

*St. Augustine in rendering, pictured before the ruins of his Basilica of Peace in Hippo (left) and the 19th century Basilica built in his honor in Annaba, Algeria*

Together, we keep on walking into this new millennium with Christ the Teacher as our guide, confident in a great future for Merrimack College as a preeminent Catholic and Augustinian institution of higher learning in the northeastern section of the United States of America. In the best sense of St. Augustine's reflections, let us too be "*dissatisfied with what*" has thus far been accomplished at Merrimack College so that, with God's help and guidance, we and future generations will "*arrive at what (we) are not yet*".

## DEDICATION

This Walking Tour is dedicated to three groups of people of the Merrimack College community. First, I wish to dedicate it to the pioneers: Augustinians, lay faculty, students and benefactors who began Merrimack College in the late 1940's. I knew many of these individuals personally. Second, I wish to make a special dedication to honor the living and deceased members of the class of 1952 who will celebrate the Golden Anniversary of their graduation in June of 2002. Matriculating as a freshman in September of 1948, I was privileged to be a member of this, the second class of students, for two years. Although I left the college in June of 1950 at the end of my sophomore year to become a friar in the Augustinian Order, I have always considered myself to be an honorary member of the Class of '52. Third, I wish to dedicate this tour to the members of the Class of 2002 whose class gift made the publication of this booklet possible. Because I have been associated with Merrimack for three of their college years, I have become friends with many individuals in this class.

As an Augustinian Friar, I have had the privilege to be associated with the school in a variety of ways, first as a student and next as the first Augustinian vocation from Merrimack College. I was ordained a priest in the Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher on May 26, 1956. Now, more than fifty years after beginning my college career, I have come full circle. I minister at Merrimack as coordinator of spiritual and educational programs in the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy as well as being associated with the Campus Ministry staff.

With great pride, I especially dedicate this written tour of the campus to those individuals who stood at Wilson's Corner at the intersection of Routes 114 and 125 fifty-five years ago and saw a 'Field of Dreams.' Hopefully, their vision and their trust in God's providential care will continue to be appreciated by all those who reap the benefits of such vision and trust: the faculty and students who a little more than a year ago began a new millennium of education at Merrimack College which continues to be both Catholic and Augustinian.



Rev. James A. Wenzel, O.S.A.

April 24, 2002

The Feast of the Conversion of St. Augustine of Hippo

## INTRODUCTION

“Modest dedicatory ceremonies marked the formal opening of Merrimack College on September 22, 1947.” In this concise manner, Edward G. Roddy, Jr. in his Merrimack College: Genesis and Growth 1947 – 1972

describes the beginning of Merrimack. Now, 55 years later, this institution which continues to strive to be a preeminent college in the northeastern part of the United States justifiably boasts not only of its students, faculty, administrators, and staff but also of its beautiful and growing campus. This tour of the campus attempts “to awaken minds and hearts” to the Augustinian tradition that permeates the campus. Founded by the Augustinian Friars of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, Merrimack’s campus bears the imprint of their spiritual and educational legacy in the naming of buildings and various sites and monuments. What follows is an attempt to explain this legacy.



*Statue of St. Augustine of Hippo, at Annaba Algeria, modern day Hippo.*

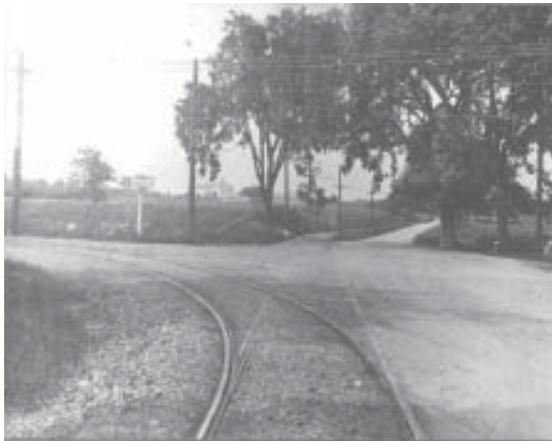
### **This unique tour of Merrimack’s campus is intended to:**

- deepen awareness and understanding of the person of St. Augustine and of the spirituality and tradition that bear his name;
- broaden knowledge of the Augustinian Friars as well as the tradition and history of this religious order, and especially of The Province of St. Thomas of Villanova which founded Merrimack College in 1947 and which continues to sponsor it;
- to highlight the relationship between Merrimack College and the Merrimack Valley, especially with the “Immigrant City” of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

## THE EARLY YEARS

As we begin the tour, we stand at the statue of **CHRIST THE TEACHER** on the walkway in front of the Collegiate Church. The statue is a central icon on the campus and was donated by the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Hamel of Haverhill, Mass., generous contributors and wise counselors to the fledgling institution. The statue faces the intersection of Routes 114 and 125, originally known as Wilson's Corner, on land which was once the Richardson Farm and which was purchased by the college in **June 1947**. It also faces north to the Merrimack River and Valley from which the college takes its name. In **March 1947**, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted a charter to what was then called "**The Augustinian College of the Merrimack Valley.**" Merrimack College, as the school eventually came to be called, especially seeks to relate to and to serve the inhabitants of this valley.

