

This booklet has been prepared in conjunction with the Dedication Activities for Centennial Hall Learning Resources Center, May 7-10, 1972.





## **CENTENNIAL HALL**

St. Cloud State College celebrated its Centennial Year in 1968-69 observing the theme "A Heritage of Excellence." With an eye toward a bold future, the college broke ground in October 1968 for a new library complex — a learning resources center to serve as the heart of the institution. Years of planning began to bear fruit when Robert H. Wick, then president of the college, turned the first shovel of earth signaling the beginning of construction. The Center was named Centennial Hall after its designation as the official Centennial Year building.



## AN INTEGRATION OF RESOURCES

Centennial Hall is more than a library. It encompasses media and technology used to support the instructional program of the college. The concept of the traditional library has not been destroyed; it has been enlarged. The building's full name — Centennial Hall Learning Resources Center — reveals the scope of its services. While the Center retains the usual library and audiovisual functions, it also embraces within its organizational framework such functions as radio, television, curriculum materials, and the Campus Laboratory School resource center. In addition, the Center houses Computer Services for the college.



### THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONCEPT

The development and growth of the library, and its subsequent transformation into a learning resources center, parallels the growth of St. Cloud State College.

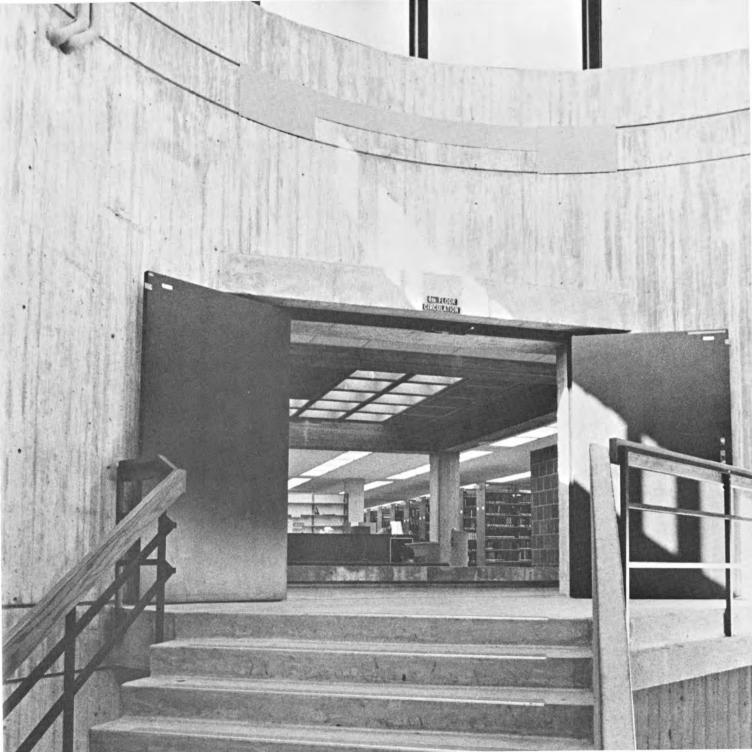
Opening as a Normal School in 1869 with an enrollment of 53 students, the school had only a room designated as the library. As the school grew, the library expanded into its own small building. In 1952 a new library was dedicated and named after the college's second president, David Kiehle.

Kiehle Library was designed to accommodate an anticipated enrollment of 2,000 students. Its architectural design and functional features gained renown in library circles, and it was pictured as one of the outstanding academic libraries of the 1950's in *Encyclopedia Americana*.

By 1956 St. Cloud's enrollment had already reached 2,000, and by 1965 it was 6,500. In five more years enrollment would approach 10,000. Obviously Kiehle Library, which had served 2,000 students so well, could not keep pace with such burgeoning enrollments.

In the late 1950's the nation's library experts, faced with the beginnings of a technological revolution, began to take a hard look at traditional library structures and procedures. As early as 1958, the changing concept of materials organization was recognized and initiated on the St. Cloud campus. When the official library planning committee was formed in 1965, it dedicated itself to a new outlook — one that expanded the traditional library idea to include all media and technology relating to the educational process.

