citing the "demoralization it would cause in that dining room and in the Hall in general," Mrs. Stanford added, "I know full well Mr. Stanford's great objection to converting either of the Halls into dancing halls." ❧



*Encina's original dining room held 12 long, linen-covered tables, each seating 26.*

*Eventually, Encina's food problem was solved by simply admitting defeat. In 1898, the large dining room was closed and converted into a club room and social hall.*

*The dining room, converted to a social hall, became the site of a "war" between students and the night watchman.*





continued from page 13

house for \$21.50 a month. He also reported that others were leaving Encina and that it “has only about 100 students now, on account of the high prices.”<sup>24</sup>

Ellen Coit Elliott later wrote that because of the Encina price increase “the majority of [the students] moved out and stormed Mayfield for lodgings. . . . Some were taken into families there; some clubbed together and rented cottages and ‘batched’; some threw up shelters much like piano boxes; some lived in tents.”<sup>25</sup>

When Stanford returned to the campus in late 1892, he quickly responded to complaints by canceling Ariel’s increase — an event possibly related to Ariel’s November resignation.<sup>26</sup> The students returned to Encina and the university’s first “revolt” ended peacefully and successfully.

Eventually, Encina’s food problem was solved by simply admitting defeat. In 1898, the large dining room was closed and converted into a club room and social hall — Stanford’s first. Most of the men then ate at the Stanford Inn, a large new public restaurant seating 150 (located on the site of the old Main Library, now called Bing Wing of Green Library). Others joined early fraternities or walked to Mayfield and back, a two-mile trip, or ate at the Camp — a collection of early construction shacks (on the site of the present Old Union) that offered low-cost meals.

### — More Trouble —

As the early years passed, Encina residents, like most students on campus, tended to group themselves into classes and clubs — a situation that encouraged rivalries and even more roughhousing. The January 21, 1896, *Daily Palo Alto* (the early name of the *Stanford Daily*) warned: “Certain students in Encina Hall are becoming entirely too reckless in their acts of vandalism.” The warning went unheeded. Roughhousing now also included hazing, as the traditional frosh-sophomore rivalry grew. A favorite form of Encina hazing was called “tubbing,” holding a freshman’s head under water in a bathtub until he “bubbled” — that is, opened his mouth in desperation and gasped for air.<sup>27</sup> The escalating violence was described by Elliott:

If the Business Office began with the idea that keeping order in Encina was a very easy affair, it was soon undeceived. . . . The destruction of property finally became so flagrant that the city office sent down as night watchman a stal-

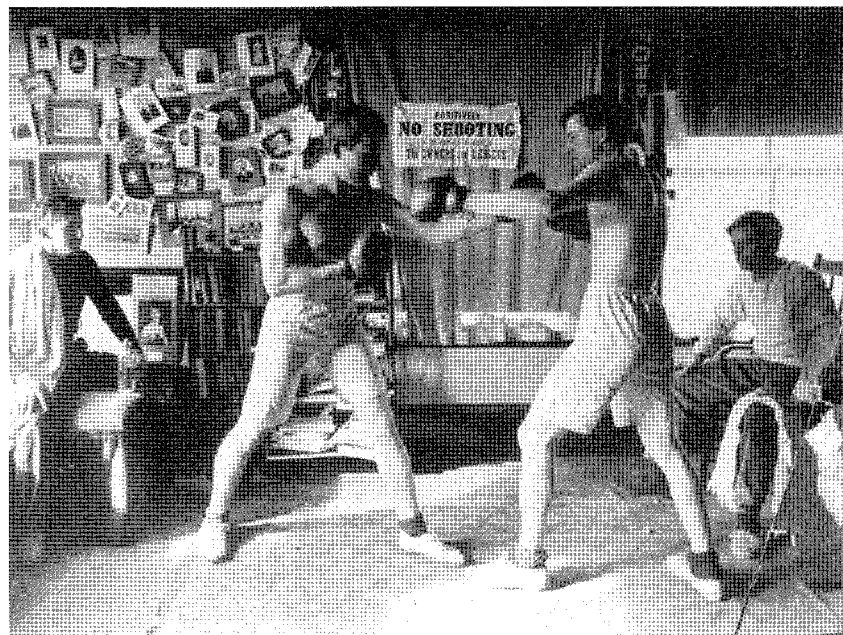
wart ex-policeman with plenty of courage, and little discretion, who speedily made himself obnoxious to the entire Hall. His habit of flourishing a revolver, of making himself at home in the Club room, and of entering student rooms without knocking was bitterly resented, and his presence added something to the turbulence of the Hall.<sup>28</sup>

It’s understandable why the students reacted badly to the watchman’s presence — he was obviously a company “spy.”

The early lack of either clearly established house rules or strong university disciplinary procedures contributed to Encina’s problems.<sup>29</sup> The separation of authority between the Stanford Estate Business Office, located in San Francisco, and the university administration proved to be unworkable. At first Encina had only a loose self-governing system (the Encina Club) and was treated by the Business Office as if it were an independent, troublesome boarding house. As Encina’s problems mounted, the control system tightened. Clearly, Jordan’s original concept that “the institution has no rules to be broken” and that “each student will be a free agent, taking care of his or her own conduct”<sup>30</sup> was unrealistic, at least when it came to dormitory life.

In 1891, soon after the opening, a faculty Committee on Student Affairs was appointed, largely to investigate complaints from the Business Office about Encina and to administer student discipline. In 1896,

STANFORD UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



High spirited Encina men. . .

the committee arranged for the appointment of two student monitors for Encina. In 1900, the number was increased to four. But the monitors' duties remained unclear and overall responsibility for control of Encina's problems still remained in the Business Office.<sup>31</sup>

More Encina vandalism, plus a request for authority from Jordan, finally pushed the university's trustees into reluctant action. When Jordan suggested to the trustees in 1903 that responsibility for discipline be transferred from the Business Office to the faculty — a move Jane Stanford opposed — the trustees stalled. In March 1904, the trustees finally ap-

proved a resolution that said: ". . .all general University regulations, statutes, and rules. . .shall be initiated in and passed by the Academic Council." Jordan responded by asking the council's Advisory Board to consider the question of a code of rules for student conduct. In February 1905, shortly before Mrs. Stanford's death, the Advisory Board recommended against adopting "specific rules."<sup>32</sup>

As Encina entered its second decade, student violence continued to grow. Charles Lathrop, who had succeeded his brother Ariel as business manager, passed along to Jordan on May 12, 1905, the report of Robert Slattery, the night watchman at Encina Hall, regarding a recent noisy demonstration:

C.S. Thompson, room 130, is the man that shot his revolver twenty-five times last night in the Hall and out of the window, liable to kill anyone passing in front of the Hall at that time. He is the leader of the gang, and the way he carried on was outrageous. W.S. Fay, room 119, is the man that flooded the place with water, shot fire crackers and broke electric lights. He raised a general rough house. There is no use talking to these men as it will do no good. They are the two worst men in this hall.<sup>33</sup>



*Upperclassmen indulging in a favorite pastime.*

Written in pencil on the margin of Slattery's report were these words: "This seems to be the time Sherman said war was \_\_\_\_ [hell]. If there is no mistake as to the facts it would seem that the boys are badly needed at home right-away quick." It was signed "SFL." (Samuel F. Leib was chairman of the Board of Trustees.) Attached were copies of letters from Professor Rufus L. Green, chairman of the faculty's Student Affairs Committee, suspending both Thompson and Fay.

The issue finally was forced in fall 1905 when the students mounted a direct attack on the watchman. Elliott wrote of it like a war dispatch:

It began early in the evening when a group of students turned out the lights in the Club Room, overturned tables, and tossed chairs about the room, apparently in order to create a disturbance that would attract the attention of the watchman. When the latter entered the room, the students generally withdrew and gathered on the third or fourth floor landings. The appearance of the watchman at the door of the Club Room was the signal for a fusillade which, with the accompanying noise and yelling, lasted a couple of hours. Cuspitors

filled with water were thrown down, followed by boards, boxes, bottles filled with water, and whatever else came handy. Fortunately no one was hurt, and the property damage was not much greater than in an ordinary riot.<sup>34</sup>

With Green's patience and nerves at the breaking point, the Committee on Student Affairs quickly rounded up 20 men thought to be the ringleaders and dismissed them from the hall without a hearing. (Some were reinstated after a few calmer days.) Two were suspended for acts dating back several months.

Yet the Encina problem continued. On December 7, 1905, Professor Green wrote to Jordan, describing some recent events:

About 10 days ago a serious disturbance occurred on Sunday night in which about 20 students attempted to break into a room to capture a Freshman. The Freshman and his roommate barricaded the room and resisted with the result that two transoms with their frames were broken and the room damaged in a number of ways. . . . The situation at present is such that almost any occurrence would not create surprise among those familiar with the conditions. The Freshmen in anticipation of hazing now frequently abandon their rooms for the night and combine four or six in one room armed with clubs for the purpose of repelling attacks. . . .

Green concluded with this warning:

While I do not wish to be an alarmist, I think no one familiar with the situation in the Hall can fail to see that it is not impossible that some tragedy may occur there. . . . It is at least within the range of possibility that some one may be seriously injured or even killed in these affairs, and if so, there is no way by which we can escape moral responsibility. . . .<sup>35</sup>

Responding to the warning, Jordan on his own authorized the appointment of 12 more monitors (making a total of 16), who would "maintain order and see that personal rights were respected. . . ." Although Jordan thought he had the concurrence of the Encina Club, he learned otherwise when members overwhelmingly voted on December 21, 1905, to reject his plan and the extra monitors.<sup>36</sup> Nevertheless, Jordan ordered Green to find the additional monitors — now to be called "proctors."

Jordan also threatened to divide the interior of

Encina, making three smaller independent units with no access between them above the first floor (a proposal already suggested by several trustees). "The object of the proposed change," he told the *Daily* for January 10, 1906, "is to gain more privacy for the residents of the Hall and also to prevent men from gathering in such large numbers. By this method the University authorities hope to prevent hazing and rioting."

This threat was not carried out.

A second tense moment was triggered by an editorial in the January *Alumnus*, condemning the Encina Club's action and the continued violence. This prompted an editorial in the *Daily* on January 30, by editor Ben S. Allen, in which he ridiculed the Student Affairs Committee — or so it seemed to many.

The words that got Allen in trouble were these:

Even the so-called riot, which so effectively called attention of the public to the painful fact that the inmates of the Hall were guarded by a drunken thug, was tame in comparison to the 'rough-houses' which in the past took place in the Hall without exciting either public comment or official displeasure. The members of the Student Affairs Committee as well as the editor of the *Alumnus* can easily satisfy themselves of the truth of the above statement by consulting the representative men of the Hall. And it might be well to further inform the committee that the truly representative occupants of Encina pay cash rental for their rooms.

The committee believed Allen was implicitly endorsing hazing and tubbing. It also interpreted his last sentence as a direct attack on the committee's authority, for it implied that the proctors, who lived rent free, were not "truly representative occupants" of Encina. With tensions running high, the committee promptly voted to suspend Allen — an action that was supported by Jordan. When Allen refused to accept Jordan's terms for reinstatement, Allen was formally suspended from the university.<sup>37</sup>

Soon after, Jordan spoke emotionally before an open meeting in the Encina club room, in an effort to explain his position on the proctors. As reported in the *Daily* for February 6:

What I have to say will be simple. I have been a college man for thirty-seven years, and throughout my career as freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, professor and president, have rarely been out of touch with the majority.