The story is told that in the early months of 1947, Father



*Wilson's Corner, 1910*

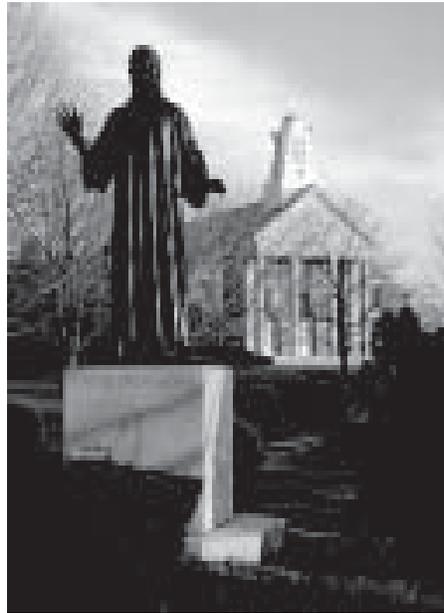
Vincent McQuade, O.S.A., the founding president of the college, stood at Wilson's Corner with another friar, Father John V. Casey, O.S.A.

Father Casey had come from Augustinian Academy in Staten Island, New York. As he looked southeast with Wilson's Corner behind him, Father McQuade asked:

"Father Casey, what do you see?" Father Casey responded: "I see a big field." In his booming voice, Father McQuade replied: "No, John, I see a college." Now more than fifty years later, it is evident that Father McQuade's vision and determination served him well as, together with other friars and several members of the laity, they labored to bring Merrimack College to birth.

This image of Christ as teacher welcomes visitors to Merrimack College and serves as a powerful statement that this institution has been established to form Christocentric minds and hearts in a Catholic and Augustinian heritage.

This image of Christ as teacher is central to many of Augustine's works. One of his early works, written prior to his baptism in the form of a dialogue with his young son, Adeodatus, is entitled *De Magistro*, Concerning The Teacher. Not only in this book but also in many subsequent works, St. Augustine envisioned Jesus as The Inner Teacher residing in the hearts of each individual. This Augustinian emphasis is central to an authentic understanding of St. Augustine of Hippo's unique contribution to the development of the Christian faith. The prominence of this statue near the main entrance to the campus emphasizes Merrimack's mission to awaken hearts and minds to this reality:



*Christ the Teacher statue welcomes visitors to Merrimack.*

*To provide, in a Christian, values-sensitive environment, the opportunity for its students to develop a mature intellectual, cultural, social, emotional and moral awareness;*

*To combine professional training of high quality with a commitment to an integrated liberal arts component in all courses of study;*

*To act as a major educational resource for individuals and for the Merrimack Valley community.*

(from the college mission statement)

Across the street from the statue, at 196 Elm Street, Andover, Mass., is **SAINT AMBROSE FRIARY**, a residence for a community of five Augustinians who minister at Merrimack College. In

January of 1986, this house was purchased from the Pearson family. It was first used as a residence for the academic vice-president and then as the “President’s House” for meetings and conferences. On **September 27, 1996** it became an Augustinian Friary. The Friary is dedicated to the memory of St. Ambrose, the bishop of Milan, Italy. St. Ambrose baptized Augustine, his son Adeodatus, and his North African friend, Alypius, at the Easter Vigil celebration in the Cathedral of Milan on April 24, 387. The yearly feast day of St. Ambrose is December 7.

The tour continues by walking toward Deegan Hall West via **FLAHERTY WAY**. This major street on campus is named after Rev. Joseph A. Flaherty, O.S.A., one of the early Augustinians on the Merrimack College faculty, and a renowned, respected and beloved professor in the English Department. He served at Merrimack for forty-two years and was affectionately known as ‘*No Charity Flaherty*’. All of the roads on campus are named after Augustinian friars who ministered at the college in its early

days. In Appendix III, the names of these friars with a brief biographical sketch is provided.

Walking along **FLAHERTY WAY** from the statue of Christ the Teacher towards Deegan Hall West, there is another statue just to the left of Cushing Hall. This statue is an image of **OUR MOTHER OF GOOD COUNSEL**, a title and devotion which has been an integral part of the formation and life of the Augustinian friars since April 25, 1467.

