

August 1965

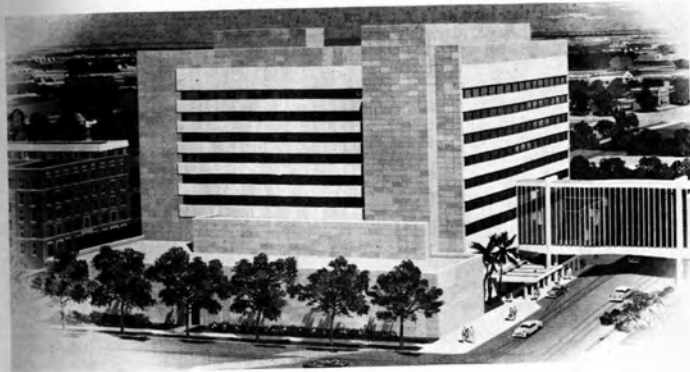
... St. Joseph Hospital ...

Catholic Physicians' Guilds

Follow this and additional works at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq>

Recommended Citation

Catholic Physicians' Guilds (1965) "... St. Joseph Hospital ...," *The Linacre Quarterly*: Vol. 32 : No. 3 , Article 14.
Available at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/lnq/vol32/iss3/14>



. . . St. Joseph Hospital . . .

St. Joseph Hospital in Houston, one link in a chain of 25 institutions of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, is rich in heritage and history.

In 1887 six sisters from the motherhouse in Galveston established Houston's first general hospital in a pre-civil war frame house with two smaller dwellings. Although the sisters encountered mistrust and misunderstanding, their heroic efforts during a smallpox epidemic in 1890 won the hearts and admiration of Houston's citizenry.

In order to meet the increasing needs of the sick, new buildings were constructed in 1895 and 1919; in 1937 a maternity and children's unit was added increasing the hospital's capacity to 350, the largest in Houston. Today St. Joseph's complex covers almost five square blocks in downtown Houston, the result of more than 75 years of continuous effort by the Sisters of Charity and their innumerable friends and benefactors.

Today the sisters, emulating the spirit of their pioneering predecessors, are creating a new St. Joseph's, a \$13,000,000 development program, the biggest in the hospital's history—an ultramodern 10-story main building, complete renovation of all other existing facilities, and construction of a new 6-story wing.

The hospital's present bed capacity of 606 will be increased to over 950; its facilities include 17 operating rooms, 8 new radiographic rooms, and special units for cardiovascular and cardiopulmonary diagnostic work, electroencephalography, nuclear medicine, and others.

Now affiliated with the University of Texas School of Medicine at Galveston, St. Joseph is greatly expanding its educational activities in medicine. Dr. James E. Dailey is the full-time Director of Medical Education with part-time directors in surgery, medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, and pediatrics.

Rotating internships and residency training are approved in anesthesiology, medicine, general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, pathology, and radiology. In addition approved courses are provided in x-ray technology, medical technology, medical record library science, and licensed vocational nursing. Professional nursing training

is offered through the hospital's affiliation with the Department of Nursing of Sacred Heart Dominican College.

One of six such specialized services in the nation, St. Joseph's Cardiac Work Evaluation Unit has been selected by the American Heart Association at the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for examining appeals cases: analyzing cardiovascular and pulmonary systems, analyzing the demands of specific jobs, and matching the physical capabilities of the cardiac patient to his job demands.

At the present time the hospital is also being considered to construct a special coronary heart disease intensive care unit, the only one of its kind in Texas.

The future holds bright promise for this remarkable institution. Plans call for the construction of an animal laboratory for surgical research and technical instruction. In order to provide for one of today's greatest needs, a psychiatric day unit is scheduled to open this Fall. Included in this unit will be a day center for adults in group therapy, a 28-bed inpatient area, and a day hospital for emotionally disturbed children.

Known as the Space City, Houston's growth has rapidly changing health needs. In a city renowned for its medical facilities St. Joseph Hospital is ready to meet these challenges — those of today as well as those of tomorrow.