I have been proud of the Stanford boys and particularly the boys of Encina. The only thing we may disagree on here this evening is the matter of 'tubbing' and hazing.

Jordan then stressed that the proctors were appointed for the maintenance of good order. He continued:

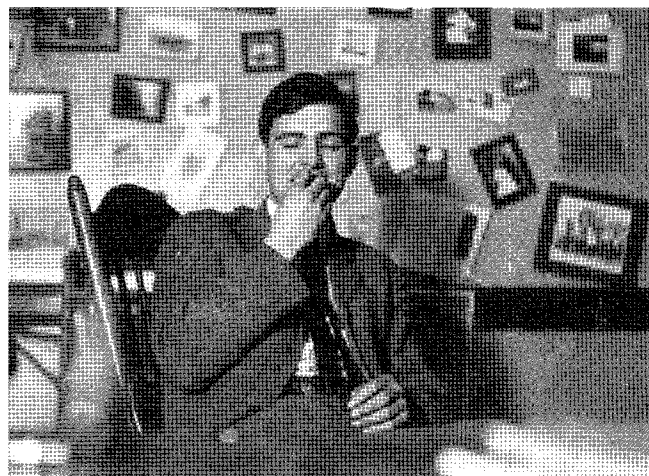
A man's room is his castle, according to old English law, and he has a right to exclude anyone whom he sees fit. The proctors. . .are representative men. They represent me and I represent the institution. . . . They are men of courage or they would not accept the positions.

After a tribute to Allen's personal character, he concluded:

Hazing must stop — the right of every student to his room and body must be observed. . . . If those men. . .who are in favor of tubbing do not like the way the Hall is run, let them live elsewhere.

Jordan's talk seems to have calmed things down a bit, but student leaders continued to protest the actions of the Student Affairs Committee. On February 7 the Quadrangle Club — a group of campus leaders — adopted a statement declaring that:

It is the general opinion of the students that the majority of the student affairs committee are so much out-of-touch and sympathy with the students that there can be no co-operation between the two, and the influence of the



*Sophomore Junius Hanna, the only student killed in the 1906 earthquake.*

committee for good is therefore practically nullified.<sup>38</sup>

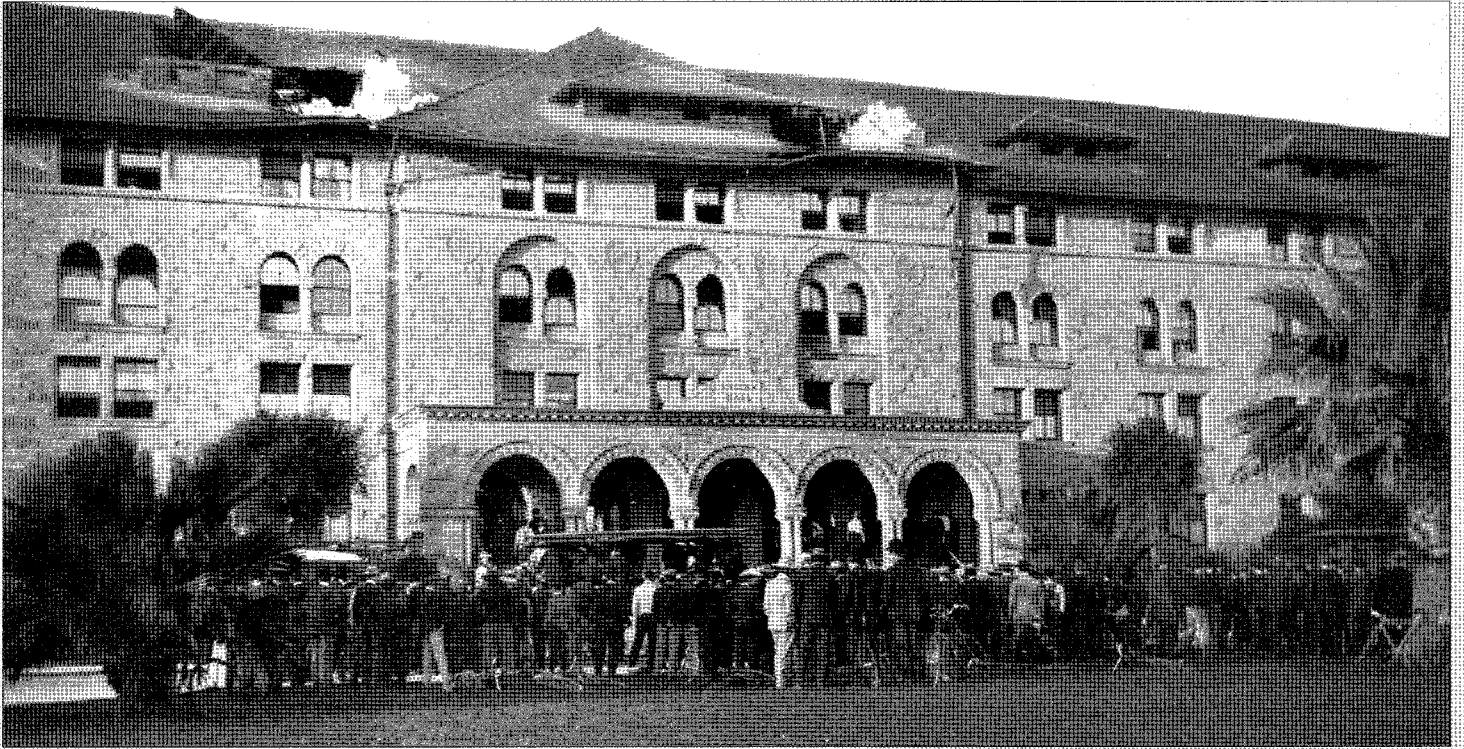
This statement was endorsed by the Encina Club, the executive committee of the associated students, and most fraternities and sororities.

As the conflict settled into an uneasy truce, the question of authority at Encina was abruptly pushed aside by the great earthquake of April 18, 1906. While Encina's physical damage was moderate — sadly, sophomore Junius Hanna was killed (the only student death) when a chimney collapsed burying him in the basement. Eight others were injured. (*See separate story, page 21.*)

*continued on page 22*



*Expecting aftershocks, some Encina residents camped out front.*



*Encina, showing roof holes caused by falling chimneys. Onlookers watched removal of injured in horse-drawn ambulances.*

## Encina and the Earthquake

THIS CONTEMPORARY ACCOUNT COLORFULLY CAPTURED ENCINA'S EXPERIENCE IN THE 1906 EARTHQUAKE. IT WAS WRITTEN BY FUTURE ENGLISH PROFESSOR EDITH MIRRIELES, '07, FOR THE MAY 1906 ISSUE OF STANFORD ALUMNUS:

“Without, the building showed scarcely a sign of damage; within, on the west side a falling chimney had crushed through four floors, carrying a section of each to the basement and burying four students underneath its tons of wreckage. In front of the office stretched an irregular mass of stone and mortar level with the first floor, but partly supported by the fallen timbers. From beneath the mass — seemingly from an immeasurable distance — came the cries of the imprisoned men. Almost before the big building had ceased its trembling a hundred students were at work upon the obstruction, tearing away the loose stones

from its surface. Presently a pit was formed; ropes and lanterns were brought and regular shifts were put to the work. Two of the buried men crawled out uninjured, saved by the arching timbers. For ninety minutes the work went on before an opening was forced through which the two imprisoned men — one dead, the only student victim of the shock, and one delirious — could be brought out. Meanwhile, outside of Encina a volunteer hospital corps had been formed, wagons were pressed into service as ambulances and the seven injured men from other parts of the building — principally those hurt by jumping from windows — were car-

ried to the Guild Hospital [in Palo Alto]. Marvelous escapes were recorded to account for the insignificant number of injured. One man driven from his bed by falling plaster, from his window by a volley of loose stone, was discovered, when all was over, safely shut in his wardrobe. Another leaped from a second story window alighting without a bruise. Perhaps the most extraordinary feat was that performed by a student rooming on the fourth floor who, at the beginning of the shock, jumped from his window, but jumped up instead of down and clung to the eaves until drawn in from below by a party of astounded friends. By 7 o'clock Encina was empty, guards were set about to keep out the curious, and most of the watchers had drifted away to re-inspect the Quadrangle.”

*continued from page 20*

Elliott, writing 30 years later, was philosophical about the impact of the earthquake on Encina affairs:

Happily the earthquake. . . did something to clear the local atmosphere. The large aspects of the University life resumed their proper place. In the presence of the great disaster there was a disposition to let bygones be bygones and to find a reasonable basis for faculty-student relations in the matter of conduct and discipline.<sup>39</sup>

Encina was quickly repaired and reopened in September 1906. The trustees finally acted to transfer authority from the Business Office to the president. Just before the start of fall term, Jordan announced:

The discipline of Encina Hall is under the control of the president of the University, acting through the Committee on Student Affairs, and represented by the student proctors. . . . Hazing in all its forms is absolutely prohibited, and the privacy of student rooms must not be invaded against the will of the person concerned.<sup>40</sup>

While this would seem to signal an end to Encina's hazing and roughhousing, unfortunately there were still a few rounds yet to go.

### — “Hazing is Un-American” —

**T**he post-earthquake period *was* different. Given Jordan's added authority and his statement banning hazing, Encina was better behaved. Its size relative to the fraternities also gave it a stronger voice in campus politics. As the spring 1907 issue of *Sequoia* reported:

Encina is now under the most powerfully developed political organization that has existed at Stanford in recent years. This control of the Hall gives [the leaders] an almost invincible weapon for class or student body elections.

The improved situation was, in part, the result of a reorganized Student Affairs Committee. After Jordan appointed all new members in fall 1906, the committee gave the Encina Club increased responsibility for maintaining law and order.

Over the next few years behavior improved, although there continued to be scattered reports of “beer busts,” items being thrown or dropped down the stairwells, and even an occasional “tubbing.” Sadly, not all

the tubbings and other hazing were harmless. In a poignant letter, one student's mother wrote in 1911:

Dear President Jordan:

School is about to begin and as the time draws near for the students to again assemble and take up the work of another year — many of them for their first year of college — I feel constrained to write to you as doubtless others have of the terrible effects of hazing. Do take care of the young people who are entering the University for the first time.

My experience connected with Stanford has been so very, very sad that I must tell it to you that others' sons will not have the experience that mine did last year and perhaps save other mothers the heart break that is my portion.

My son, Wilber L. Miller, entered Stanford for the first time last year. He had not been well all summer, but was so anxious to go that I consented. He had no tuberculosis, but was susceptible. The tubbings he received, and others during the *successive* hazings were more than his constitution could bear. He did not complain — said it was common to all newcomers — but I was much wrought up at the time, but hoped Wilber would grow better. He had cold after cold, then he went in for athletics. There could not have been sufficient supervision there for in his weakened condition it proved the last straw.

He was a hard student as you will find if you look into his records while at Stanford.

He broke down completely in April — with diabetes — came home three weeks before the close of the year and died the 28th of June. The trouble began with the hazing.

Can you not prevent this treatment of newcomers this year?

