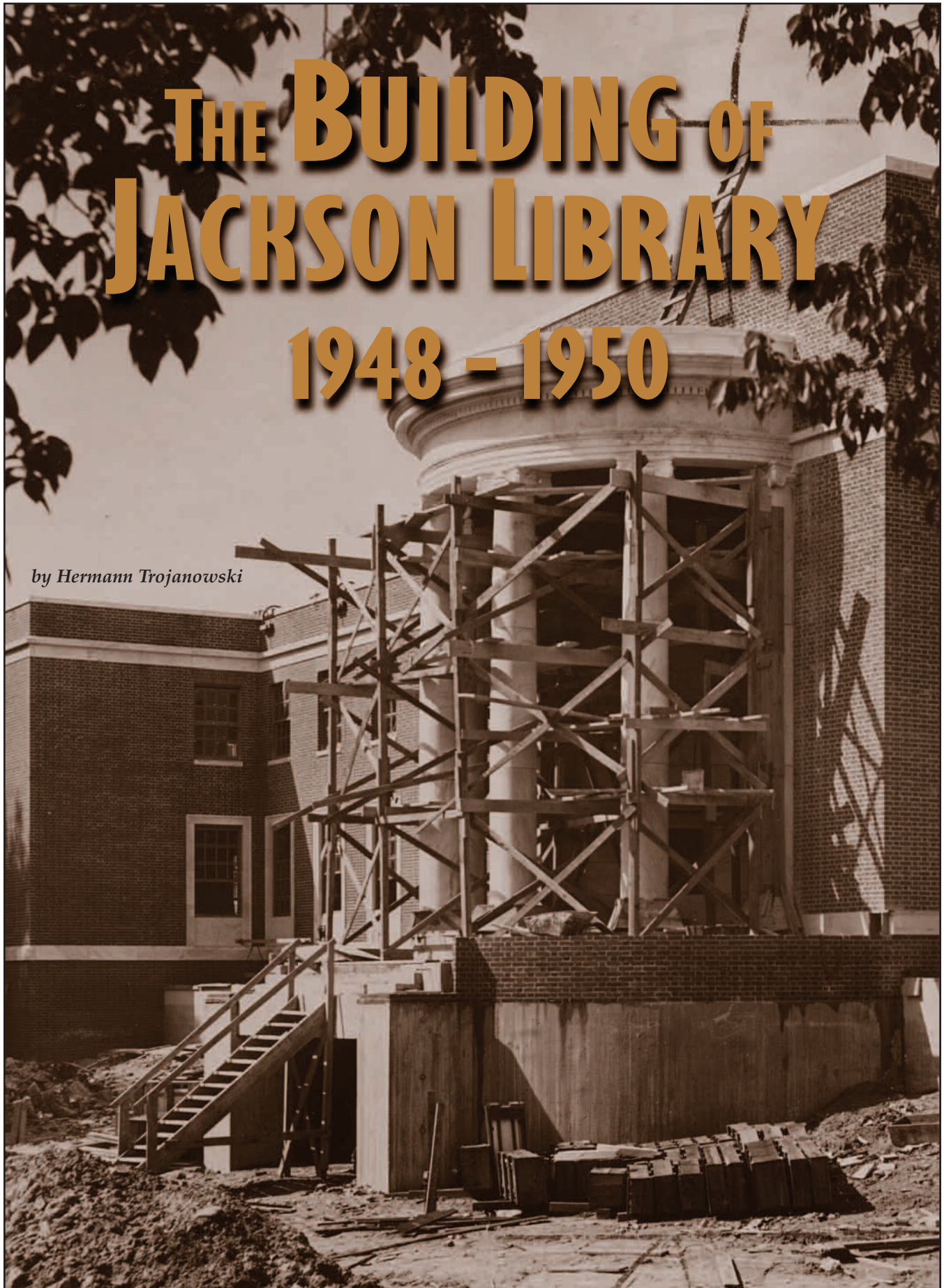


THE BUILDING OF JACKSON LIBRARY 1948 - 1950

by Hermann Trojanowski



On June 5, 2010, Jackson Library celebrated sixty years of service to The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Founding President Charles Duncan McIver once said, “A great library is the very heart of the literary life of a great institution,” — a statement even more true today than it was in the 1890s when the student population numbered several hundred. Today Jackson Library, as part of the University Libraries, serves a student population of approximately 18,000 with a collection of over a million books, more than 47,000 electronic and print journal subscriptions, over 500 electronic databases, and 640,000 federal government documents.

When the school first opened in 1892, the library consisted of a few books housed in a room of Main (now Foust) Building. The 1898 president’s report stated that one of the most pressing needs of the school was for a new library as the school had more books than the library room could hold.

In 1905, Andrew Carnegie donated \$15,000 for a new library building and \$3,868 for furniture and shelving stacks. Within fifteen years of its completion, the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated a little more than \$59,000 to enlarge the building. The Carnegie Library (now Forney Building) was partially destroyed by fire on September 15, 1932. During its reconstruction, the building was enlarged and was reopened in 1933.

By the late 1930s, a larger library building was needed for the growing student body; however, a new library had to wait until after World War II. In 1947, North Carolina General Assembly appropriated



funds to erect a new library building. On September 27, 1948, Chancellor Walter Clinton Jackson broke ground for the new building, which would be named in his honor in 1960. Northup & O’Brien, of Winston-Salem, designed the new library in a traditional style using sand-finish colonial face brick and Georgia marble for exterior materials. On October 2, 1948, construction began on the 99,330 square foot building.