A fresco, in which she is known as Mother of Good Counsel, depicts Mary and Jesus and is more than seven centuries old. Originating in the Albanian city of Scutari, it eventually

was transported in 1467 to the hill town of Genazzano, Italy, located in the Alban Hills south of Rome. Since then, the painting has been treasured in the Augustinian Church in Genazzano where the friars have been since 1284. Devotion to



*Our Mother of Good Counsel*

Mary under this title continues to draw thousands of pilgrims to Genazzano each year. A few days before opening the Second Vatican Council in October of 1962, Blessed Pope John XXIII visited the shrine in Genazzano and invoked Mary's intercession, guidance and counsel for the Ecumenical Council which was about to begin in Rome and which has had such an impact on the Church. This title of Mary prompts one to think of her advice to the steward at the marriage feast of Cana. Speaking of her Son, she simply said: "Do whatever he tells you." Her counsel is of special importance to students and faculty members of Merrimack's community as together, they strive to live out the college's motto: *Per Scientiam ad Sapientiam...Through Knowledge to Wisdom.*

## **T**ransformation From Commuter To Residential

Leaving Our Mother of Good Counsel statue, walking through the campus center quadrangle with Cascia Hall on the right, the tour moves on to Deegan Hall West. On the right side of the archway of Deegan West we enter **GOOD COUNSEL COMMON ROOM**, which is dedicated to the Mother of Jesus under the title of Our Mother of Good Counsel. It is called a 'common' room because of the Augustinian emphasis on "**sharing all things in common**" and because it is a hope that such a room will foster an appreciation for and a growth of community, one of the essential components of Augustinian life.

Leaving Good Counsel Common Room, the tour moves to **SAINT CLARE COURT**, an area formed by three of the residences for students: Ash Centre, Deegan East and Deegan West. Facing the court and viewing both Deegan East and Ash residences, there is a sign on Deegan West which provides an explanation of the name, Saint Clare Court. Four dates are inscribed on small granite stones:

1248	CLARE PRIORY
1308	SAINT CLARE
1796	THE AUGUSTINIANS
1947	The seal of MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Each of these four plaques which comprise the sign holds an explanation of each of these four dates. To assist us in our tour, a brief explanation of each of these dates and names assists with the orientation of this tour.

**Clare Priory and Saint Clare**

The wording in both the 1248 and the 1308 plaques naming Saint Clare Court skillfully conflates the two meaning of ‘Clare’ in the history and tradition of the Augustinian family.

**CLARE PRIORY**

In 1244, Pope Innocent IV directed hermits in Tuscany, Italy, to elect a prior general and draw up their own constitutions. From then on they became known as the Brother Hermits of the Order of St. Augustine. Today, they are most often referred to as



Granite stone on Deegan West

Augustinians or as the Friars of St. Augustine, from the Latin *Frater*, meaning brother. The friars commit themselves to follow Christ as an Augustinian religious through the solemn profession of the vows of poverty, celibacy

and obedience. Members of the male part of the order view themselves as brothers living in community. Most of them are ordained priests as well, but it is not necessary to be a priest in order to be an Augustinian.

By **1248**, only four years later, some of the friars of the newly formed order had left Tuscany and began the first foundation of Augustinian Friars in the English-speaking world. They settled in a small village named **CLARE**. The name of the village probably goes back to Roman times when it may have referred to the clear waters of the River Stour and to the de Clare family who lived in the local castle and who were the original benefactors of what was named **CLARE PRIORY**. The word, priory, designating the residence of the friars, took its name from “the prior,” the leader of the community and thus the first among his brothers. His role, as it continues to be in each Augustinian community today, was one of service to the friars, all of whom were equal.

The renowned Cambridge University is not too distant from Clare Priory and there is a relationship between the two. Lady Elisabeth de Burgh of the de Clare family was a benefactress of the priory at the time when she founded Clare College in 1289, one of the constituent colleges of Cambridge University. In the Middle Ages, there were a number of distinguished scholars in the Augustinian Friary attached to Clare College. Today, Corpus Christi College stands on the site of that former Augustinian Friary. In recent years, there has been a close relationship between the Augustinians at Clare Priory and the Dean/Chaplain of the college as well as with some of the students at Corpus Christi. Periodically, they visit Clare Priory, which now is a place for prayer, private retreats and for an opportunity to have a community experience with the Augustinian Friars.

## **SAINT CLARE OF MONTEFALCO**

**SAINT CLARE** was an Augustinian contemplative nun who lived in Montefalco, Umbria, Italy from **1268 to 1308**. She was the Abbess of a community of contemplative nuns in the Augustinian convent in Montefalco, an Umbria town located just south



*Granite stone located on Deegan West explaining the significance of St. Clare*

of Assisi. Saint Clare was known for her compassion and leadership as a woman of faith in the Middle Ages. A community of contemplative Augustinian nuns continues to live in the convent today, giving witness to the contemplative

dimension of Augustinian life and spirituality and to welcome pilgrims who visit and reverence the shrine to Saint Clare.