—Mrs. Caroline A. Miller<sup>41</sup>

Mrs. Miller's letter was apparently referred to Professor A.B. Clark, now the chairman of the Student Affairs Committee. On August 21, Clark wrote to Acting President J.C. Branner, describing the Miller letter and the boy's death, as well as his knowledge of “five other cases of somewhat severe injury from hazing.”<sup>42</sup> He asked for more authority over Encina Hall, a request for which no written response from Branner can be found.



(At left) Student Ray Lyman Wilbur, class of 1896 and future university president, in his Encina dorm room.

*'Hazing is a combination of cowardice and bullying, absolutely un-American. It overpowers and crushes the individual. At best it is contemptible, and at worst criminal.'*

In September, Clark read the Miller letter to the Encina House Committee and was assured that each man had signed a "pledge" to observe the rules about hazing.<sup>43</sup>

Evidently the Miller letter and Clark's use of it did have an impact. In the *President's Report* for 1911, Clark's report on the Student Affairs Committee notes: "The form of hazing called 'tubbing' has been virtually brought to an end, with the cooperation of the Encina House Committee, which represents the responsible government of the hall."

Other changes were coming that would, within a few years, put a final end to harmful hazing.

The first change was the appointment of a tough new university president. On January 1, 1916, Ray Lyman Wilbur, class of 1896, dean of the Medical School, and former Encina resident, became president. (Jordan had retired as president in 1913 and was briefly succeeded by 63-year-old John C. Branner.)

Wilbur brought youth, toughness, and new ideas to the position. Student discipline, both in Encina and the fraternities, was a high priority. In his first meeting with the students he spoke out strongly against hazing. He continued to oppose it, and in a letter published in the *Alumnus* in March 1916 he made his view unmistakably clear:

Hazing is a combination of cowardice and bullying, absolutely un-American. It overpowers and crushes the individual. At best it is contemptible, and at worst criminal.

By 1915, Stanford's undergraduate enrollment had increased by more than a thousand. To help handle the extra students, Encina was expanded in 1916 by finishing off the attic and basement, adding 90 rooms. The *Alumnus* for December 1916 called Encina a six-story building and noted that even with the expansion "there will still be a waiting list." In 1911, Encina reported 300 residents; by 1916 the number was up to 450.

This expansion offered the final solution to Encina's tubbing problem. All bathtubs were replaced with showers; overnight the tubbing stopped.

During the 1917-18 war years, Encina and Sequoia (the new name for Roble after a new larger Roble was built for the women) were turned over to the army. The dean of men reported in October 1918 that 750 men were enlisted in the Student's Army Training Corps. President Wilbur noted that "in spite of difficulties associated with the temporary quarters provided for men and the crowding of Encina and Sequoia Hall. . . there was a fine spirit of service in the student body."<sup>44</sup>

With the November 1918 armistice, however, some of the students quickly returned to their old tricks, including “abuse of the freshman class” during a February 1919 parade. Perhaps responding to a presidential scolding, on June 5, 1919, the Encina Club wrote a letter to Wilbur that included this promise:

...the men of Encina wish it to be known that freshman discipline [i.e., hazing] has been completely abolished. . . .we believe we have a spirit started that will make Encina Club attractive to a freshman and make him glad he lives here.

Wilbur made the pledge a matter of public record by printing the full letter in the 1919 *President’s Report*.

### — More Adventures —

**S**tudent behavior continued to improve. In his 1920 *President’s Report* Wilbur proudly wrote:

There has been a steady improvement in the ideals of the Stanford student body and an evident sense of increasing responsibility for the maintenance of the good name of the University. A new form of student control, in which the Committee on Student Affairs acts as a legislative body and the disciplinary function is carried on by the Student’s Council reporting directly to the President, has worked well.



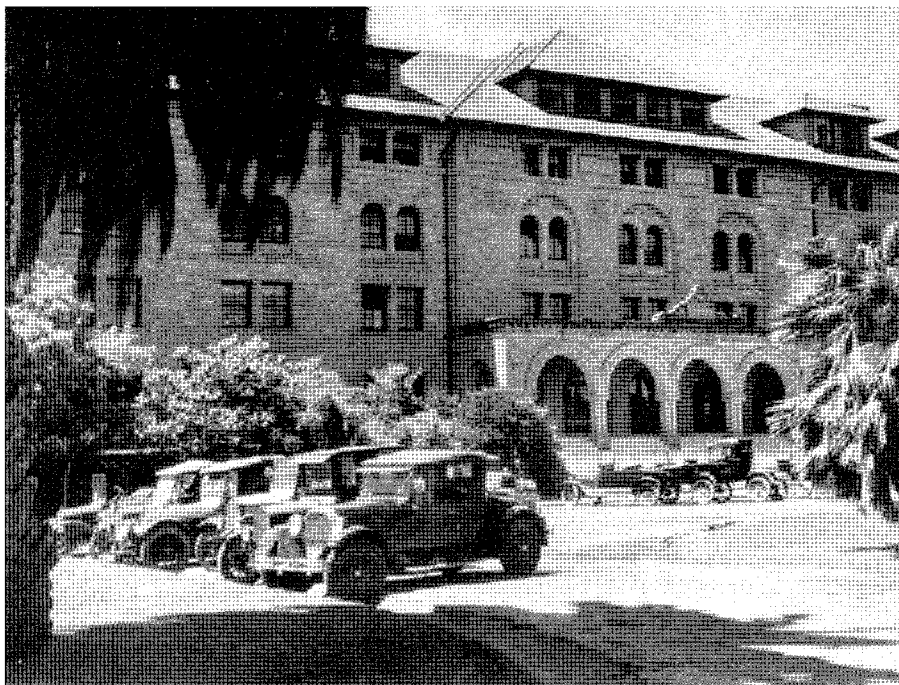
*Encina students, 1949.*

In 1923, two much-needed men’s dorms — Toyon and Branner — were completed not far from Encina. Also, a large new dining complex and central kitchen, called Encina Commons, was built directly behind Encina. In addition to two large dining rooms, the commons provided space in six small rooms for eating clubs. The design of these new buildings, with their internal series of divided spaces, reflected a shift away from the massiveness of Encina toward smaller living groups, as originally advocated by Olmsted.<sup>45</sup>

The new halls were good news for Encina, which shifted to a “freshman-only” dorm. This move effectively ended 30 years of frosh-sophomore hazing.

The hijinks continued, but without the violence of the early decades. Some noteworthy pranks:

David Jacobson, later head of fund-raising at Stanford, recalled arriving at his freshman room in the 1920s to find a dozen “yelling and hollering” men. On a table in the center was the barbecued carcass of a sheep, with the men tearing out handfuls to eat. “I thought, ‘Momma, I wish I were home right now.’ I was really scared to death,” Jacobson remembered. Later his terror turned to admiration. Warned of an impending nighttime sopho-



*Encina in the 1920s.*



more raid, Jacobson's roommates developed a plan: When the sophomores pounded on the door, Jacobson would open it, then point a flashlight at his roommates — one, naked, "looking like an ape," and the other holding a golf club. The surprised sophomores retreated.<sup>46</sup>

In addition to the ever-present water bags, target practice in the 1920s also took the form of setting fire to haystacks in the adjacent fields, using projectiles shot from the upper floors.

Former head yell leader Jim Triolo, '35, is one of many who remember Encina residents winding fire hoses through the balusters along the stairways. When they turned on the water, the inflated hose would send broken balusters flying. Years later, during a major remodeling, Jacobson rescued a large stack of balusters and presented them as fundraising awards to class agents.

Triolo also recalls an incident in spring 1934 when a student dropped a water bag from an upper floor during a Mother's Club tea in the Encina lobby. It hit former first lady Lou Henry Hoover, class of '96 — and the perpetrator got the maximum work penalty at the Convalescent Home.

Triolo, an Encina sponsor for nearly three years, remembers lots of other crazy antics, including, at different times, finding two small cars and one sheep on the upper floors. (*See separate story, page 26, about the Encina horse.*)

The second World War again saw Encina turned over to the military. In autumn 1943, the peak period of military enrollment, 2,844, or 53 percent, of the student body were part of some military group. The biggest by far was the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) with 2,692. Stanford's ASTP unit had been one of the largest in the country, but dropped sharply in spring 1944, and ended in autumn 1945.<sup>47</sup> An illustration of just how crowded the campus was at the peak can be found in the 1943 student directory: In 1943's autumn quarter it listed 1,332 ASTP students as living at Encina — nearly three times the prewar student level of about 450.<sup>48</sup>

With the post-war construction of two additional undergraduate men's dorms — Stern and Wilbur — aging Encina's dorm days were soon numbered. The *Daily* of January 4, 1956, reported that 250 undergraduate men "yesterday completed the great exodus from Encina Hall." Older members of the administration perhaps breathed a deep sigh of relief, for at last Encina's student misadventures seemed truly over. (But there was a postscript: Because of delays in completing Florence Moore Hall, Encina was the temporary home for 100 women in fall 1956. This last occupation was properly peaceful, flower-filled urinals notwithstanding.)

*continued on page 27*

STANFORD NEWS SERVICE



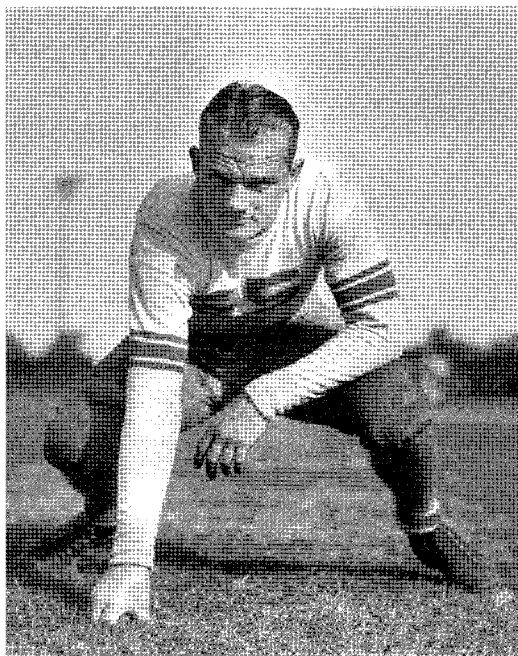
*Encina Commons, built in 1923, boasted two large dining rooms and six eating clubs.*

# Alf and the Encina horse

STANFORD NEWS SERVICE

**"W**E DID DO A LOT OF PRANKS WHILE LIVING IN ENCINA," Alf Brandin, class of 1936, admitted to an interviewer in 1989. Punishment when caught was "work hours" at the children's Convalescent Home. Brandin and friends Bones Hamilton and Monk Moscrip were such "frequent visitors" to Con Home that they became friends with the nurses, who supplied ice cream and chocolate to their helpers.

The horse tale dates from Brandin's freshman year, apparently before school started — probably August or September of 1932. Brandin told Robert de Roos, '33, who interviewed him for the Historical Society oral history project, that the football team was practicing on campus before school started. One Sunday, when they had nothing to do, Brandin and several friends walked across the Quad to the fields near the golf course.



*Alf Brandin on the football field*

Spotting two old horses, someone suggested bareback riding. Bouyed by equine cooperation, a new idea was born: putting one of the horses in the first-floor Encina room of Bob Reynolds, who was spending his free day in San Francisco.