The committee's challenge was to develop plans with the project architect for a new facility to serve 10,000 students, incorporating the new learning resources concept and including the most recent innovations in equipment designed for library use. The project architect also had to consider the demands of the learning resources staff and the educational objectives of the media department.





### INNOVATIVE FEATURES

The organization and integration of all resources into a single unit is itself an innovation for St. Cloud State College. But two innovative features in the Center deserve special mention. They are the Remote Random Access Information Retrieval System (RRAIRS) and the Rear-Screen Projection System.

RRAIRS. One of the first of its kind in the country, the primary purpose of RRAIRS is to place information at the user's fingertips. The system is used mostly for supplemental learning, but can also be used as a primary instruction tool. RRAIRS involves the use of highly sophisticated equipment. Its value lies solely with the use students and faculty make of it.

There are 30 RRAIRS student positions on the three upper levels, either in clusters or in enclosed carrels. Six multiple viewing and listening terminals are also available, four of them in the instructional area classrooms.

As a service to students, a tape duplicator is available adjacent to the equipment distribution center on the first floor. By means of this duplicator students are able to make copies of audio programs in RRAIRS by inserting a tape cassette and dialing the appropriate program number.

THE REAR-SCREEN PROJECTION SYSTEM, also located in the instructional area, is another learning innovation. This system provides three classrooms with the facility to present multimedia messages to the learner.

### DIVISIONS

The concept that a library is service oriented is the underlying philosophy of the Learning Resources Center. In keeping with this concept, and to facilitate the various user services, similar functions are grouped by administrative units. There are four functional divisions: Advising and Instruction, Public Services, Production Services, and Technical Services.

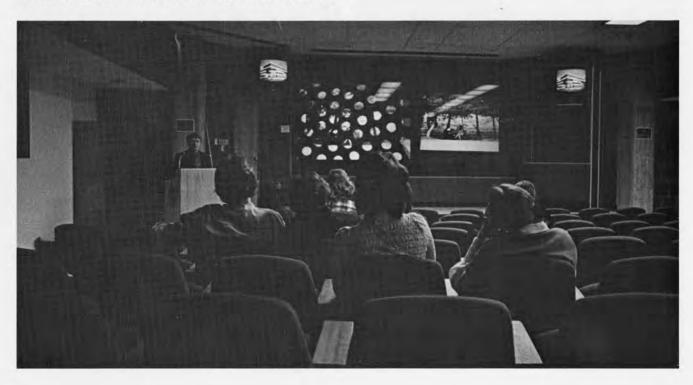
## **Advising and Instructional Services**

This division, located at the north end of the second floor, is planned to solve problems pertaining to student activities, student records, advising and instruction. Nearby are twelve offices for members of the instructional staff of the Department of Library and Audiovisual Education, all conveniently accessible to students. Also on the second floor are

a photography laboratory and darkroom and a production laboratory.

The core of the instructional unit is the first-floor laboratory/classroom area. This area utilizes the Rear-Screen Projection System and four classrooms with terminals allowing use of the Remote Random Access Information Retrieval System (RRAIRS). Three other rooms — a 120-seat lecture room and two smaller laboratory/classrooms — adjoin the Rear-Screen Projection Room. Two are equipped with rear screens and automated lecterns which provide the instructor with centralized control of various presentation devices.

In addition, this area includes a television laboratory, an equipment laboratory, and several small classroom laboratories.













## Public Services

The Public Services Division, in addition to providing a wide range of services, oversees the daily distribution of films and related equipment. The Division's service areas are dispersed throughout the Center.

## MAIN LEVEL

- Divisional Office conveniently located near central entry/exit point.
- Card Catalog the bibliographic control center and key to all resources across the campus and within the Center. All materials are catalogued and included in the card catalog.
- Lecture Room off the main lobby, used for large group multimedia presentations.

# SECOND LEVEL/Special Collections and Curriculum

- Special Collections non-circulating items such as archives, theses, maps, rare books, documents.
- Curriculum Materials print and non-print media relating to the curricula of the public schools.
- Special Stations for viewing or listening to curriculum materials.
- Curriculum Laboratory—for the special needs of faculty and students.