## THE AUGUSTINIANS

As the third plaque indicates, from Clare Priory, the Austin Friars, as they were called in England, established communities in Ireland. The Irish Augustinians, in turn, came to Philadelphia in the United States in 1796. From a humble beginning, a small number of Augustinian Friars eventually became The Province of St. Thomas of Villanova and in 1842, the Province established Villanova College, today a flourishing university about twelve miles west of the city of Philadelphia. A contemporary rendering of the seal of the Augustinian Order depicting a flaming heart, symbolic of St. Augustine's intense and passionate love of God and neighbor, and a book, expressing his life-long quest for truth and wisdom, is engraved on this third plaque. It is a symbol that is used in many locations on the Merrimack campus.

The same Province of St. Thomas of Villanova established **MERRIMACK COLLEGE** in 1947. The fourth and final plaque reads: **"Saint Clare Court is named for these two Augustinian traditions: the life of Saint Clare, passionate in her faith and service; and the intellectual quests of the early Austin Friars from Clare Priory. Students of Merrimack College enjoy this**

**heritage of faith and learning.”** On this plaque the seal of Merrimack College is engraved. A description of this seal is provided in Appendix I.

Ash Centre, the older building of the three student residences which form Saint Clare Court, is named in honor of a local philanthropist, Allen J. Ash, Esq. Originally called **Austin Centre** when it was dedicated as a residence for male students in **1960**, this building was renamed on **October 24, 1982** the **ALLEN J. ASH CENTRE** in recognition of Mr. Ash’s concern for and philanthropies to several local institutions, including Merrimack College.

Born in Lawrence in 1906 to Jewish immigrants from Russia, Allen J. Ash attended Lawrence High School, graduated from Harvard University in 1928 with a bachelor of arts degree, and in 1931 received an LL.B from Harvard Law School.

During his professional life, Ash was a prominent attorney and successful businessman in the Greater Lawrence



*Plaques naming Saint Clare Court*

area. Before his death in 1968, Ash established a trust specifically to encourage and support religious, charitable, scientific and educational endeavors. Merrimack College and its students have been beneficiaries of this trust. The **ASH CENTRE** is a residence for first year students and some sophomores.

## **I**N HONOR OF FATHER DEEGAN, O.S.A.

The two other residences at Saint Clare Court, **DEEGAN EAST** and **DEEGAN WEST**, house freshmen students. Completed in **July** of **1998**, they were named for the fourth president of the college, Rev. John E. Deegan, O.S.A. who served in this capacity for thirteen years (1981 – 1994). A native of Hoosick Falls, New York, Father Deegan was elected as the Prior Provin-

cial of the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova in February of 1994. During Father Deegan's term as president, Merrimack's mission as an educational resource to the Merrimack Valley deepened. He founded the Urban Resource Institute and challenged the college to involve itself in Lawrence's civic, social and educational systems. Since that time, scores of disadvantaged children from the Lawrence school system have prospered and succeeded in college because of the Accept the Challenge program which began under Father Deegan's tenure. He also presided over the construction of the Mendel Center for Science, Engineering and Technology, the St. Thomas and St. Ann apartment complexes, and the thorough redesign and renovations of Cushing and Sullivan Halls. The



*Deegan Hall 2001*

college's information technology capacity took giant leaps forward under his administration.

Today, the Deegan and Ash buildings serve as residences for some 450 first year and 150 second year students. **DEEGAN WEST**, the building closest to the library, can be distinguished by the tower and underpass walkway that leads to Saint Clare Court. The Deegan buildings were designed to

reflect the feel of an Augustinian Friary. The uniform rows of windows are just one way that they achieve this effect. Long halls that add to the cloistered effect mark the inside of the buildings. The layout of rooms and the several lounges were designed to help create a sense of community among the freshman residents. As part of the project of building the two Deegan buildings and creating Saint Clare Court (1997 – 1998), the Ash Centre was renovated so that the main entrance between the two wings faces Saint Clare's Court, opening to several pathways that lead to Deegan West, Deegan East, Cullen Avenue, Walsh Way and Volpe Athletic Center.

## **CENTERS TO NOURISH AND DEVELOP BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT**

**THE S. PETER VOLPE PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER** was dedicated in **November 1972** and is named for S. Peter Volpe, a former member of Merrimack's Board of Trustees and a generous benefactor to the college. His company constructed the McQuade Library on campus. He is the brother of the late John Volpe, a former Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who was appointed as the United States Secretary of Transportation by President Richard Nixon. In 1973, President Nixon appointed Secretary Volpe to the post of United States Ambassador to Italy, in which position he served with distinction until 1976 during the presidency of Gerald Ford. He is also the father and grandfather of graduates of Merrimack College. The Volpe Center houses a large skating rink, basketball court, locker rooms and offices for the director of athletics and coaches of the sixteen teams sponsored by the college. The center also houses the Sports Medicine Department.