Late that afternoon, the football players led a horse to Encina, picking grass along the way. Leaving water, grass, and the horse in Reynold's room, the group retreated and waited. Unfortunately, Reynolds was late in returning, allowing plenty of time for the horse to do what horses do, resulting in odors that spread to the upper floors.

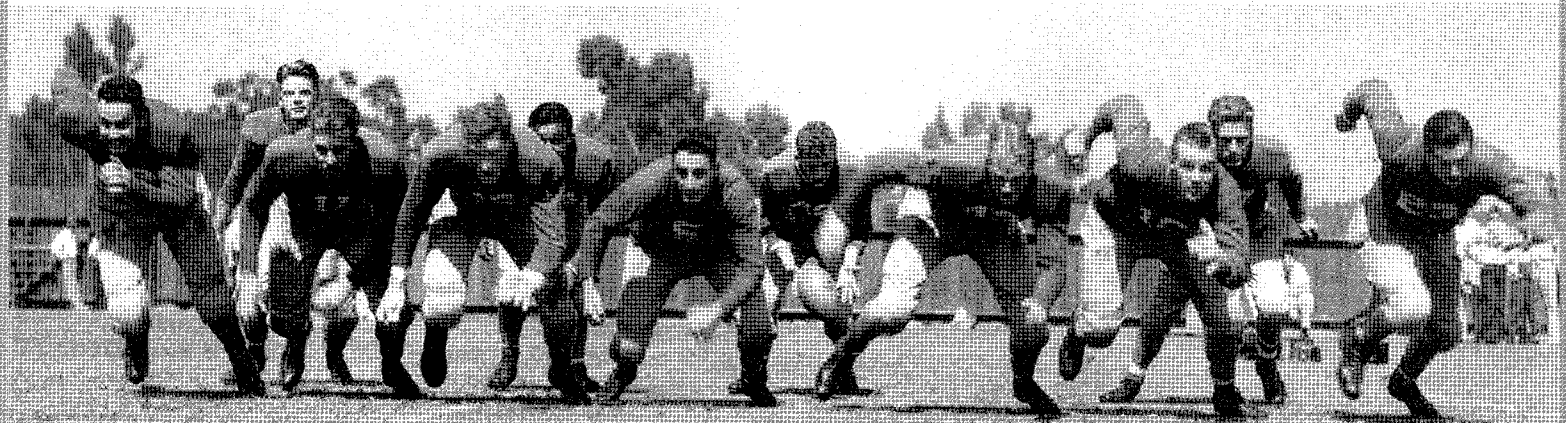
Despite the prank, Brandin and "Horse" Reynolds were lifelong best friends. Reynolds became president of Golden West Broadcasting Co. and the Los Angeles Angels baseball team, and chairman of the University of California Board of Regents.

"We never admitted we were or were not involved, but the [Men's] Council knew damned well we were," Brandin said.

"They gave us a choice: 'Admit you were involved and get 10 hours of work or keep your present posture and get 100 hours.'" They chose 100. 🐾

*Encina pranksters were members of Stanford's "Vow Boys" team: Bob "Horse" Reynolds (third from left, front row), Brandin (fifth from left), Monk Moscrip (far right, front), Bones Hamilton (far left, back row).*

STANFORD NEWS SERVICE



## — Student Days are Over —

**E**ncina now faced a major renovation and a new use as administrative offices. In 1958-59, the central wing was gutted and a reinforced concrete structure built inside the sandstone walls. In 1960, various units of the Business Office took over the central wing's first floor. The Controller's Office occupied the second floor, and fund-raisers moved into the third floor, along with News and Publications Service. The fourth floor was assigned to Humanities and Sciences for academic office space, and the university's administrative mainframe computer was in the central wing basement.

The east wing, which had not been remodeled, initially housed the academic mainframe computer in the basement and the Personnel Office in old dorm rooms on the first floor. Upper floors were empty.

Like the east wing, Encina's south wing — the original two-story dining room and the floor above — was not remodeled. Nevertheless, the Planning Office moved into the old dining room, which became known as the "bullpen." Above them, the third floor's south wing played an important role in the \$100 million fundraising drive known as PACE (Plan of Action for a Challenging Era). Into that space officials in 1960 moved a large scale-model of the university, complete with representations of hoped-for buildings. Photographs of the university taken by Ansel Adams lined some walls. There, faculty and administrators laid out their dreams to donors.<sup>49</sup>

In 1969, Encina's west wing was gutted and remodeled for the Food Research In-

stitute. For years, a small store, a barbershop, and a dry-cleaning establishment had operated in the west wing basement. A cafe-soda bar also was open to the public before the remodel.

Despite, or rather because of, its new role, Encina Hall had to endure yet another round of turmoil, as anti-Vietnam War demonstrations roiled the campus. The building, now the hub of Stanford's financial and business affairs, became a magnet for student protests and efforts to shut down the university.

On May 1, 1969, some 200 demonstrators broke in at 1 a.m. and stayed for more than six hours. Faculty observers saw numerous incidents of students removing files. Students also ransacked payroll records, later publishing confidential salary information they had taken. At 4 a.m., Provost Richard W. Lyman called for sheriff's deputies. Bus loads arrived at 7:15. Shortly before, Professors Sanford Dornbusch and Mike Wald entered the building and warned students that police were on their way. Under threat of arrest, the students left. Later, 33 of the protesters were suspended.

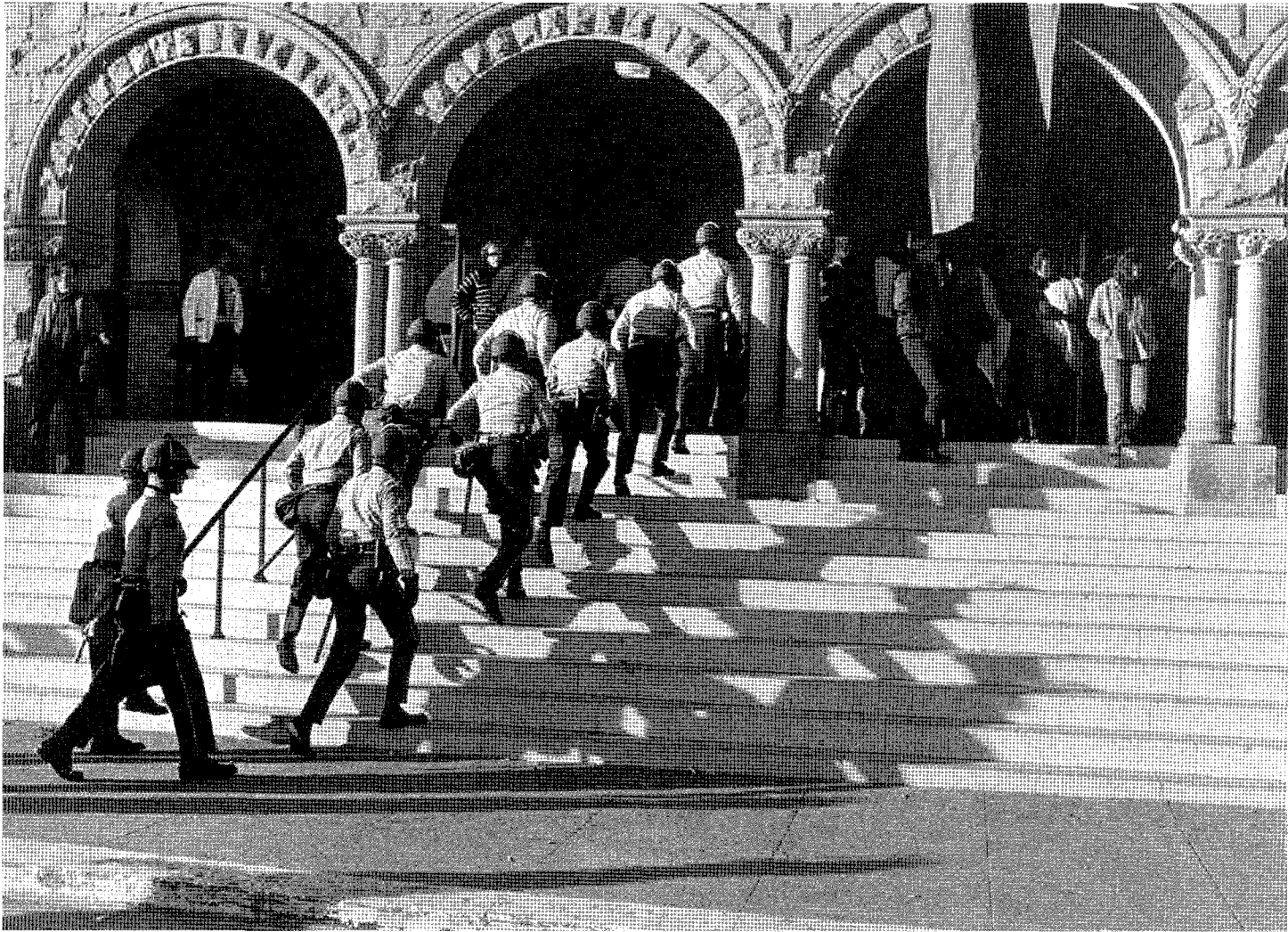
A second round of protests hit Encina in spring 1970, following President Richard Nixon's announcement that American troops had invaded Cambodia. Students demanded an end to the military's Reserve Officer Training Corps, as well as an end to the Viet-

nam War. On the evening of April 30, hundreds of demonstrators gathered in front of Encina. Police arrived shortly after the front-door glass was broken and soon a group of about 300 nonviolent students formed a line between the protesters and police. Demonstrators threw rocks over their heads at police, then moved on to White Plaza, breaking windows in at least 15 buildings.

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*Vice President Kenneth Cuthbertson describes Stanford's building plans in 1960, using a scale-model of the university located on Encina's third floor.*



*Sheriff's deputies entered Encina on May 1, 1969, following a six-hour occupation by students protesting the Vietnam War.*

The next morning, following a meeting of 3,500 in Frost Amphitheater to discuss a class boycott and strike, hundreds blocked all entrances to Encina. A general strike and a blockade of Encina continued, off and on, until May 12.

Not wanting to deprive Stanford workers of their paychecks, protesters allowed the payroll staff into the building to work.

Some employees from other offices crawled through windows to get in. Feeling pressed by deadlines for the summer conference season, Conference Office manager Lois Fariello got help climbing in first-floor windows from Business Office attorney Cassius Kirk and others who got in the building before students arrived each morning for the blockade. One day when Fariello was alone in her second-floor office, a non-student leader — a big one — of the radical group Venceremos, entered her office, threatened her, and ordered her out of the building. “I said that I would not leave,”

she recalls, and she stayed till the end of the day.

Other staff members simply moved in. Gene Kershner and a colleague stayed all night on one occasion to protect their Planning Office files. “We both had ball bats and we slept on the conference room table.” He admits they were not sure how they would have reacted if radicals had invaded their office. The next day, Vice President for Business Affairs Alf Brandin heard about their heroics. “He chastised us severely and told us to get our foolish asses out of there and go home! We did.”

Meanwhile, on the third floor, six staff members at News and Publications Service, determined to continue putting out news about the campus demonstrations, slept fitfully on cots and in sleeping bags, cooking bacon and eggs each morning in electric frying pans. Dubbed the Sleeping Bag Six, their exploits were reported in newspaper accounts of the violence at Stanford.

