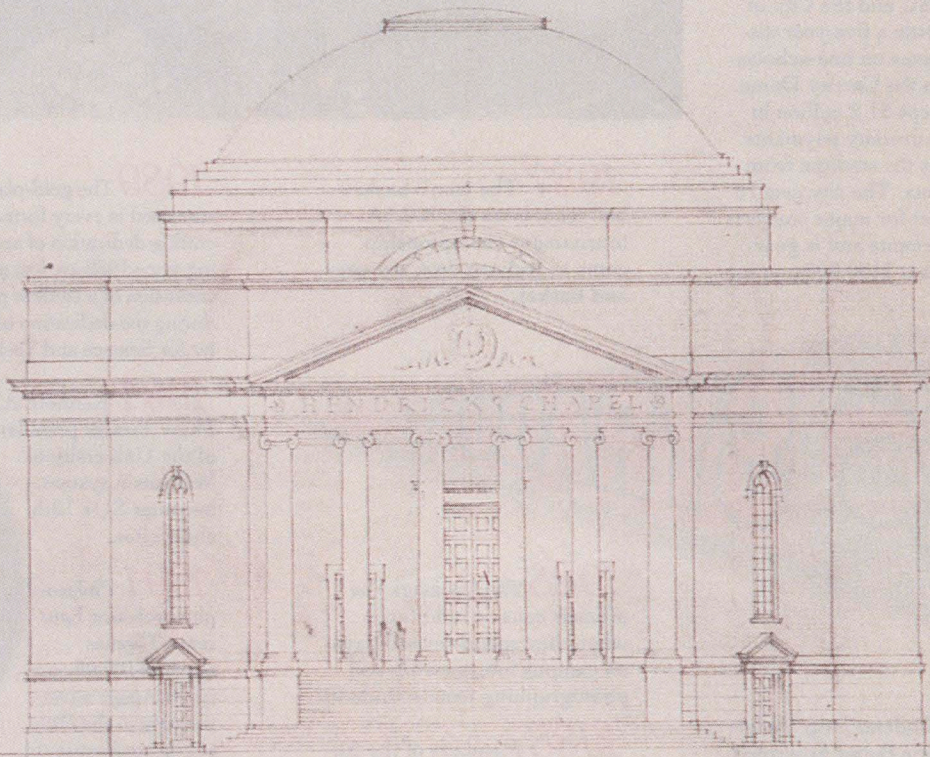




125 YEARS



FRONT ELEVATION

PHYSICAL ATTRACTION

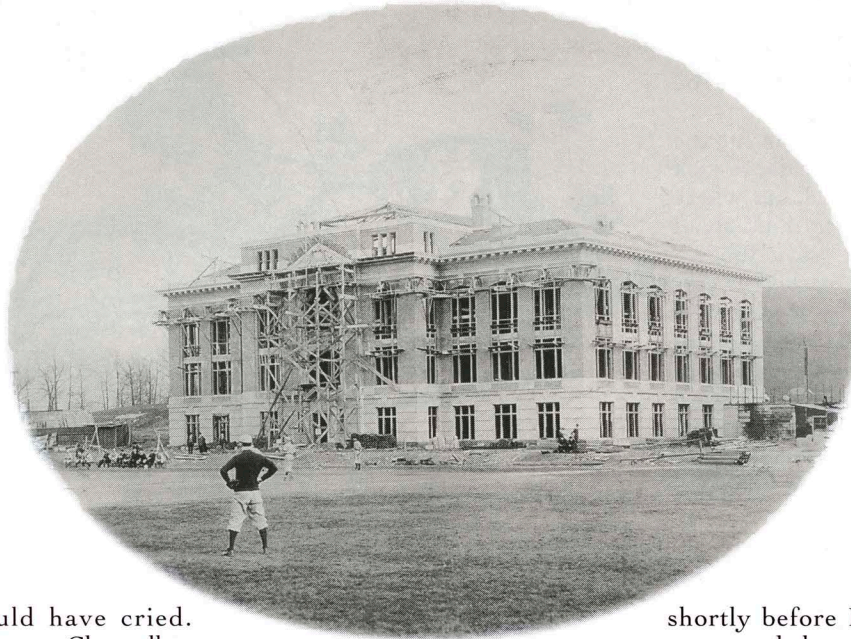
Syracuse University has always been about people and programs, books and blackboards, but its most tangible asset remains a shapely campus.