Further down Cullen Avenue leading to Route 125, tennis courts are located on the left, playing fields on the right and near the end of Cullen Avenue is the **PHYSICAL PLANT** building, completed for occupancy in **1998**. Originally, this building was a school and part of The Fellowship Bible Church complex. When the congregation outgrew the church and school buildings, and decided to move, the site was purchased by the American Stores/Osco Drug Company. This company donated and physically moved both **CASCIA HALL** and the **PHYSICAL PLANT** building to their new foundations on the Merrimack campus.

Directly across the road from the Volpe Athletic Center is a small shrine dedicated to **MARY, OUR LADY OF GRACE**, another ancient Augustinian devotion. Mr. and Mrs. George Bowman of Cheshire, Conn. donated it to the college in **1997** when one of their sons was a student at Merrimack.

Leaving the Volpe Center and making a right turn onto Cullen Avenue, with Deegan Hall East on the left, we arrive at the **ROGERS CENTER FOR THE ARTS**, dedicated in the fall of



*Shrine dedicated to Mary, Our Lady of Grace*

1999. This building, named in recognition of the early leadership pledge of two million dollars made by the Rogers Family Foundation, is a regional performing and visual arts center that serves the Merrimack College community, the Merrimack Valley region as well as the entire community north of Boston. It includes a theater style auditorium with a seating capacity of 600, an orchestra pit, and state-of-the-art lighting and sound systems. The theater is noted for its outstanding acoustics.

The center also includes a separate art gallery for student and professional exhibitions. From music and magic to dancing and drama, the Rogers Center provides artistic excellence through prominent lectures, concerts, theatrical offerings and art exhibitions. The lobby is dedicated to the memory of Irving E. Rogers,



*Rogers Center for the Arts*

Jr., the late publisher of *The Eagle-Tribune*, an “award-winning publisher, community benefactor and Merrimack friend.”

Exiting this building through its main entrance, turning right and walking a short distance, we arrive at **CASCIA HALL**, a small, white New England style church building. Originally the Fellowship Bible Church, this building was located on the triangle between Routes 114 and 125, across from the easterly end of Merrimack’s campus near the end of Cullen Avenue. Both the church and school buildings were moved in May of 1995 and then placed in their present location in **June 1996**. Cascia Hall serves as a multi-purpose meeting space and is used by many groups within the Merrimack community.

**CASCIA HALL** is named for **ST. RITA OF CASCIA**, a popular Italian Augustinian contemplative nun who lived in the small hill town of Cascia in Umbria. St. Rita was born in 1381 at Roccaporena, some six kilometers outside of Cascia and is remembered as a wife, mother, widow, Augustinian contemplative nun and, perhaps most of all, as a peacemaker. She died at Cascia in **1457** and was canonized as a saint of the universal church by Pope Leo XIII in May of 1900. Her feast day is May 22.

Walking along Walsh Way with Cascia Hall to the right, we proceed to **HAMEL HEALTH CENTER** which houses the school’s infirmary and counseling center. Dedicated in **1972**, this building was named to honor Louis H. Hamel of Haverhill, Mass., the same individual who donated the statue of Christ the Teacher described at the beginning of this tour.



*Cascia Hall was moved from its original site on Route 114 to Merrimack.*

## **HOME AWAY FROM HOME FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS**

Continuing along Walsh Way and next to Hamel Health Center are twelve student residences known as the **TOWN HOUSES**. Dedicated in **1969**, these residences are typically occupied by members of the junior class as well as some sophomores. Each house is named for a town or city located in the Merrimack Valley. Beginning with the first building on the right of Walsh Way, next to the Hamel Health Center and facing east are **NORTH ANDOVER, BOXFORD, HAVERHILL, TYNGSBOROUGH, TEWKSBURY, LOWELL, DRACUT** and **CHELMSFORD HOUSES. SALEM, METHUEN, LAWRENCE** and **ANDOVER HOUSES** face north. In recent years, these residents choose particular themes for their house, sponsoring activities to educate the community around a specific topic. For example, one of the residences has an Augustinian theme while another focuses on Campus Ministry activities.

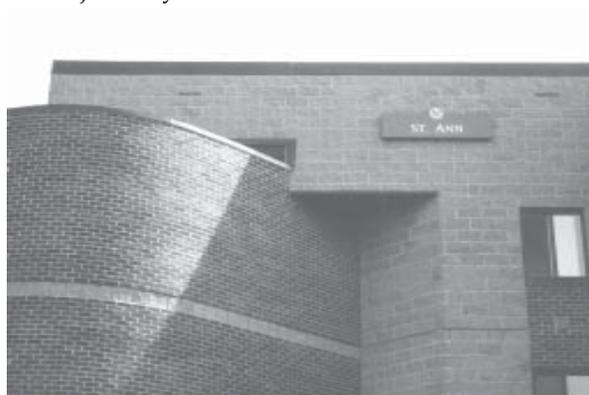
The tour continues by walking along Walsh Way towards **MONICAN CENTRE**, a residence mainly for sophomores with some members of the junior class as well. Together with **ASH CENTRE**, originally called **AUSTIN CENTRE**, this building was dedicated as a residence for female students in **1961**. When these buildings were constructed, they consisted of only the main section and one wing. In 1962, two wings were added to each building while the first wings were already occupied. Monican Centre is named for **ST. MONICA**, the mother of St. Augustine. She continues to be a very popular saint, especially for mothers, and is a model of an individual who persevered with prayerful trust in God's loving care.

