

University Prepared and Ready To Begin Total Renovation Of Lewis Memorial Science Hall



Dramatic Changes Ahead — Following renovation Lewis Memorial Science Hall will continue to appear much as it does now. Inside, Lewis Hall will be totally “new.”

Physics labs to one of three temporary mobile classrooms now in place.

Biology and chemistry labs to the art wing of the Galvin Fine Arts Center: biology to room 12 — the former engineering drafting room, and chemistry to the ceramics room, since ceramics not being offered fall semester.

Science division faculty members to the Child Care Center below the Chapel, and children to a University owned house nearby.

Scientific equipment, supplies and any salvageable furnishings to storage in the o/d gymnasium.

In short, that is how the University will be tackling one of its most unusual building and remodeling projects, the total renovation of Lewis Memorial Science Hall. Lewis Hall, constructed in 1929, is the oldest unremodeled science building on any college or university campus in Iowa, essentially unchanged since its opening.

Renovation work will begin in earnest early in June, and according to current projections the renovation could be completed by January of 1991.

Fred Ebeling of Moline, whose grandfather was the original Lewis Hall architect, is architect for the renovation, and John Morrissey, director of the University's physical plant, is coordinating the renovation effort.

When completed, Lewis Hall will continue to look much the same as now on the exterior. The interior, however, will be completely “new,” they say. Original announcement of the renovation had included the building of an additional story, but reconfiguration eliminated that proposal from the final plan. Instead, the University will construct a small annex to house electrical and mechanical systems.

— A \$3,175,000 Project —

With renovation of the 32,000-square-foot building, acquisition of equipment and furnishings, professional fees and expenses, and endowment for building maintenance, the entire project is targeted to cost \$3,175,000.

The University has received a \$1,500,000 low-interest loan from the U.S. Department of Education specifically for the renovation of aging facilities, thus bringing to \$1,675,000 the total Lewis Hall fund-raising goal.



St. Ambrose board member *Michael Plunkett*, senior vice president engineering, technology and human resources at Deere & Co., Moline, is heading the fund-raising efforts, currently concentrated among corporations and foundations. St. Ambrose science graduates will be the second principal group of donors to be approached in later fund-raising efforts.

To date, St. Ambrose has received gifts or pledges totaling \$527,000.

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