By Bob Hill

SCHEME II

PROPOSED CHAPEL FOR SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF JOHN RUTLEDGE FORD
& DWIGHT JAMES BAYM
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS



Bowne Hall, opened in 1907, has undergone several recent refurbishments.

Melvin Eggers could have cried. “Around the time I became Chancellor, my wife and I would sometimes take walks around the campus at night, and I’d just shake my head. I’d look at the old, dilapidated buildings, the derelict pre-fabs, the 75-year-old wood-frame structures in a constant state of disrepair. Buildings were crumbling, bathrooms were run-down, there were loading docks in full public view. I’d see all this and I’d think, ‘Am I Chancellor of this, too?’ We were creating the wrong image.”

The year was 1971 and Eggers’ list of priorities, already long and ambitious, soon included a campus make-over. He authorized selling University properties north of Adams Street and east of Comstock Avenue. He poured the revenue into refurbishing the older buildings on campus: Lyman, Smith, Bowne, and Carnegie halls, and the Hall of Languages. Electrical, plumbing, and heating systems—and roofs—were replaced in a different building each year. Cosmetic improvements were made when feasible.

At the same time, many of the wood-frame structures and Quonset huts housing programs, departments, and services were reevaluated. “We had a slogan, ‘Fix ’em up, tear ’em down, or sell ’em,’” Eggers said. “We couldn’t let them go on as is.”

A surge of new construction began with the 1980 opening of the Carrier Dome. The Comstock Art Facility followed in 1982. Then came the Crouse-Hinds School of Management Building (1983), the Schine Student Center (1985), the Center for Science and Technology (1988), and Flanagan Gymnasium, the Shaffer Art Building, and the Goldstein Student Center (all opened in 1990). Plans for a companion building to Maxwell Hall were completed

shortly before Eggers’ 1991 retirement, and the newest campus structure, Melvin A. Eggers Hall, was opened in January 1994 on the former site of Holden Observatory, which was moved 190 feet to the west.

Eggers further polished the campus by making a greater commitment to its landscaping and creating a sculpture court in the corridor between Shaffer and Bowne. He also began a process that resulted in the 1993 purchase of several campus streets from the city, including parts of University Place, College Place, and University Avenue. That move reduced traffic within the University and improved the ambience of the campus.

All these initiatives were undertaken by Eggers to send an emphatic message to present and potential students and their parents. “If visitors see this outfit is concerned about the condition of its physical plant and concerned about having an attractive appearance and looking after details,” reasoned Eggers, “it’s probably safe to say there’s also a genuine concern for the more fundamental and academic endeavors of the University, the not-so-visible aspects of campus.”

The opening of Eggers Hall culminated a 40-year era of physical expansion that united a hodgepodge of buildings into an orderly and attractive campus. “The physical identity of the campus is much better than it was even five years ago,” says Bruce Abbey, dean of the School of Architecture. “There’s finally a sense of completeness about the campus that was not there before. The last piece fell into place with the building of Eggers Hall.”

The only major construction during the remainder of the nineties will be the result of past plans—another wing is

**THE UNIVERSITY
HAS SPENT THE
PAST 25 YEARS
POLISHING ITS
MOST PRIZED
POSSESSION—
THE CAMPUS.**

being added to Manley Field House and the College of Law will be expanded.

"This will be a good time for the University to catch its breath, to look around at what we have and where we've come from, and to think about what we can do with it," says Abbey.