Walking along Murray Way to the right of the main entrance of Monican Centre are two other residences: **ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA APARTMENTS**, dedicated in **1986**, and **ST. ANN APARTMENTS**, dedicated in **1988**. The **ST. THOMAS APARTMENTS** are named for St. Thomas of Villanova, a sixteenth century Augustinian saint, writer, educator and bishop. He was born in Spain in 1486 and entered the community of the Augustinian Friars in 1516. In 1533, as Prior Provincial of the Province of Spain, he sent the first Augustinians to the New World where

the Augustinians played a significant role in the exploration and Christianization of the American continent.

St. Thomas was ordained in 1544 as the Archbishop of Valencia where he died in 1555. His life is memorable for his ardent charity, zeal for the promotion of studies and the spreading of the Gospel to foreign lands. Merrimack College was founded and continues to be sponsored by the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. Merrimack's sister school, Villanova University, a Philadelphia suburb, also takes its name from St. Thomas. Merrimack College was officially dedicated in 1947 on his feast day, September 22. These apartments are residences mainly for seniors and a few junior year students. The six units are lettered A through F.

**ST. ANN APARTMENTS** were dedicated in **1988** and are principally occupied by seniors with some juniors. Often referred to as **the Towers**, these apartments are



*St. Ann Apartments*

lettered G through M (There is no I tower). They are named after St. Ann, the mother of Mary and grandmother of Jesus.

## **O**PPORTUNITIES FOR ENTERING THE **WORLD OF FINANCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The walk from these apartments takes us back along Murray Way to Walsh Way, the long boulevard leading to the Rogers Center. Walking along the west side of the Rogers, we enter the green between **O'REILLY HALL** and **MENDEL SCIENCE CENTER**.

**O'REILLY HALL**, dedicated in **1958**, was refurbished both in **1986** and again in **1999**. It houses the Francis E. Girard School of Business and International Commerce and is named to honor the

memory of Rev. James T. O'Reilly, O.S.A., a revered Augustinian of the Merrimack Valley who ministered as pastor of St. Mary's Parish in Lawrence, Mass. for thirty-nine years, 1886 – 1925. A bridge over the Merrimack River connecting North Andover and Lawrence, on Route I-495 is also named in his honor. He served his parishioners, the Augustinian community, the city and the Church with outstanding devotion and distinction and was also instrumental in toning down the possible violence and resolving satisfactorily the well known Textile Strike of 1912 in the city of Lawrence.

Within O'Reilly Hall, eight "smart" classrooms are part of the **FRANCIS E. GIRARD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE** which was established in the fall of 1999 thanks to a generous gift by Francis E. Girard, a 1962 graduate of Merrimack College. A trustee of the college, Mr. Girard is the Chief Executive Officer of Comverse Network Systems, a subsidiary of Comverse Technology. Since its establishment, the Girard School has "enhanced delivery of cutting edge technology, strengthened our teaching resources, augmented the business components of the McQuade Library, and promoted the globalization of our business curriculum." Room 301 is named the **Arthur Andersen Technology Center** for the many alumni who work at the Arthur Andersen Technology Center. Led by Joseph Bruno, '80, a trustee of the college, a campaign was conducted to create a multi-media classroom which "features Internet access and Intranet communications systems and video conferencing that support collaborative distance learning experiences." Joseph A. Graziano '65 donated the technology auditorium in room 312A that is "designed to fully network with the college's Intranet as well as to the Internet."

Directly across the green from O'Reilly Hall, closer to Route 114, is **THE GREGOR MENDEL, O.S.A. CENTER FOR SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY**, more commonly referred to as the Mendel Science Center. Dedicated in June of 1993, this important structure on the campus is named for Gregor Johann Mendel, O.S.A. He was born in 1822 in what today is known as the Czech Republic. He died in 1884 at the Abbey of Brun where he was the Abbot. An Augustinian Friar, priest and biologist, his work laid the foundations of modern

genetics. His name is well known throughout the world and he is universally recognized as one of the great biologists of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the words of one of his contemporaries in the Abbey, Gregor Mendel was “Kind, with a gentle hand out-stretched to all, he was for us confrere, friend, father and brother.” In our time, Pope John Paul II described Mendel as “A man of faith...a man of culture...a scientist...Throughout his life prayer and an



*Mendel Science Center*

Augustine-like praise sustained the research of this patient observer as well as the reflections of this ingenious scientist, the father of modern genetics.”