## — The Mysterious Fire —

**E**ncina's final insult occurred on the night of Wednesday, June 7, 1972, when a major fire broke out in the attic of the central wing and spread to the upper floors of the east wing. Damage exceeded \$1 million. Because of the concrete reconstructions in 1959 and 1969, the central and west wings were largely unscathed, and were quickly reoccupied. Fire officials never determined the exact cause, but the possibility of arson is still debated (*see separate story, page 30*).

The fire was reported at 9:04 p.m. by someone pulling a fire alarm box and, simultaneously, by a phone call from senior Carl Hagenmaier, a resident of nearby Manzanita trailer park.<sup>50</sup>

The first of five Stanford fire trucks arrived within a minute. Campus Fire Chief Frank Jurian issued calls for mutual aid from surrounding communities at 9:10, 9:20, 9:35, and 9:51. Various departments from San Mateo and Santa Clara counties sent equipment and approximately 200 firefighters. The fire was declared out at 1:31 a.m.

Palo Alto Fire Department Capt. Dan Rhodes, then a member of the Stanford department, recalls Encina as "one of the biggest fires in the area for a long time." Since it was the main administration building, its loss would have been huge, he says, crediting neighboring departments for their help. "It was quite remarkable" that the east wing was saved, he says. Fire

damage there was limited to the fourth and fifth floors.

The central wing attic was being used for storage of such things as old documents in cardboard boxes and metal filing cabinets and surplus carpeting, in violation of fire codes. Most of the documents were in somewhat flimsy locked "cages" built of wood and chicken wire. The north wall was lined with cages, and several more were located on the south side.<sup>51</sup>

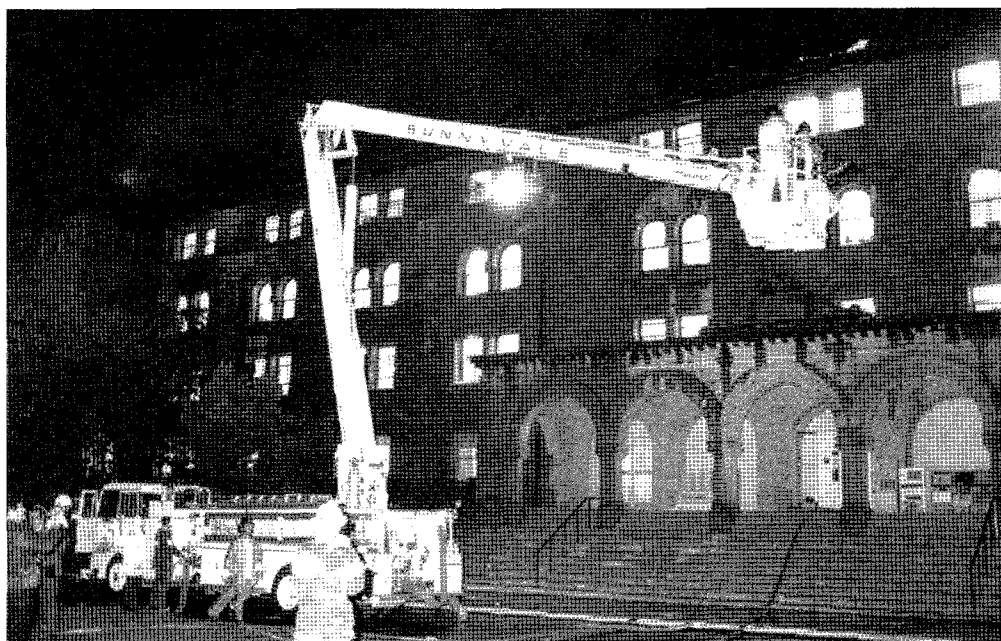
In the 1960 reconstruction, the attic had been designated simply as mechanical equipment space, according to Bruce Wiggins, a former Santa Clara County fire marshal who has worked at Stanford since 1969. Sprinklers should have been installed when the attic's function changed to storage space.

The concrete-slab attic floor, which is the ceiling of the fourth floor, kept the fire from burning downward in the central wing. But wooden supports for the red-tile roof had not been rebuilt of steel or concrete because planners assumed the attic would remain empty, Wiggins said.

While the wooden roof supports helped spread the fire, the red-tile roof held it in for a time, allowing it to build to an inferno. The concrete wall at the west end of the central attic was solid, preventing the fire from spreading to the west wing. However, the concrete wall separating the attic from the original wood-interior east wing had a brick-sized gap at the top, through which the fire spread. Once through, it quickly shot to the south end of the wing for oxygen.

*continued on page 32*

STANFORD NEWS SERVICE



*Lights inside Encina make it appear the whole building is ablaze. Damage exceeded \$1 million.*

*Encina's final insult occurred June 7, 1972, when a major fire broke out in the attic of the central wing and spread to the upper floors of the east wing.*

# *The Encina Fire: Was it Arson?*



*Encina's attic and roof at the height of the fire. Then-President Richard W. Lyman now says he thinks the fire was arson.*

**T**HE QUESTION REMAINS: Was the huge Encina fire of June 7, 1972, a case of arson?

Fire officials never could answer that question with certainty.

The fire, which caused more than \$1 million damage, started in the attic of the central wing and jumped to the east wing through a brick-size gap at the top of the concrete wall separating the two wings.

In a joint statement released six days after the conflagration, the Santa Clara County Fire Marshal's Office and Stanford Fire Chief Frank Jurian said the fire was "started by someone either carelessly or maliciously." They ruled out electrical or mechanical failure and spontaneous combustion as possible explanations.†

Privately, many firefighters thought the fire was arson, as did the university president, the news director, and many others. However, some still think it was started

through carelessness.

At the time, various administrative units used the central wing attic and the upper floors of the east wing to store old department records.

Access to the attic was from a staircase at each end of the central wing. At the top of each staircase was a landing and a door to the attic that opened outward. The doors normally were locked.

In the Stanford Fire Department "run report" on the fire, found in the News Service collection at University Archives, Capt. Carl Gamble described entering Encina, climbing the central stairs, then proceeding to the attic landing above the fourth floor at the west end. "Found the attic door open and the position untenable due to intense heat," he wrote the morning after the fire. He said he instructed his men to fill the water lines in the building, "and make the initial attack at the attic door

on the west side of the center section."

He then "proceeded to the east [end] of the center section. Upon arrival, found the attic door open and the same conditions (heat and smoke) found on the west side."

The two open attic doors at opposite ends of the building add to the suspicions of arson.

However, several news accounts at the time say that the doors had been propped open the afternoon of the fire by employees storing materials in the attic. These employees are never identified by department or name and in recent interviews no one could provide any additional information about who might have been in the attic that afternoon. It also is unclear why they would prop open doors that are so far apart.

Fire officials estimated that the fire built up for at least 45 minutes before it was discovered, but said it could have begun any time between

6 p.m., when the building was closed, and 8:20 p.m. The fire was reported at 9:04 p.m. (*For more details on the fire, see main story.*)

Twenty-eight years later, President Emeritus Richard W. Lyman says he “definitely” thinks it was arson. “Every radical was there in the crowd cheering it on. It would be very surprising if it were not [arson], given the times.”

Bob Beyers, director of the Stanford News Service from 1961 to 1990, remembers that “the radicals had arrived awfully promptly after the blaze began. Given the tenor of those times, I strongly suspect that the fire was deliberately set.”

The initial account of the fire by Myron Myers in the June 8, 1972, *Palo Alto Times*, ends with these words: “A very few spectators seemed elated at Encina’s succumbing to fire when the efforts of protesters to close it had failed. ‘This is just fantastic, really great!’ one man exclaimed to his two companions.”

A crowd of perhaps 2,000 to 3,000 spectators gathered that Wednesday night to watch the fire.

Palo Alto fire Capt. Dan Rhodes, who fought the inferno as a young member of the Stanford Fire Department, says that in conversations afterward, “we were all pretty sure it was arson, but every once in awhile something would pop up about a light bulb hanging [in the central attic] and being too close to papers.”

Retired University Controller Frank Riddle believes the fire was arson. The late Fire Chief Frank Jurian told him, Riddle recalls, that he thought the fire started simultaneously in more than one place. Nevertheless, Jurian would not label it arson, Riddle said.

Dan deYoung, to whom the Fire Department reported in 1972,

says he and Jurian always thought the blaze was not arson. He has no memory of Jurian talking about multiple starting points. DeYoung suggests that the attic doors were propped open for ventilation by people storing materials there.

Bruce Wiggins, then manager of facility safety planning at Stanford, had served as county fire marshal from 1952 through 1968, and many people still look to him for an opinion.

“It could have been arson, but it easily could have been accidental,” he says. “If you don’t have facts, it has to be classified as ‘undetermined.’”

While there never was any actual evidence of arson, he notes, it would have taken very little accelerant, such as gasoline, to start a fire. He points out that the evidence would have burned up, given the “high fuel load” of paper and cardboard boxes stored there.

Even without an accelerant, someone deliberately or accidentally dropping a cigarette between two closely spaced boxes might have produced the fire, he says. Wiggins, who was in the attic a month before the fire, remembers that some stored material was loose — not in boxes or metal file cabinets.

Barring a confession by the accidental or deliberate perpetrator, the exact cause will never be known.

But it is worth noting that from 1968 to 1972 there were at least 30 incidents of arson, attempted arson, bombing, or attempted bombing on campus.

Arsonists destroyed the office of President J.E. Wallace Sterling and the Navy ROTC complex in 1968. Two years later, arsonists set fire to the Center for Advanced Studies in the Behavioral Sciences, destroying the offices of several

prominent scholars. In 1971, a bomb exploded after hours in the President’s Office, and three days later, arson gutted the Junipero House lounge in Wilbur Hall.

The year 1972 was particularly active, with more than a dozen incidents. In February, a campus security guard found a Molotov cocktail-type device outside the campus home of Professor Sanford Dornbusch. A member of the Advisory Board, Dornbusch had voted with the majority to recommend removal of English Professor H. Bruce Franklin for specific incidents of inciting student disruptions. In May, fires were ignited in the Law School room that had been used for student judicial hearings.

Encina was a target in January, when an anonymous female caller told a university operator that five bombs had been planted to “hurt a lot of people. . .to show you we mean business.” A search of the building found nothing. In April, arsonists destroyed one university vehicle and scorched another that were parked on the south side of Encina.

On May 23, the *San Jose Mercury* quoted a county fire official expressing growing frustration over multiple incidents of apparent arson that were “fast making Stanford University a fire zone.”

Just two weeks later, Encina burned. ☞

† This was a preliminary report released by fire officials, and was the subject of stories by the Stanford News Service and local newspapers on June 13 and 14. No copy of the preliminary or final report can be found, but it is clear that officials never labeled the fire as arson. Stanford Fire Department records stayed on campus when the department merged with Palo Alto in 1976. Those records eventually passed to the campus fire marshal in the Department of Environmental Health and Safety, and later apparently fell victim to a housecleaning. Santa Clara County eliminated its fire marshal’s office in the late 1970s and sent Stanford-related records to the campus fire marshal.

*continued from page 29*

Wiggins recalls that a contractor had been installing a sprinkler system in the east wing, which was scheduled for renovation as office space. The sprinkler system was just days or a few weeks from completion.