The University has reached its current physical state by means of a meandering route. SU's history includes four master plans for the campus, each reflecting a specific vision of what the University should become. All fell short of their ultimate goals, yet each made a significant contribution to campus architecture.

THE PECK PLAN

Forty-one students were attending classes in rented space in downtown Syracuse when the Rev. Jesse T. Peck, chairman of the board of trustees, unveiled the University's first campus plan in 1871. He outlined a strategy that called for seven similarly styled buildings, each devoted to a single academic discipline. Among them were a Hall of Science, a Hall of Philosophy, a Hall of History, and a Hall of Languages, which became the University's first building.

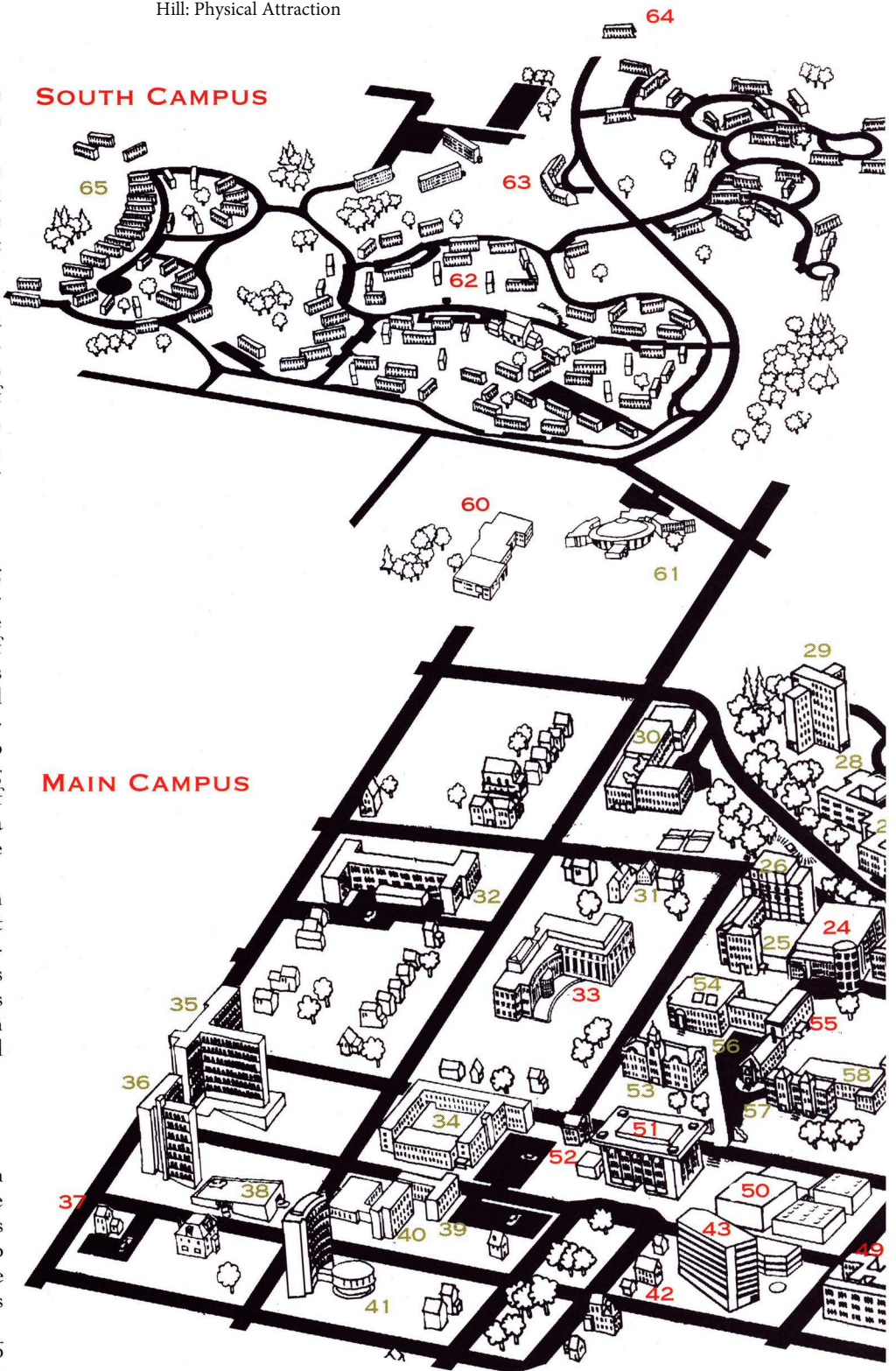
The Panic of 1873 struck soon after the Hall of Languages opened. It plunged the nation into a harsh economic depression and curtailed Peck's dream, forcing the Hall of Languages to stand alone until the construction of Holden Observatory in 1887 and Crouse College in 1889.