Built to be fireproof, the building was constructed with steel framing and a reinforced concrete ribbed slab floor and roof. The structural columns were placed on an eighteen-foot grid except in large open spaces such in the lecture hall or main lobby. All floors were designed for a live load of 100 pounds per square foot. The interior was constructed of terrazzo floors, plaster walls with metal base boards, and perforated 12” x 12” x 1” acoustical tiles.


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The first-floor vestibule walls were made of Loreda Chiaro marble and the main lobby walls of rift-sawn white oak with a lime washed finish. The exterior doors were of metal and interior doors of flush veneer with a solid core, and the double hung windows were of steel.

The building was completed in March of 1950 at a cost of approximately \$1,232,118. In May 1950, the books were moved from the Carnegie Library to the new building, which opened its doors on June

5, 1950. The new library easily met the needs of the student body with a seating capacity of 1,384 and shelf space for 300,000 volumes.

The library building served the school well until the late 1960s when the growing student population and expanding book collection made it necessary to add a nine story tower to the existing building. As Jackson Library celebrates its 60th year, it remains as McIver envisioned: the heart of a great institution. 



University Yearbook Website Launched

by David Gwynn and Kathelene Smith

The University Libraries have created a new website for those interested in browsing the yearbook collection in its University Archives.

The site, found at <http://libcdm1.uncg.edu/PineNeedles.php> covers the years 1902-1993. Visitors to the site may browse the publications and see actual pages showing the record of the school for any given year.

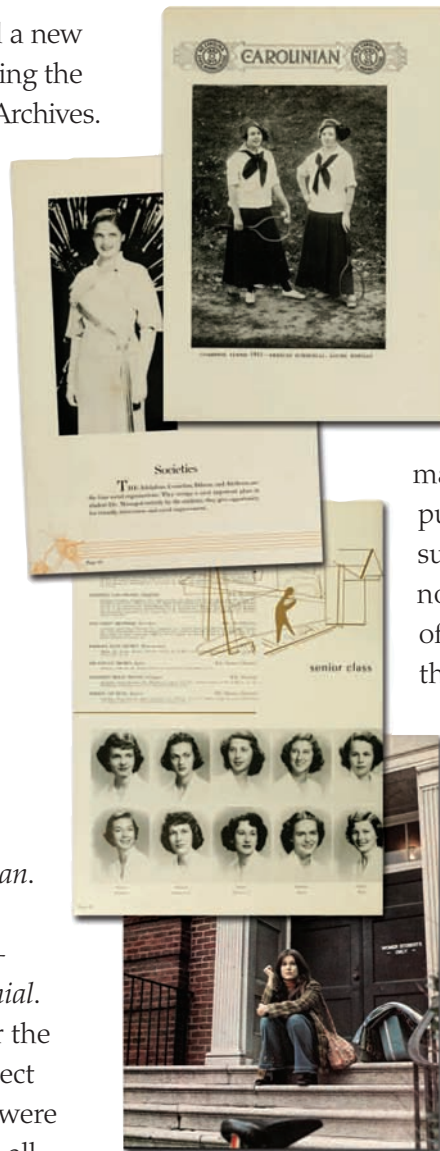
The earliest publication of the University yearbook was the *Decennial of the North Carolina State Normal and Industrial College*. Published in 1902 by the Cornelian and Adelpian literary societies, the *Decennial* included the history of the first ten years of the college, a brief chronicle of each class, and photographs of students, faculty members, and organizations.

From 1909 to 1917, the yearbook existed under the name *The Carolinian*. The first edition was dedicated to President Charles D. McIver and followed a similar format to the *Decennial*. While the “annuals” remained under the wing of the societies, they were subject to social distractions. No yearbooks were published in 1912 and 1916 because all time, energy, and funds were devoted to the elaborate Old English Pageants (May Day Celebrations).

As World War I came to an end, publication was sometimes sporadic and there were no yearbooks in 1918 or 1919. Instead, in 1919, the senior class produced *The Cardinal*. More like a scrapbook than a yearbook, photographs of classmates were pasted into the book along with handwritten and hand-illustrated pictures.

In 1919, with interest growing in establishing a school newspaper, it was agreed that the paper would be published under the name *The Carolinian*, the yearbook would be called *Pine Needles*, and the *State Normal Magazine* would be renamed *Coraddi*.

No longer under the jurisdiction of the societies,



the first edition of *Pine Needles* was sponsored by the senior class and as in modern versions, included photographs of students and faculty, group pictures of athletic teams and societies, and representations of musical and literary clubs. In 1929, the responsibility of *Pine Needles* passed to the Student Government Association.

By the 1990s, yearbooks on many college campuses ceased publication due to lack of student support and interest. UNCG was no exception and the last edition of *Pine Needles* was published on this campus in 1993.

Coordination and support for digitization activities was provided by the Digital Projects Office of the University Libraries at UNCG, and the online collection is hosted and maintained by the Libraries' Electronic Resources and Information Technologies (ERIT) Department using CONTENTdm software. The University Yearbooks physical collection is maintained in the Libraries' Martha Blakeney

Hodges Special Collections and University Archives.

The collection was digitized through the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center (www.digitalnc.org/), which operates in conjunction with the State Library of North Carolina's NC ECHO (North Carolina Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) project, supported with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act. The digital materials are also housed and are publicly available at The Internet Archive (www.archive.org/).

For more information about the collection, contact David Gwynn, Digital Projects Coordinator for the University Libraries, at jdgwynn@uncg.edu or by phone at 336-256-2606. 