The **OBSERVATORY** in Mendel exists thanks to the efforts of the Ladies of Merrimack College, which later merged with the Men of Merrimack to form The Friends of Merrimack College. To celebrate the opening of the observatory and to thank the Ladies of Merrimack for their generous support in the funding of this celestial endeavor, the Physics Department held a ‘first light’ ceremony on **Monday, April 26, 1993** at seven o’clock in the evening. The ceremony included a tour of the observatory and an opportunity for guests to glimpse into the heavens through the largest research quality telescope north of Boston.

## CONNECTIONS WITH THE CITY OF LAWRENCE AND THE MERRIMACK VALLEY

The **MOSELEY WROUGHT IRON BOW TRUSS ARCH BRIDGE**, a Civil War era bridge with a fascinating history, connects O'Reilly Hall and the Mendel Science Center. In July of 1989, Professor Francis Griggs of Merrimack's Civil Engineering Department began a campaign to preserve this piece of local history. One of only three bridges of its type in existence today, it was constructed in 1864 by the Moseley Iron Building Works of Boston to connect the Pacific Mills with Canal Street in Lawrence, Mass.

After one of the sides of the bridge collapsed in the late 1980's, officials were forced to close it down. On July 15, 1989, as the bridge was being readied to be destroyed, Griggs visited the Grasso Construction Company of North Andover. An expert in 19<sup>th</sup> century bridges, Dr. Griggs was confident that he and the Merrimack engineering students could restore the trusses. He requested that the trusses be taken down and transported to Merrimack. The bridge's owner, Atlantic Enterprises, granted the first request; Grasso complied with the second.

The initial renovations of the bridge began in the spring of 1990, when Merrimack students disassembled it and removed the decaying parts. Serious renovations began in the fall of 1990 when Dr. Griggs pushed for a major effort to get the arches up by the semester's end. Funding came from many sources and included services as well as funds. In 1993, students made presentations regarding the placement of the bridge on campus over a reflecting pond south of the library. This pond is similar to that shown in the 1947 master plan of the campus in which the body of water was north of the library. The Board of Trustees approved the project in the fall of 1994.

In April of 1995, Dr. Griggs and his students built a pond to support the reconstructed Moseley Bridge. Originally, the bridge was wide enough for two carriageways with footpaths outside the arches. In its renovation, the arches were moved together to accommodate a pedestrian use only. On **October 23, 1995**, the Moseley Bridge was dedicated at Merrimack College and joined

a list of other impressive sites already designated as national landmarks: the Golden Gate Bridge, the Hoover Dam and the Erie Canal. This campus landmark allowed students the opportunity to work on a 'real-life' project.

Merrimack College is now home to the oldest iron bridge in Massachusetts and the oldest riveted wrought iron bridge in the United States. On two occasions, the Historic American Engineering Record has recorded it. A plaque near the bridge in its present location names it as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark, its preservation honored by the American Society of Civil Engineers. It stands as a symbol of Merrimack College's close link with the Immigrant City, Lawrence, Mass., which in turn has served as a bridge welcoming people from numerous countries to find hope and a new life in the community known as the Merrimack Valley. Two plaques indicate that the fountains were a gift of the Ladies of Merrimack and that students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Merrimack College made the bridge/pond project possible.



*Moseley Wrought Iron Bow Truss Arch Bridge*

## **O**DE TO A POET

Also on the green between O'Reilly and Mendel, on the O'Reilly side of the Moseley Bridge, there is a sculpture of the New England poet, **ROBERT FROST** (1874 - 1963) which was donated to Merrimack College by Richard McCoy, a New Hampshire entrepreneur and art lover, and his wife, Janet. Created by sculptor José Buscaglia, a native of Puerto Rico, professor at Yale, and director of the Academy of Arts and Sciences of Puerto Rico, the sculpture is in stone rather than the



*Robert Frost statue*

artist's normal bronze because he linked Frost with stone, "simple yet powerful."

A local boy, Robert Frost graduated from Lawrence High School in Lawrence, Mass. and an elementary school in that city bears his name. Children from the Robert Frost Elementary School in Lawrence were among the guests at the dedication ceremony that took place on **April 24, 1992**. Robert Frost was especially recognized as an American poet when John Fitzgerald Kennedy invited him to read one of his poems at Kennedy's inauguration as President of the United States in January 1961. It is local yore that for the short time the young Robert Frost worked

in one of the mills in Lawrence, he would walk across the Moseley Bridge on his way to work.