THE REVELS AND HALLENBECK PLAN

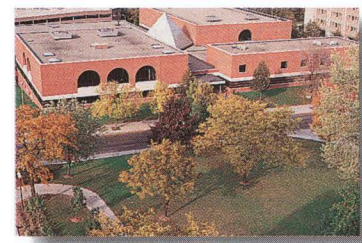
The University began to mushroom almost a century ago. Under the iron-fisted leadership of James Roscoe Day, chancellor from 1894 to 1922, enrollment increased by more than 6,000 students and 11 colleges were created.

This growth prompted the 1906 work of architecture professors Frederick W. Revels and Earl Hallenbeck, who planned to convert the Old Oval, an athletic field south of the Hall of Languages, into a Great Quadrangle. Their work resulted in the construction of Bowne, Carnegie, Sims, and Machinery halls and Archbold Gymnasium, which were all completed by 1909.

A landscaper, hired to develop a plan for the Quad itself, submitted 17



CROUSE-HINDS SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT BUILDING



SCHINE STUDENT CENTER

Syracuse University has expanded from a smattering of lonely structures atop a wind-blown hill to an eclectic, tightly woven city of structures. In many respects, the campus spent its first 100 years growing up and the last 25 years maturing. This legend and the accompanying map have been color-coded to highlight—in red—campus expansion since 1970, when the University celebrated its centennial. The legend includes the year the University opened each building or acquired an existing structure.