At its peak, firefighters directed about 7,000 gallons of water per minute on the blaze, turning stairwells into rivers. The lower floors of the east and central wings were damaged by smoke and water, and substantial amounts of water collected in the base-

payable files, and government grant and contract records. "Every time auditors wanted backup information, I would say they were burned in the fire," he recalls, smiling.

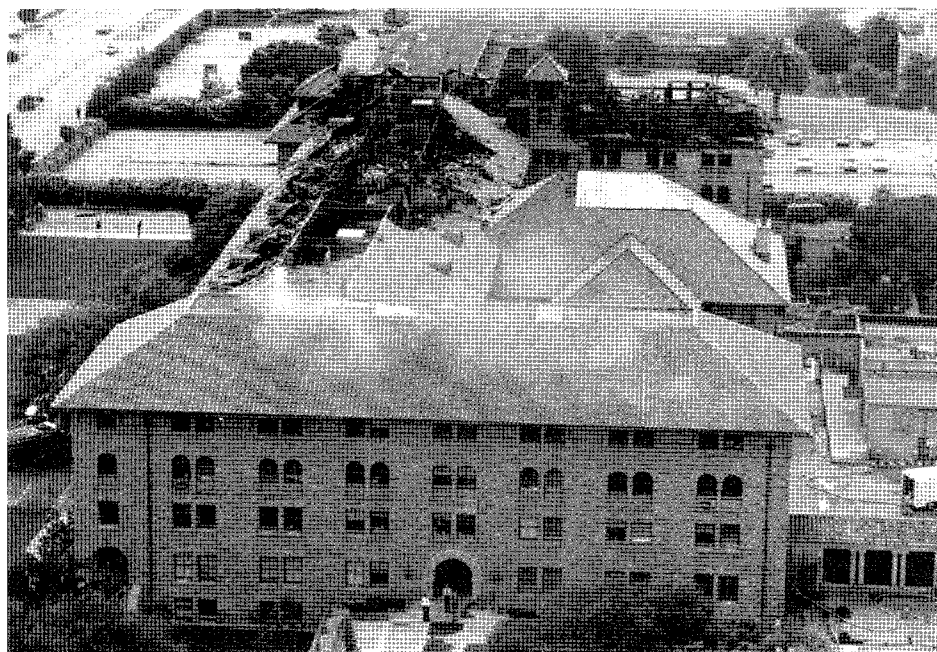
Niels Reimers, then head of the Office of Technology Licensing, says he lost old patent records and klystron license files. The Development Office lost donor information records. The Planning Office, where Gene Kershner worked, lost project history files. He jokes that the fire was a "forced housecleaning."

There was one silver lining: Because of impending plans to renovate the east wing's upper floors for office space in 1972, Susan Rosenberg of the University Archives had spent considerable time rummaging through materials stored there, and had transferred about 20 cartons of the most historically valuable records and approximately 800 photographs to the archives. Writing in the library bulletin two weeks after the fire, she said that she transferred "official files of the president's office for assorted years up to the 1920s; correspondence to and from David Starr Jordan. . . minutes from Committees of the Board of Trustees for the years 1904-1908; budget mem-

oranda from the World War I years; and assorted other university records."

After the fire, a new permanent red-tile roof, like the old one, was installed over the central wing, and an engineer designed a temporary flat roof to protect the seriously damaged east wing. Except for the basement, the east wing was boarded up, but eventually pigeons found their way in. After a "substantial" several-year build-up of pigeon droppings, an outside contractor had to be hired to remove the mess, according to Bruce Wiggins. Crews pushed the litter down a shoot installed at the back of the wing, into waiting dump trucks. After that, the east wing was boarded up *really* well.

Also boarded up was the south wing's original dining room, which the Planning Office had vacated in the 1970s. When the Loma Prieta earthquake hit on October 17, 1989, both the east and south wings were further weakened.



*An aerial view shows extensive damage to Encina's central attic and east wing.*

ment. The mainframe computer in the central wing basement somehow escaped damage and by noon on June 8 was back at work processing grades so seniors could graduate. Staff members recall using phone books, in lieu of sandbags, to block water that continued seeping from the central stairwell. Nevertheless, many worked in ankle-deep water cleaning up their offices, and the smell of smoke permeated the building for weeks.

In the east wing, the Personnel Office permanently moved from its first floor offices. Health Physics, which now occupied the basement, saw its space submerged in several feet of water, but returned after a few weeks.

Actual damage to administrative units was minimal. However, old records stored in the attic burned, as well as those stored in the upper floors of the wooden east wing. Frank Riddle, who later served as university controller, lost old payroll files, accounts



## — Encina Restored —

In 1995, Stanford's Board of Trustees approved a plan to restore historically significant Encina to its original splendor — plus some better engineering.

Work started in May 1997 and was finished in fall of 1998. Contractors first tackled the derelict east wing, giving it a long-overdue seismic upgrade. The exterior sandstone was refinished and the fifth floor rebuilt, bringing it back to its 1891 height. The roof was rebuilt in its original style — hipped with dormer windows. In addition, the east wing's central staircase was preserved. The two-story former dining and club room in the south wing was restored and made into a state-of-the-art conference center — the Bechtel Conference Center — that accommodates up to 230 people. Most of the original windows and wainscoting was salvaged and reused. Two-way audio and visual links and network access connect the center with other conference rooms — both within the university and around the world.

The Bechtel Conference Center opens down a short flight of stairs into Encina's main lobby. The lobby was also restored — along with the main entrance — to the style of its original 1891 appearance.

The Institute for International Studies occupies the east wing, the south wing, and most of the central wing. Total cost of the restoration was approximately \$30 million — sixty times Encina's original 1891 cost.

The second through fourth floors of the west wing and fourth floor of the central wing currently are being remodeled — at a cost of about \$5 million — for the Political Science Department, as well as some related programs, including Public Policy, which will move by fall 2000 from the Main Quad.

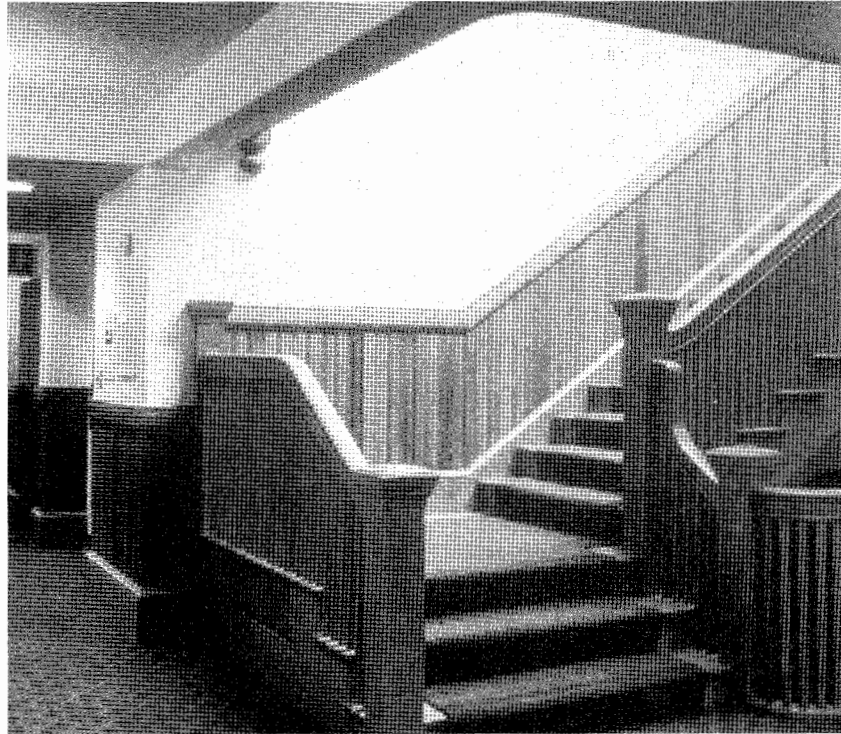
With the completion of this last move, Encina will be almost entirely an academic building.

Although Jane Stanford once wrote “my husband was always averse to using this building for any other than the purpose for which it was built,”<sup>52</sup> almost certainly this beautiful restoration would have changed his mind.

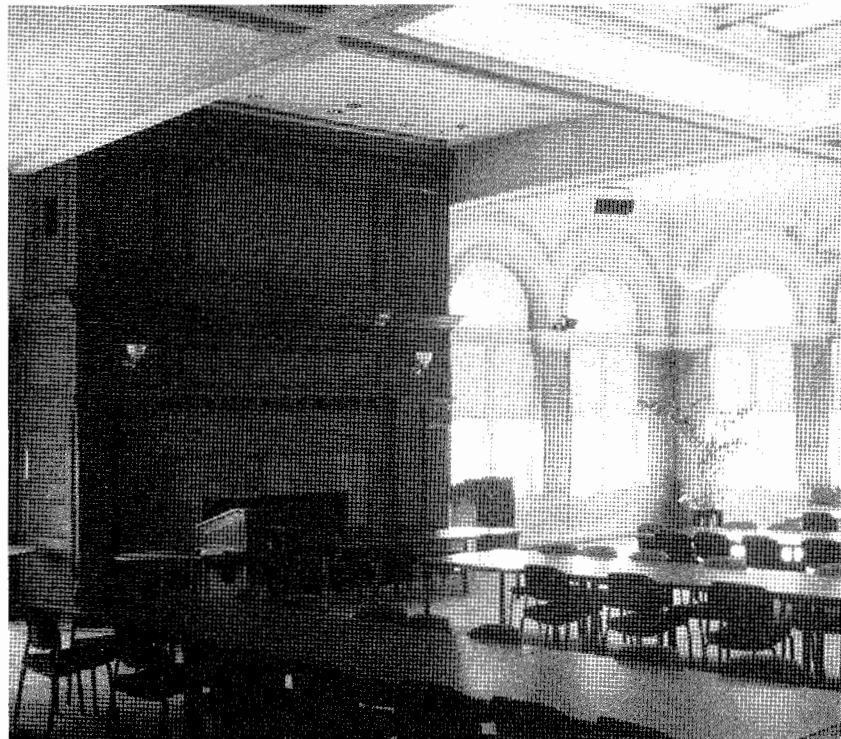
From a grand hotel trying to be a dormitory, Encina has, after more than a hundred years, emerged as a grand academic building.



