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# Southeastern News

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary  
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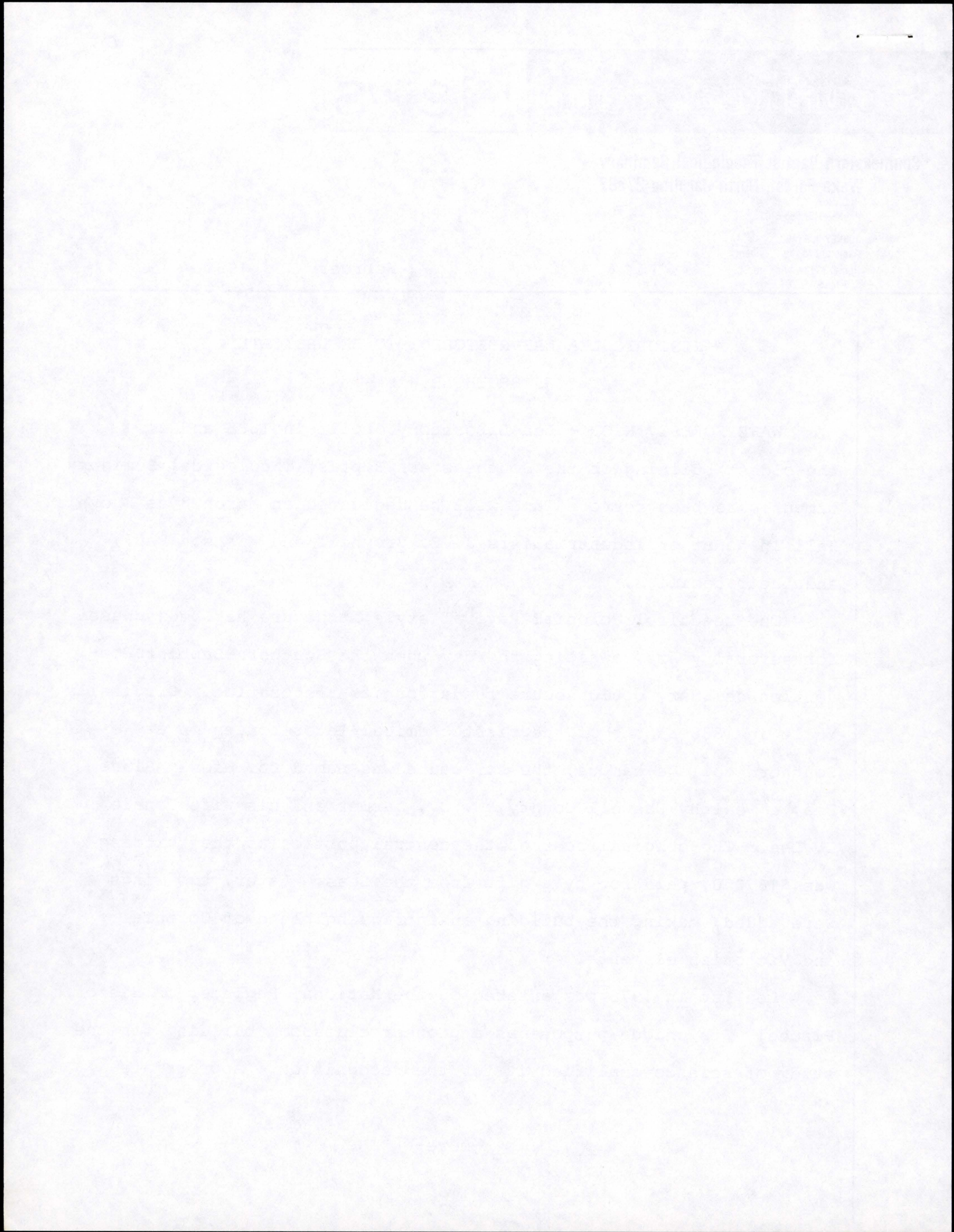
## HISTORIC LEA LAB RESTORED; TO BE DEDICATED AS BROYHILL HALL

WAKE FOREST, N.C. - Lea Laboratory, built in 1888 and now the oldest building on the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary campus, has been restored and will be dedicated on March 8 as Broyhill Hall in honor of industrialists J. E. Broyhill and his son Paul, and their families.

The beautiful Colonial Revival style structure has been unused for several years, awaiting the day when the Southern Baptist Convention seminary could secure funds for its restoration. Originally built in 1888 as one of the first chemical laboratories on a Southern college campus, the structure was named for Sidney Slade Lea, a wealthy Caswell County, N. C., farmer and his wife Fannie E. Lea. The original cost of the central portion of the building was \$13,000, paid for by a gift from the Leas. Later, two wings were added, making the building an intriguing blend of Colonial and Victorian elements.

Lea Lab in 1975 was entered on the National Register of Historic Places. Its unique purpose as a pioneer classroom building for the study of science qualified it for the recognition. Appropriate

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plaques are being placed on the building.