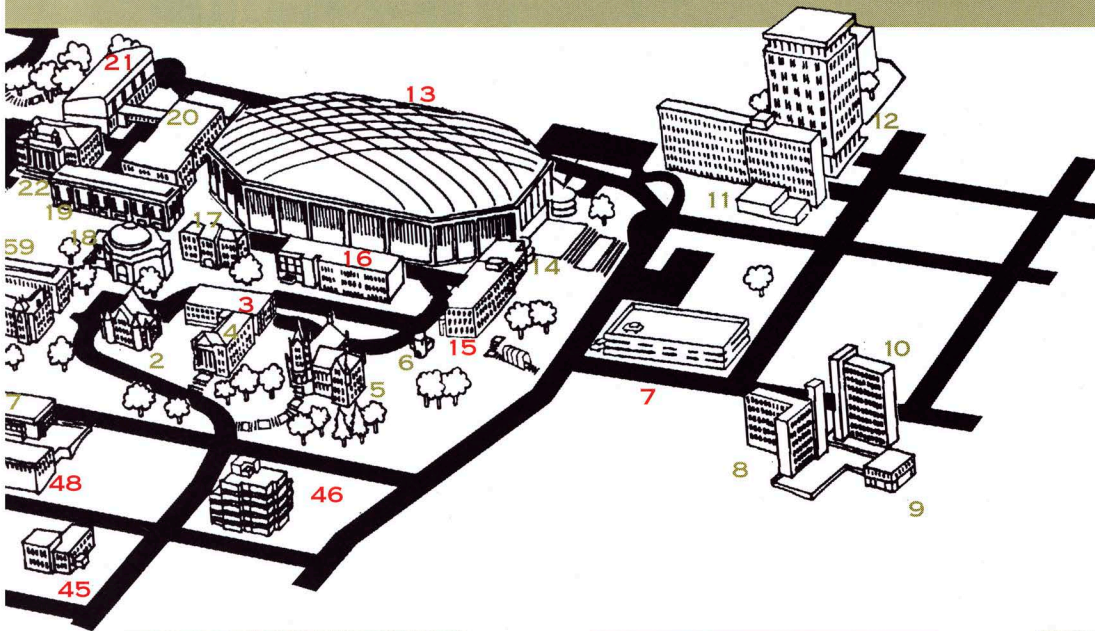
Main Campus

- 1. Hall of Languages (1873)
- 2. Tolley Administration Building (1889)
- 3. Eggers Hall (1994)
- 4. Maxwell Hall (1937)
- 5. Crouse College (1889)
- 6. Holden Observatory (1887)
- 7. Irving Garage (1992)
- 8. Boland Hall (1966)
- 9. Brockway Hall/Dining Center (1966)
- 10. Brewster Hall (1966)
- 11. Sadler Hall/Dining Center (1960)
- 12. Lawrinson Hall (1965)
- 13. Carrier Dome (1980)
- 14. White Hall (1954)
- 15. Barclay Law Library (1984)
- 16. Heroy Geology Laboratory (1972)
- 17. Steele Hall (1898)
- 18. Hendricks Chapel (1930)
- 19. Physics Building (1967)
- 20. Archbold Gymnasium (1909)
- 21. Flanagan Gymnasium (1990)
- 22. Carnegie Library (1907)
- 23. Bowne Hall (1907)

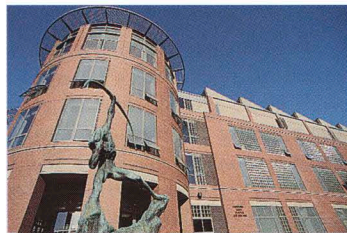
- 24. Shaffer Art Building (1990)
- 25. Sims Hall (1907)
- 26. Biological Research Laboratories (1963)
- 27. Flint Hall (1956)
- 28. Graham Dining Center (1958)
- 29. Day Hall (1958)
- 30. Women's Building (1954)
- 31. Division of International Programs Abroad (acquired in 1938)
- 32. Shaw Hall (1952)
- 33. Center for Science and Technology (1988)
- 34. Watson Hall (1954)
- 35. Dell Plain Hall (1961)
- 36. Booth Hall (1956)
- 37. College of Nursing (acquired in 1972)
- 38. Booth Garage (1966)
- 39. Marion Hall (1954)
- 40. Kimmel Hall/Food Court (1962)
- 41. Haven Hall/Dining Center (1964)
- 42. Office of International Services (1972)
- 43. Sheraton University Hotel (1982)

- 44. Huntington Hall (1917)
 - 45. Gebbie Clinic (1972)
 - 46. Crouse-Hinds School of Management Building (1983)
 - 47. Newhouse I (1964)
 - 48. Newhouse II (1973)
 - 49. Henry Student Health Center (1972)
 - 50. Schine Student Center (1985)
 - 51. Bird Library (1972)
 - 52. Faculty Center (acquired in 1974)
 - 53. Lyman Hall (1907)
 - 54. Slocum Hall (1918)
 - 55. Link Hall (1970)
 - 56. Machinery Hall (1907)
 - 57. Smith Hall (1902)
 - 58. Hinds Hall (1955)
 - 59. H.B. Crouse Hall (1961)
- South Campus**
- 60. Comstock Art Facility (1982)
 - 61. Manley Field House (1962)
 - 62. Skytop Apartments (1972-73)
 - 63. Goldstein Student Center (1990)
 - 64. Skytop Office Building (1972)
 - 65. Slocum Heights (1964)

Not pictured on map: Syracuse Stage/Drama Department; University College; Chancellor's Residence; International Living Center; Hawkins Building; State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



SHAFFER ART BUILDING



GOLDSTEIN STUDENT CENTER



SU's campus changed dramatically during Melvin A. Eggers' 20 years as chancellor. He razed numerous old structures, including Archbold Stadium (above), and opened many new buildings, including the Schine and Goldstein student centers.

drawings before one gained acceptance, albeit too late. By then, funds and enthusiasm had evaporated.