*A short version of this story appeared in the September/October 1998 issue of Stanford magazine.*



*The east wing's main staircase, renovated in 1997-98. Many alumni remember Encina men winding fire hoses through the balusters and turning on the water. The inflated hoses sent broken balusters flying.*



*The restored grand fireplace in the Bechtel Conference Center. Workmen reassembled it using the original construction techniques with no nails. On the back sides, they found names and dates left by their predecessors 108 years earlier.*

In the interest of full disclosure, the authors wish to reveal the following:

*Claude Brinegar was an ASTP Encina resident (room 404) during winter and spring quarters of 1945. His memories: crowded, noisy, but little mischief. A few water bags were thrown at GIs walking by, and on one occasion his roommate set fire to a large cockroach, which then disappeared flaming into a crack in the wall. After a few anxious minutes, they decided the cockroach had not set Encina on fire.*

*His wife, Karen Bartholomew, worked in Encina Hall as a young staffer at News and Publications Service (third floor, central wing) in 1970. When Encina*

*was shut down by student protesters on May 1, she managed to reach her office by being pulled through a first-floor window despite efforts of some demonstrators who tried unsuccessfully to pull her back out. Once inside, she became a member of the Sleeping Bag Six. She also was one of the spectators at the Encina fire.*

*Claude holds three degrees from Stanford and is a retired oil executive; Karen, '71, worked at Stanford News Service for 25 years and has been a member of the Historical Society since its inception.*

## ENDNOTES

- 1 Walker was related to Coolidge; Olmsted and Richardson had been close friends and lived near each other in Brookline, Mass. Rybczynski, *Clearing in the Distance*, pp. 345, 371.
- 2 Turner, *Founders*. At one point Stanford rejected a key design concept by saying to Coolidge, "A Landscape Architect and an Architect might be disappointed but he was going to have the buildings the way he wanted them," p. 33.
- 3 Turner, pp. 23-24.
- 4 Elliott, *The First Twenty-Five Years*, p. 592.
- 5 From the original *Sacramento Bee* text it is obvious that this is Coolidge speaking (Olmsted was in Massachusetts). Elliott sharply shortens the text, does not mention Coolidge, and attributes the ground plan to Olmsted. Elliott, p. 600-602; the full *Sacramento Bee* text is in Stanford Univ. Archives, SC33f, Book 6, pp. 62-64.
- 6 Berner, *Mrs. Leland Stanford: An Intimate Account*, p. 76. This event was earlier described by Berner in the *Stanford Alumnus*, February 1915, pp. 213-14. Elliott, in one of his rare errors, mistakenly places Silvaplana in Austria. Elliott, p. 37.
- 7 Berner, p. 76. Writing on April 12, 1889, Coolidge says: "We have sent to Menlo the plans for the excavation of the dormitory in its site as agreed upon. . . ." Elliott, p. 37.
- 8 The school appears to have been the Oneida Institute of Science and Industry, Whitesborough, NY. Tutorow, *Leland Stanford: Man of Many Careers*, p. 5; Berner, *Alumnus*, February 15, 1915.
- 9 Yee, *On the Origin of Spaces*, pp. 2-3.
- 10 In the interest of social equality, the Stanfords also decided, at the last minute, to build a smaller version of Encina for the women — about one-third its size — on the western edge of the front of campus. (It was assumed that a smaller number of women would enroll.) After sandstone foundations were placed, it was discovered that it could not possibly be finished in time for opening day. The foundations were then abandoned and a simpler hall was built of reinforced concrete, in about 100 days, about 500 feet to the east.
- 11 Univ. Archives, SC125, Box 1, Folder 3. It's tempting to attribute a possible hidden meaning in these names: "Live oak" for the lively and vigorous young men Stanford expected; "White oak" for the purity of the young women.
- 12 University Circular of Information No. 6, Dec. 1891, p. 61. E. Elliott, *It Happened This Way*, p. 202. Some 250 students were expected.
- 13 Boutelle quote from *The Stanford Century*, p. 22; Anderson from letter to his wife, August 16, 1891, in MO51, Special Collections; Batchelder from *First Year at Stanford*, also in Univ. Archives, SC37, Series IV.
- 14 Both quotes are from *First Year at Stanford*, chapter "Letters Home."
- 15 University Circular of Information No. 6, December 1891, p. 61.
- 16 *The Stanford Century*, p. 25.
- 17 This quote and those in the following three paragraphs are from *First Year at Stanford*, chapter "Letters Home."
- 18 "Who Stole the President's Wine?," *Stanford* magazine, June 1991, pp. 44-46.
- 19 Elliott, p. 420.
- 20 Elliott, p. 421.
- 21 *First Year at Stanford*, p. 78.
- 22 *First Year at Stanford*, p. 97.
- 23 *First Year at Stanford*, pp. 99-100; 128-130.
- 24 Letter from Wilbur to his sister Celia, October 2, 1892.
- 25 E. Elliott, *It Happened This Way*, p. 206.
- 26 *San Francisco Call*, November 19, 1892, in Univ. Archives, SC15, Vol. 2, p. 182.
- 27 Elliott, p. 426, observed that while there was also tubbing in the fraternities, it was not the "vendetta" it was in Encina. "Its real home was in the big dormitory."
- 28 Elliott, p. 423.
- 29 A good detailed account of the slow evolution of Encina's governance can be found in Korff, *Student Control and University Government at Stanford*, 1975.

- 30 Korff, pp. 17 and 27.
- 31 The monitors for 1899 included Carl Hayden, '00, president of the Encina Club [and future congressman and senator], *Daily Palo Alto*, September 27, 1899.
- 32 Korff, pp. 24-27.
- 33 Univ. Archives, SC16, Box 2, Folder "R.L. Green - Encina Disturbances."
- 34 Elliott, p. 430.
- 35 Univ. Archives, SC16, Box 2, Folder "R.L. Green - Encina Disturbances."
- 36 *Daily Palo Alto*, December 21, 1905; Univ. Archives, SC16, Box 2.
- 37 Allen was re-admitted the following year and graduated in 1907 with a degree in history. He was briefly editor and publisher of the *Sacramento Union*.
- 38 *Daily Palo Alto*, February 8, 1906.
- 39 Elliott, p. 435
- 40 Elliott, p. 435
- 41 Univ. Archives, SC58, Series I-A, Box 74, Folder 699. Caroline A. Miller to DSJ, August 15, 1911.
- 42 Univ. Archives, SC27, Box 7, Folder 3.
- 43 Univ. Archives, SC16, Box 2, Committee meeting minutes, September 6, 1911.
- 44 A large mess tent with a capacity to feed 1,200 was temporarily erected behind Encina. *President's Report*, 1918.
- 45 See Yee for a thorough discussion of these and the post-war student dorms.
- 46 David Jacobson oral history, Univ. Archives, 0900/Jacobson.
- 47 Data from *President's Reports* for 1944 and 1945.
- 48 *President's Report*, 1947, p. 403.
- 49 The model moved downstairs to the Planning Office when the campaign ended in 1964, and has remained with the Planning Office at its various locations.
- 50 Details in this and the next paragraph from the Fire Department's "company run report" in Univ. Archives, SC122, Box 169, Folder "Fire Department 1946-74."
- 51 Controller Frank Riddle interview with authors.
- 52 Univ. Archives, SC33b, Series 1, Box 2, Folder 19, Jane Stanford to David Starr Jordan, April 3, 1897. Jordan had asked permission to turn part of Encina into "recitation" rooms.

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- Yee, Paul, *On the Origin of Spaces: The Evolution of Stanford Dormitories, 1891-1992* (unpublished senior thesis, Program in Urban Studies, Stanford University, 1994).
- Interviews in February and March 2000 with current and retired university employees named in text, plus: Dwight Adams, Robert Augsburg, Elbridge Bacon, Jean Barnes, Alan Grundmann, John Holmes, Leo Holub, Bob Kavinoky, Joe Leung, Jack Lynd, Rosemary McAndrews, Daryl Pearson, Hal Raphael, Ed Shaw, Doug Williams, and many others, especially members of the retirees' monthly lunch group. Special thanks to Bruce Wiggins.

# Stanford Through the Century

## 100 YEARS AGO (1900)

Morning classes were canceled on Jan. 19 as students helped move 45,000 volumes to the new **Thomas Welton Stanford Library**, Building 160. Prominently located on the front of the Outer Quadrangle and topped with a decorative dome, the structure honored Leland Stanford's youngest brother. The library started in 1891 with 3,000 volumes in Building 1 on the Inner Quadrangle. It continued on the Outer Quad until the new Main Library opened in 1919; thereafter the name was dropped and the structure remodeled into the Administration Building.

A simple ceremony on Jan. 29 marked the laying of the cornerstone for **Memorial Church**, Mrs. Stanford's tribute to her husband. Scriptures were read and a student choir sang hymns, concluding with "Hail, Stanford, Hail." Mrs. Stanford placed various mementos and documents in the cornerstone. San Francisco architect Clinton Day developed the church plans based on an 1887 design by Boston architects Shepley, Ruttan and Coolidge that was loosely modeled after Boston's Trinity Church. Jane Stanford ordered the addition of Venetian mosaics to the façade and interior.

The Faculty Athletic Committee banned **women's intercollegiate team sports**, but allowed intramural sports to continue. The alumni magazine said the "ruling is made for the purpose of guarding the health of the individual player."

Alumnus **Ray Lyman Wilbur**, '96, A.M. '98, was appointed assistant professor of physiology. He had graduated from Cooper Medical College in San Francisco, where he lectured and had charge of the physiological library. He would become university president in 1916.

1900

2000

BY CATHERINE C. PECK, '35

## 75 YEARS AGO (1925)

Coach Knute Rockne and his "Four Horsemen" from Notre Dame defeated Stanford 27-10 in the **Rose Bowl** on New Year's Day despite Stanford's great statistics: The Cardinal gained 316 yards from scrimmage to Notre Dame's 186, and completed 11 of 21 forward passes, compared to 3 of 10 for the Irish. Stanford fullback Ernie Nevers, in his most famous collegiate game, played the entire 60 minutes on two previously broken ankles, each tightly wrapped with tape and part of an inner tube. With little feeling below the knees, Nevers set a Rose Bowl record with 34 carries for 114 yards. He also made numerous tackles on defense. Unfortunately, two of his passes were intercepted and run back for touchdowns. During his overall Stanford career, Nevers led the football team to a 22-5-1 record. He earned 11 letters in football, basketball, track and baseball, and once pitched 37 consecutive scoreless innings. He later played professional football, baseball and basketball. In 1969, Nevers was named to the NCAA All-Time All-America football team.

The World Federation of Education Associations awarded former university **President David Starr Jordan** the \$25,000 Raphael Herman Prize for his educational plan for world peace.

A national survey of academic department heads ranked Stanford's **graduate programs** 14th; Chicago was first.

Three Oxford students challenged a Stanford team in campus debate on **Prohibition**. The witty Brits claimed that liquor does more good than harm by binding together human beings and building up civilization. The debate was not formally judged, but when asked its opinion, the American audience supported Prohibition 730 to 229. (The Prohibition amendment to the U.S. Constitution, adopted in 1919, was repealed in 1933.)

The **Euphronia Debating Society** held a series of open forums on three issues: alleged professionalism among Stanford athletes, university rules against drinking on campus, and the question "what should be the college man's attitude regarding race prejudice?"

## 50 YEARS AGO (1950)

Alumnus Guy C. Bowman, '02, and his wife established a building fund for an **alumni headquarters** with a donation of \$20,000. Bowman, a mathematics graduate, made his money in the heating and ventilating business. The independent Alumni Association occupied cramped quarters in Building 300, adjacent to Engineering Corner on the Outer Quad.

After years spread among three buildings, the **Law School** moved to its new home, Building 160. The former Administration Building had been gutted and rebuilt with four floors of Law School offices, classrooms, a "courtroom" and the law library. Alumni contributed \$250,000 toward the nearly \$900,000 cost. The school formerly occupied Inner Quad buildings across from the church.

25 YEARS AGO (1975)

The Board of Trustees approved a tuition increase of 12.9 percent, to \$3,810 a year, beginning fall quarter. Officials said that financial aid would top \$8 million, plus \$2 million in campus jobs and loans. Approximately 55 percent of undergraduates received some form of financial assistance.