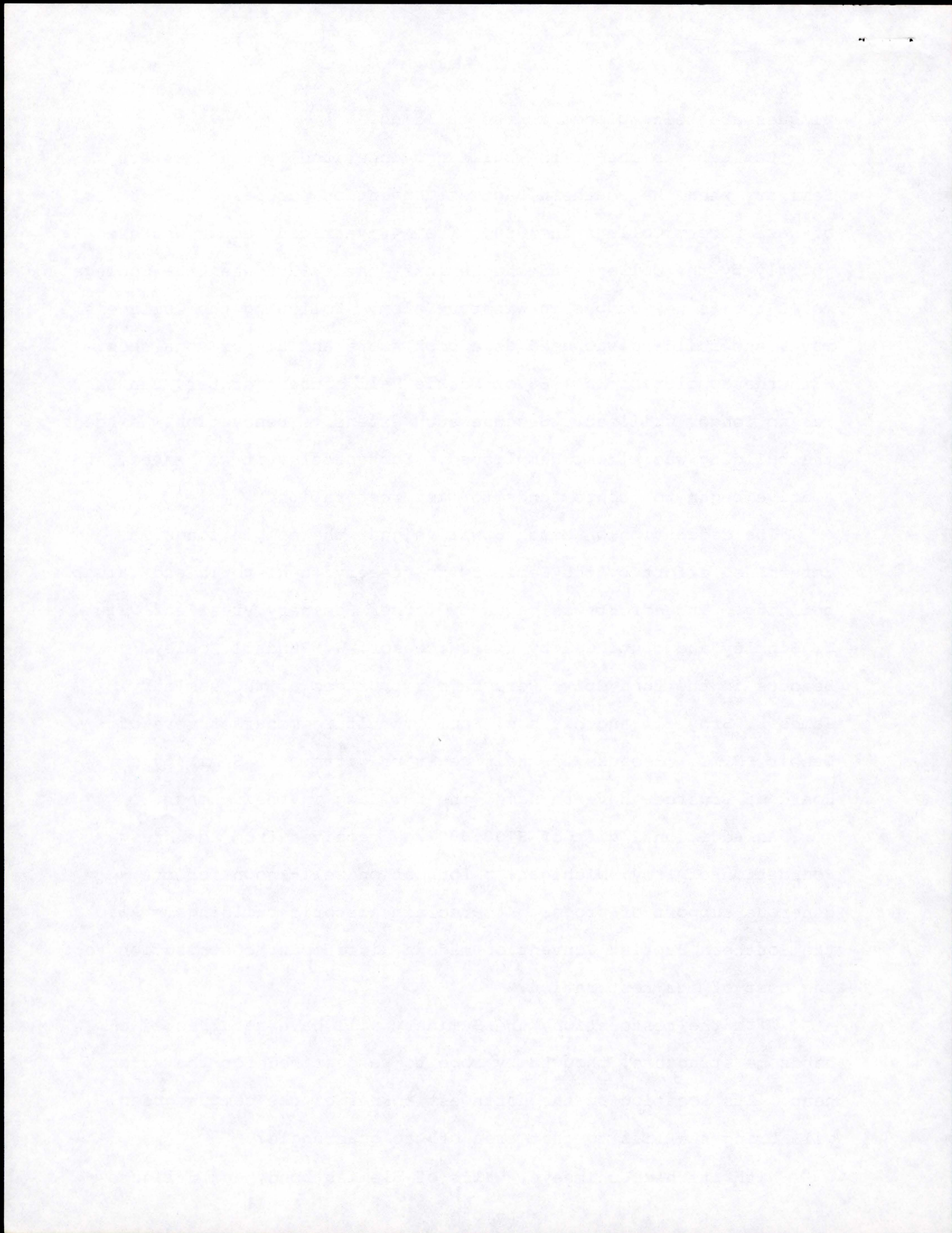
Lea Lab was one of the buildings inherited by Southeastern Seminary when the Southern Baptist Convention purchased the campus of Wake Forest College in 1950. The 146-year old campus was used jointly by the College and the Seminary until 1956 when the College moved to its new campus in Winston-Salem. Following the College's move, the building was used as a book store and campus soda shop. With the completion in 1968 of Mackie Hall student center, Lea Lab was no longer utilized. Because such extensive renovation was needed, the building was almost demolished. Fortunately, it was saved, and a drive begun to secure funds for its restoration.

The dedication on March 8 will signal the completion of a determined effort by the Seminary to preserve a historic and valuable building. The effort was begun by former Seminary President Olin T. Binkley and continued by his successor, W. Randall Lolley. Leaders in the fund drive were former trustees of the seminary, James E. Broyhill and his son, Paul, furniture manufacturers of Lenoir, N. C. Because of their generous gifts, the Seminary's Board of Trustees have re-named the building in their honor.

An additional gift of \$100,000 was received from the Kresge Foundation of Troy, Michigan, a foundation well-known for its generous support of projects to reclaim historic buildings. Also, the Southern Baptist Convention made a significant contribution to the cost of its restoration.

With the restoration, the Seminary will have resurrected a handsome structure, thought by some to be destined for the scrap heap. Its location on the northwest corner of the campus green will bring new life to that area of the quadrangle.

With its nine chimneys, walls of Flemish bond, and delicate



detail, the building will present a pleasing view for the seminary community and their visitors. Inside, the building has been modified to provide an aesthetically pleasing appearance and functional use.

The western wing of two open sections has been decorated and furnished for use as a Board of Trustees and Faculty meeting room, as well as for other Seminary events. In the eastern wing, the school's Formation in Ministry program will be housed, with offices and conference rooms for the placement of students program. On the first floor of the central section will be the Seminary's Communications offices. Offices for faculty members and a conference room will be located on the second floor.

The dedication on March 8, at 3 p.m. will be open to the public. An open house to follow will reveal the success of the Seminary's effort. The architect for the project was Snoddy and McCulloch of Charlotte, N. C. The construction supervisor was Wallace E. Looper of Wake Forest. Construction costs for the restoration, installation of new heating and air conditioning systems, lighting, decorating, and furnishings were \$500,000.