THE POPE AND BAUM PLAN

A 50-year blueprint for campus development, approved in 1927, promised to create a more uniform architectural style, present a more orderly appearance, and combine related academic disciplines. New York City architects John Russell Pope and Dwight James Baum proposed a series of quadrangles: a chapel would

bisect the Old Oval, creating two smaller quads; a third quad would house the State College of Forestry; and all men's and women's residence halls would be grouped around a series of quadrangles north of University Place.

The first steps called for the construction of Hendricks Chapel and Maxwell Hall. The stock market crash and the ensuing Depression also made them the last steps; by 1931 the University was forced into a policy of retrenchment that lasted a decade.

THE ROTUNNO PLAN

William Pearson Tolley was the second of the University's three big builders, the first being Day, the latest Eggers. Installed as chancellor in 1942, Tolley responded to the post-World War II enrollment boom by constructing more than 300 temporary buildings to serve as classrooms and dormitories. He also approved the 1948 plan of SU's landscape architect, Noreda Rotunno.

Rotunno determined that the main quad would be narrowed on three sides by new brick buildings, and that a new quad with six surrounding buildings would be created between Hendricks Chapel and Crouse College. Between University Place and Marshall Street, where Pope and Baum had envisioned dormitories, Ro-



tunno planned a quadrangle for the fine arts. Housing would be added on both sides of Euclid Avenue. He also called for some sacrifices—among the structures he planned to raze were Machinery, Steele, and Smith halls, and the Administration Building.

The plan, though never formally abandoned, was eclipsed by the feverish pace of construction. Tolley approved the creation of more than 20 major structures during his 27-year tenure, providing added space for academic disciplines in buildings such as Huntington Beard Crouse, Hinds, Link, Heroy, and the Newhouse Communications Center. He also erected entire complexes of residence

halls and made possible the construction of Bird Library.

The loser in Tolley's race to build was physical elegance. In a 1966 interview with a campus publication, the *Promethean*, a young history professor called the campus "an aesthetic disaster" and termed its contemporary architecture "Bronx modern."