## THIRD LEVEL/Reference-Periodicals

- Reference Collection arranged in open stacks by Library of Congress classification.
- Periodical Collection: back issues either bound in open stacks or available in microform; recent issues in closed stacks at periodical desk.
- Individual Study Carrels.
- Microform Reader Stations.
- Conference Rooms.

## FOURTH LEVEL/Circulation

- Open Stack access area housing approximately 350,000 volumes.
- 80 enclosed Study Carrels.
- Two Conference Rooms.
- Graduate Study Area.

Throughout these levels are tables for group or individual study, and comfortably furnished leisure reading areas.



### **Production Services**

The Production Services Division is located on the lower or basement level and is designed to produce materials for instructional use. The Division includes a recording studio, a photography laboratory and darkroom, a graphics production room, a viewing room, and a maintenance-repair area. An office area serves as the nerve center for this operation.

Adjacent to Production Services is the Remote Random Access System room, containing the equipment necessary for information retrieval. A curriculum materials advisor has primary responsibility for developing materials for RRAIRS.

## **Technical Services**

While the college faculty and learning resources staff account for the selection of materials, the acquisition and processing of them is done by Technical Services.

All acquisitions, regardless of format, are classified and catalogued in the first-level section called Technical Processing. Streamlined procedures and the use of modern library technology have enabled this unit to eliminate a one-time chronic backlog of materials, and have facilitated the reclassification of the holdings from the Dewey Decimal System to the Library of Congress System.

The physical processing of materials is handled by the Binding-Processing-Repair-Receiving Section on the lower level.

## **Computer Services**

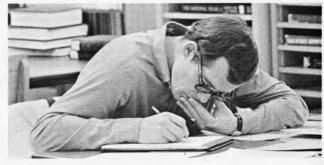
The Computer Center is housed on the lower level with primary access through the two north doors. The center contains offices for the Director of Computer Services and for the programmers, a key punch room, and a computer equipment room. Various items of computer equipment are available in a room reserved for teaching.





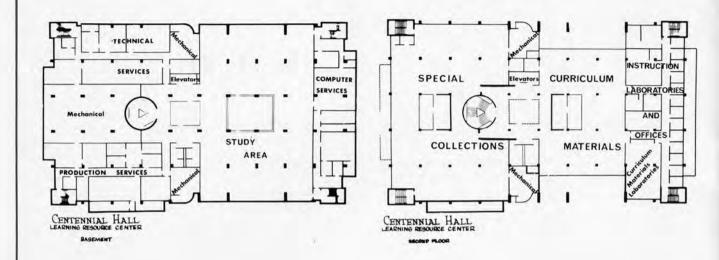


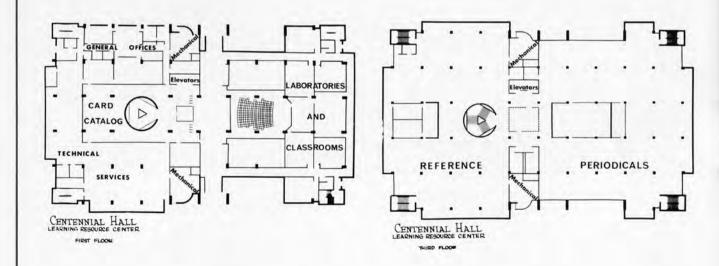


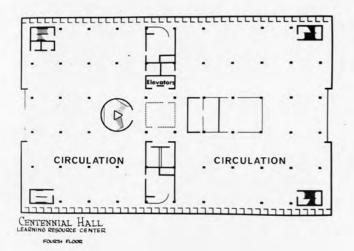














# PLAN, DESIGN, ACHIEVEMENT

**Planning Committee** Luther Brown (Chairman), Robert Benson,

Eleanor Campbell, George O. Erickson, Marvin Holmgren, Alfred Lease, Harold Opgrand, Anthony Schulzetenberg, Donald Sikkink, Howard Walton

Square Feet 178,400 (Gross) 127,705 (Net Assignable)

**Volume Capacity** 470,000 Number of Floors Five

Cost

\$4,040,000

Seating Over 2,200 **Building Dimensions** 154' x 244'



ST. CLOUD STATE COLLEGE / ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA