

# History of the New Ann Arbor High School

- April 15, 1956** Dedication of the Ann Arbor High School—the culmination of over a quarter century of effort, planning and building—and the start of another century of outstanding high school education in Ann Arbor. Here are the recent events leading up to this historic occasion:
- August 9, 1945** Purchase of the 30 acre Pauline Boulevard site (\$22,500) for the new high school.
- April 18, 1949** Passage of the first bond issue for \$5,800,000, \$4,000,000 of which was designated for a new high school.
- September 20, 1949** Appointment by the principal of committees of high school faculty members to study, investigate and propose plans.
- April 17-18, 1950** Ann Arbor Educational Planning Conference of Citizens held at Haven Hall. Basic concepts and plans from the citizens point of view were developed here.
- October 26, 1950** Purchase of present high school site of 210 acres from University of Michigan for \$135,000 plus Wines Field and an option to purchase the old high school building.
- Winter of 1950-51** Ann Arbor Citizens Committee continue planning for new high school.  
The Board of Education and administration conduct an exhaustive search for the outstanding high school architects in the middle west.
- August 1, 1951** Fulton, Krinsky and Dela Motte, architects of Cleveland, Ohio, engaged to design and plan the new building.
- August 16, 1952** Sale of the Pauline Boulevard site for \$51,025.
- February 24, 1953** Citizens rescind the 1949 bond issue and approve by a 3-1 majority a new bond issue for \$7,650,000 (\$5,750,000 for the high school).
- June 11, 1953** Contract for grading, excavating and pouring foundations awarded to deKoning Construction Co., of Ann Arbor.
- June 24, 1953** Sale of 33 acre northwest portion of high school site for \$170,000, leaving 177 acres.
- June 26, 1953** Ground breaking ceremony with Trustee Ashley Clague turning the first shovelful of earth.
- September 24, 1953** After twenty-two preliminary sketches had been presented, the Board of Education finally approved the twenty-third along with preliminary specifications.
- March 10, 1954** After approval of working plans by faculty, administration and Board of Education, the general contract was awarded to the lowest bidder—Sorensen Gross Construction Co., Flint, Michigan.
- December 16, 1954** Cornerstone laid with Dr. Eugene Elliott, President of Michigan State Normal College, as the principal speaker.
- June 25, 1955** Contract awarded to the G. F. Taft Company, Northville, Michigan for site development.
- June 29, 1955** First series of contracts awarded for equipment, furniture and furnishings.
- December 14, 1955** Old high school building purchased by the University of Michigan for \$1,400,000.
- January 25, 1956** Dr. Harlow C. Whittemore, Chairman, Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Michigan, employed to plan landscaping project.
- February 20, 1956** Trade Painting and Decorating, and Machine Shop classes began operations in the new building.
- April 9, 1956** All high school students reported to the new building at 12:30 P.M. to begin classes.