All men's and women's sports programs merged under a new Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation, spurred by federal regulations that required colleges to provide equal opportunities for women's sports.

The schools of Education, Business, Engineering and Medicine all ranked among the top three nationally, according to a new survey of professional school deans published in *Change* magazine. Education ranked first, Business second to Harvard by a narrow margin, Engineering tied for second and Medicine tied for third.

Nearly two-thirds of freshmen women plan to seek medical, legal or doctorate degrees — twice the level of five years ago.

The library acquired its four millionth "book," the complete archives of John Steinbeck's *Cannery Row*. The archive included Steinbeck's original pencil manuscript, typescript, and galley proofs corrected by the author, in addition to Steinbeck's own copy of the first edition.

Cattie Peck's column premiered December 1979 in the *Stanford Observer*, and is now appearing in *Sandstone & Tile* and *Stanford Magazine*. With this column, Cattie is retiring.

Donald T. Carlson

News of the death on Jan. 5 in Taos, N.M., of Donald T. Carlson, Director of Community Relations Emeritus at Stanford, recalls Don's role in the founding of the Stanford Historical Society in 1976 and his countless contributions to the organization over the years.

Don served as a public relations officer under four different Stanford presidents between 1951 and his retirement in 1986: Wallace Sterling, Kenneth Pitzer, Richard Lyman and Donald Kennedy. He acted in several capacities, gaining a reputation for his competence, humor and unwavering loyalty to the institution.

A man of many talents and many friends, Carlson was asked by President Sterling to open a Stanford office in Southern California, where he helped build a base for Stanford's first major post-war fund-raising campaign. Upon his return to the campus, he addressed numerous vexing public relations issues. They ranged from Stanford land use controversies to provocative anti-war protests on the campus. He became known for his adept responses to vituperative letters from alumni and others on a range of contentious matters.

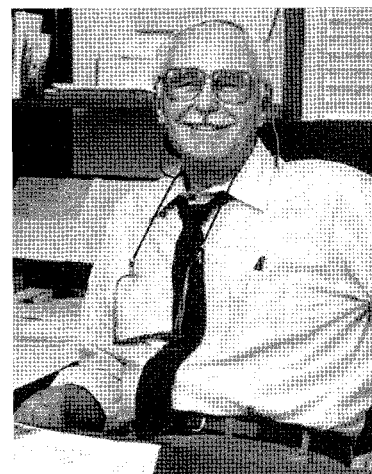
Don was involved in efforts to develop the Stanford Shopping Center and Research Park, and to bring electric power to the new Stanford Linear Accelerator Center. He played a part in defeating an ambitious proposal to build a 500-acre dam on Stanford lands, and he worked to widen and extend Sand Hill Road on the campus to El Camino Real.

His love of the university and its traditions shone through all that he undertook. When the historical society was first proposed Don was quick to respond. He became a member of the first extended board of directors and helped nurture the infant organization. Largely through his efforts, the Society obtained a desk and a small meeting space in the University Relations Office in Building 170. His wife Corrine became a member of the board, as well, and served as the first membership secretary.

The late Harvey Hall, former president of the Society, once reported: "The Stanford Historical Society, now a flourishing organization, might not have survived its creaky beginnings if Don had not been there to give it continuity and a home in his office."

Donald Winbigler, another former president added: "Donald Carlson has given generous, incomparatively effective and well-nigh irreplaceable services to the Society."

Society minutes from 1976 to 1986 are studded with references to Don's many interests and accomplishments. He quietly and tirelessly pursued issue after issue: the installation of plaques in Memorial Auditorium



STANFORD NEWS SERVICE

*continued on next page*

to commemorate the Stanford dead of the Korean and Vietnam wars; the relocation of the clock mechanism from the original Memorial Church tower; the safekeeping and repair of the vandalized bronze statue of the Stanford family; the establishment of a plaque commemorating Eadweard Muybridge's pioneering photographic work at the Stanford Farm.

He was a member of the University's Centennial planning committee, and he strove to bring greater attention to the annual Founder's Day observances. Don took it upon himself to brief generations of student guides on the University's history so that they could report it accurately to visitors, and he proposed that new employees be similarly informed as part of their orientation. When a program to record the oral histories of faculty members and administrators was begun, Carlson immediately joined in the effort.

Donald Carlson stands tall among the men and women who created and sustained the historical society. The organization owes much to him for his efforts throughout its first ten years.

In addition to his many official duties, Don found time to co-author a handsome illustrated booklet about the Stanford Memorial Church. It was a place close to his heart, and it was the setting of his memorial service on March 15.

He is survived by Corrine and their three daughters: Cristen Osborne of Palo Alto, Ann Robertson of Taos, and Marsha Carlson of Oakland, and by three granddaughters.

The family asks that donations be made to The Donald T. Carlson Memorial Fund for Summer Stipend in Creative Writing at the university.

— Andy Doty

## Alf E. Brandin

Alf E. Brandin, the driving force behind Stanford's post-war land development program and a former Historical Society president, died Nov. 18 at Stanford Hospital following a stroke. He was 87.

A 1936 graduate of Stanford, Brandin gained early fame for his exploits on the football field. Later, he was the university business manager and then vice president for business affairs.

His two terms as Historical Society president — 1991 to 1993 — coincided with the centennial of Stanford's October 1, 1891, opening day and the centennial of the first Big Game in 1892. Brandin was one of several featured guests at a "rally" celebrating Big Game Heroes, discussing his days as a member of the Vow Boys with master of ceremonies Bob Murphy before an audience of 500.

He worked hard to put the society on a sound financial footing. Also during Brandin's presidency, the society published a biography of Stanford's fourth president, Donald B. Tresidder.

Brandin came to campus in fall 1932, with help from Southern California businessman Ralph "Big Jim" Reynolds, class of 1910, whose son Jim was Brandin's best friend. At age 12, Brandin had moved in with the family when his parents relocated from Pasadena to a ranch near the desert town of Blythe. Brandin later spearheaded a drive to raise money for the Ralph "Jim" Reynolds Memorial Scholarship in Athletics to honor his patron.

At Stanford, Brandin played center on the football team that vowed as freshmen never to lose to USC, a promise they kept. They played in three Rose Bowls, winning one and losing two.

After graduation, Brandin went into the insurance business. He served in the Navy during World War II, rising to lieutenant commander.

In 1946, as hordes of returning servicemen flooded the campus, Donald Tresidder hired Brandin, then 33, as university business manager, with responsibility for operations and maintenance of buildings and grounds, student housing and food service, utilities, police and fire, farmlands, and the faculty housing area. Brandin also supervised building projects and budget control.

Tuition from the GI Bill provided Stanford a steady income stream, but more was needed, and soon Brandin suggested to Tresidder that the university put some of its land endowment to work. He experimented briefly with crops, without much success.

Noting that local residents went to San Francisco to shop, Brandin laid the groundwork for the shopping center on campus land, making initial contacts with trustee real estate advisor Colbert Coldwell and with the head of the Emporium, then San Francisco's largest department store. Trustees adopted his proposal, and the first store opened in September 1955.

He also played a key role, together with Provost Frederick Terman,



in developing the Stanford Industrial Park. The university retained architectural control over its light industrial tenants, including Varian Associates and Hewlett-Packard, requiring screened parking lots, deep landscaped setbacks, and lawns, uninterrupted by fences, so that from a distance there appeared to be long sweeps of lawn connecting the companies. This became known as the "Brandin Theory on Lawns."

In 1959, Brandin was appointed the university's first vice president for business affairs. He left Stanford in 1970 to join Utah International Inc. as senior vice president and member of its board of directors. He retired in 1980, but remained on the board for several years.

Brandin also served on several other corporate boards, and at Stanford was active on the Hoover Institution Board of Overseers, the Stanford Athletic Board, and the Advisory Board of Friends of Radiology. He was active on the board of the Senior Coordinating Council of the Palo Alto Area, and received the group's Lifetime of Achievement Award.

Brandin is survived by his wife, Pam, a Stanford alumna who, from 1964 to 1967, served as receptionist at the Stanford Business Office and then as his secretary. His first wife, Stanford classmate Marie Eck, died in 1980; he remarried in 1983. Also surviving are four sons from his first marriage and two stepdaughters. Other survivors include a sister, two brothers, 11 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

The family suggests donations to a favorite charity or to the Alf E. Brandin Family Scholarship, 301 Encina Hall, Stanford 94305-6076, to provide scholarships to students in intercollegiate athletics.

— KB

## John P. Steward

Former Historical Society board member John P. Steward, professor emeritus of microbiology and immunology, died of cancer on Feb. 5. He was 72.

Steward's primary activity at the medical school was his long service as associate dean for student affairs — from 1972 until his retirement in 1990. In that role, he was a mentor to generations of students, including a large number who went on to careers as faculty and administrators at other medical schools. Other students who were close to him include an astronaut and the principal writer for the television show "ER."

Born in Huntington Park, Calif., Steward was descended from an ancestor who arrived in New England two years after the *Mayflower*. Steward earned his bachelor's and medical degrees from Stanford. He served in the U.S. Navy as a flight surgeon in the Far East, and remained in the reserves after joining the Stanford faculty in 1960.

Invited to deliver the 1989 medical school commencement address, Steward focused on components of the Hippocratic Oath, emphasizing the need for compassion, humanity, and love in the practice of medicine and the care of patients.

He served on the Historical Society board in 1992-93. He organized a program on San Joaquin Valley Fever and the role of the medical school in its history. At the instigation of Rosamond Bacon and based on her research, he and a colleague wrote a major article for *Sandstone & Tile* (Vol. 17, No. 1, Winter 1993) on the brief but brilliant scientific career of Stanford alumna Nettie Stevens (class of 1899), who associated chromosomes with heredity.

In an interview with the Medical Center News Bureau after he was diagnosed with terminal cancer of the biliary tract, Steward said, "I've had the opportunity. . .no, the privilege of personally facing a life-threatening illness."

He went on to discuss how his life had changed: "Music means more to me now. Art does. Scenery does. And my friends' efforts to reach out and empathize and be supportive are just overwhelming. Life in general has changed, it feels like from black and white to Technicolor. I always thought that the way to depart was to have a sudden massive heart attack on the tennis court. But, wow, what I would have missed."

A classroom is being named in his honor at the medical school, and a scholarship has been established by the Stanford Friends of Music, on whose board he also served following his retirement.

There are no survivors. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Rector's Discretionary Fund at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto, 94306.

— KB

### CLARIFICATION

*A story in the last issue noted the deaths of two former board members, Eleanor Bark and Robert Butler, on July 5, 1999. It should have been noted that the deaths were unrelated.*

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Membership is open to all who are interested in Stanford history. Annual dues are: Currently registered students, \$10; individual, \$30; family, \$45; heritage, \$100; distinguished heritage, \$500; patron, \$1000. Make checks payable to Stanford Historical Society and mail to P.O. Box 20028, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94309. For further information, contact the Society at the above address, or call Carol Miller, office administrator, at 650-725-3332.

***Editors' Note:***

Our special thanks go to Pat White of the Stanford University Archives. Pat has contributed in spirit and in kind to many issues over the last 10 years, but her willingness to edit the last four issues of *Sandstone & Tile* was certainly above and beyond the call of duty.



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