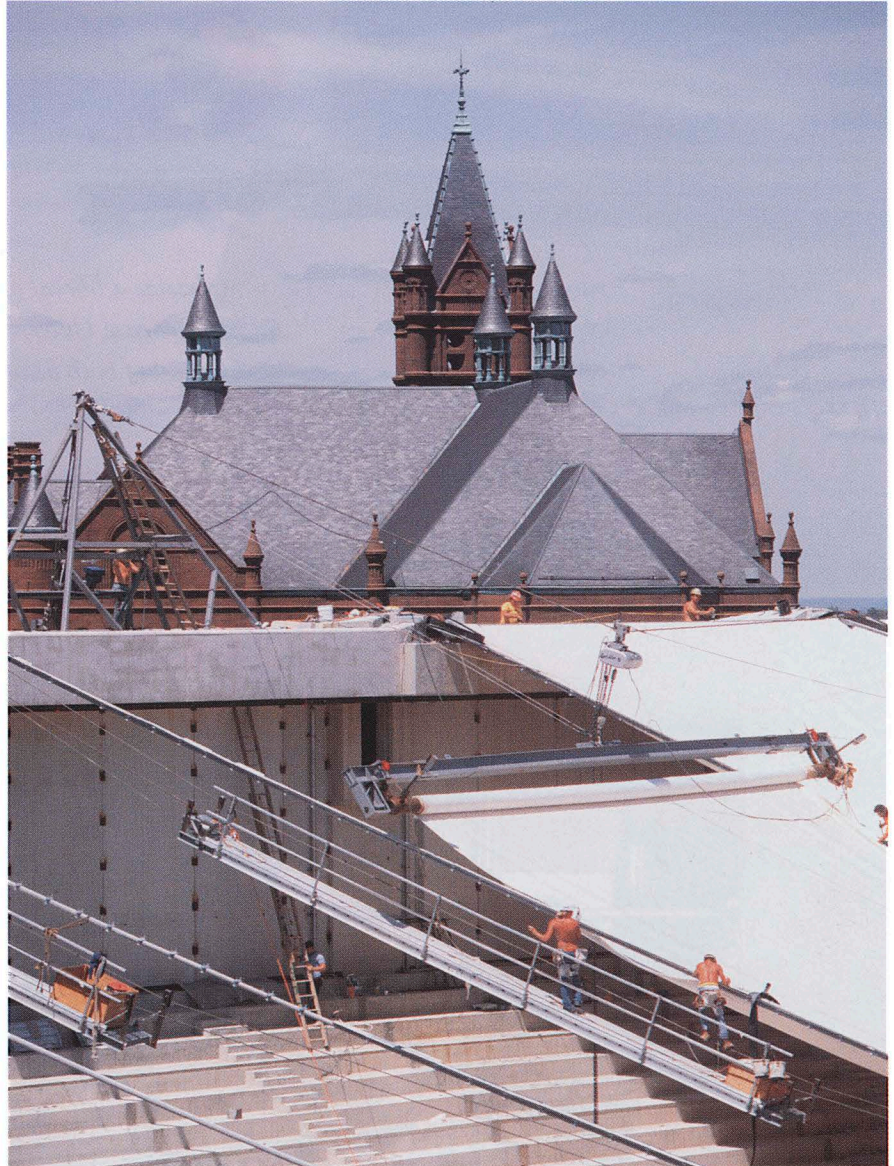
That professor, David Bennett, still teaches at SU. "The campus I described then was extraordinarily ugly compared to some of the striking campuses you could see nearby," says Bennett. "We've made dramatic changes. There's an enormous difference in the look and feel of this campus today. This is still an urban campus, but it has the feel of an open, green area. The transformation, to me, has been remarkable."

The nineties will build on that metamorphosis. This will be a period of "refining and polishing" the campus, says Chancellor Kenneth A. Shaw. There will be renovations as needed, additional landscaping, and plenty of campus accessorizing, or what Harvey Kaiser calls "little projects with big impacts that help improve the character of the campus."

Kaiser, senior vice president for facilities administration, says these initiatives range from the recent addition of 12 wooden benches to the Quad to the renovation of 29 older classrooms, which have been equipped for advancing technology. Future projects may include more places for students to study or relax between classes and a campus skating rink.

On a somewhat larger scale, the School of Social Work moved into the newly renovated and expanded Sims Hall in January. Social Work's former home, the ground floor of Brockway Hall, is being converted into an academic and student center with a food court, fitness room, laundry facilities, computer cluster, and study area.

The campus will also continue to consolidate. Eggers Hall brought together the Maxwell School's scattered programs and created space in buildings elsewhere. Some of those cavities may be filled by University College, which will eventually move from



The Carrier Dome, opened in 1980, began a spate of construction that included the Comstock Art Facility, Crouse-Hinds School of Management Building, Shaffer Art Building, Center for Science and Technology, and Flanagan Gymnasium.

downtown to main campus. With a decreasing student body, less housing is needed, which has prompted the elimination of Village housing—Seneca Hall and University Arms were leveled last fall, Grover Cleveland and Lehman halls may soon tumble as well.

Shortly before his death last November, Eggers the man marveled at Eggers the building, a fully loaded academic structure sporting every-

thing from seminar rooms and computer labs to an international communications room.

"Something like this would have been hard to imagine 40 years ago," said Eggers. "When I was teaching in the old Maxwell Hall, I just wanted a reasonable room to use. Things have changed, and for the better. When you can improve a program by improving the physical environment, then you're where you want to be. And that's where we are now." ■