## **THE HUB OF THE COLLEGE CAMPUS**

Leaving the green between O'Reilly Hall and Mendel Science Center by making a left turn, we arrive at the campus center quadrangle and the **SAKOWICH CAMPUS CENTER**. This building is at the center of the campus as it has developed over the years, and serves as the hub of community life at the college since its dedication in **1959**. Originally, this building was called **TAGASTAN HALL**, a name to remember the town of Thagaste or Tagaste in what is now Algeria in North Africa. A small town about seventy-five miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea, Thagaste was the birthplace of St. Augustine. As a bishop, he served the people of Hippo, a seaport city and diocese of the North African Church in the fourth and fifth centuries.

The name was changed to **GILDEA HALL** in **1972** by the President, Father John Aherne, O.S.A., to honor **FATHER**

**JOSEPH J. GILDEA, O.S.A.** In 1947 Father Gildea had been assigned to Merrimack College as one of the founding pioneers. As a professor, dean and vice president of the fledgling institution, he put the college on a solid academic foundation. In 1959 Father Gildea was assigned to Villanova University as vice president of academic affairs. In 1960, Merrimack College recognized him as a meticulous, tireless and gifted administrator by bestowing an honorary doctor of law degree on him.

During 2000, Gildea Hall was completely renovated and enlarged. It is now “a 130,000 square foot building, considered to be one of the most progressive campus centers in higher education.” It was dedicated in **January of 2001** and renamed the **GLADYS SAKOWICH CAMPUS CENTER** to honor Gladys Sakowich, a generous benefactor and longtime member of the Board of Trustees of the college. On the second floor of the center, there is a cluster of three meeting/function spaces known as the **GILDEA CONFERENCE AREA**, a way of continuing to honor the memory of Father Joseph Gildea, O.S.A. One of the three spaces is called **MURRAY SUITE**, honoring Father William Murray, O.S.A. who served the college for several years in a variety of capacities. It replaces what was known as **MURRAY LOUNGE** in the original Gildea Hall.

This new campus center is “the building and space at Merrimack where the mind and heart of the community come together. As an Augustinian college, Merrimack encourages this union of mind and heart in a community dedicated to the pursuit of truth and service.” At the new campus center, a person “may purchase textbooks, have lunch, meet friends, use a cash machine, take an aerobics class, talk with a professor over coffee, volunteer for community service, play billiards or video games, interview with an on-campus recruiter, or meditate in the chapel.” The Sakowich Campus Center includes a new recreation center with both athletic and event facilities, renovated dining areas, expanded lounge, and office and meeting spaces for students and new space for the career center, bookstore and post office. It “combines the best of students’ recreation, social and academic worlds to support their busy lives.” The athletic and events facility was named the **ANTHONY SAKOWICH RECREATION COMPLEX** in honor of Gladys’

husband, also a long-time supporter of the college. “The new Campus Center”, as described in a public relations brochure, “is the meeting place for all students, faculty, staff, alumni, guests, and reinforces community values within the Merrimack family.” This centerpiece of the campus “reflects and advances the unique Merrimack mission to *Awaken the Minds and Hearts of a New Generation.*” (Quotations from a brochure: *THE NEW CAMPUS CENTER, The Heart of Merrimack College.*)

One very important room of the **SAKOWICH CAMPUS CENTER** is the **MARIAN E. TAYLOR CHAPEL OF SAINT AUGUSTINE**, located near the **GRACE J. PALMISANO CENTER FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY** on the third floor. A plaque outside this chapel, indicating **January 26, 2001** as the day of its dedication, notes that “Marian was a lifelong Augustinian parishioner in Lawrence, Massachusetts” and that the



*Seal of Merrimack College*

chapel was a “Gift of her son, J. Kenneth ‘63 and Sandra Taylor”. The Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated in the chapel every weekday during the academic year and, of course, the chapel is always available for prayer and reflection. On the second Tuesday of each month, the Eucharist is celebrated in the chapel for the deceased members of alumni/alumnae of the college. The two stained glass windows, the chapel door and the altar were in the

chapel of Gildea Hall prior to its renovation and renaming.

The **STEVENS SERVICE LEARNING CENTER**, “inaugurated in fall 1998 at Merrimack College, was launched with a generous grant from the Stevens Foundation.” Located on the third floor of Sakowich Campus Center, it “promotes the integration of community service work into traditional academic course. Such service, in the Augustinian tradition, involves students intellectually and spiritually in shaping positive change in the surrounding communities.”

## THE ACADEMIC CENTER OF THE CAMPUS

The academic centerpiece of the campus is **McQUADE LIBRARY**, located centrally on the green among the four classroom buildings, O'Reilly, Mendel, Cushing and Sullivan. As such, its name was well chosen to honor the memory of the founding president of Merrimack College, **FATHER VINCENT AUGUSTINE McQUADE, O.S.A.**

(1909 – 1971). Born in Lawrence, Mass., Father McQuade was a member of the Augustinian parish of St. Mary's and received his grammar school education in St. Mary's parochial school, both in the city of Lawrence. He began his high school education and his life as an Augustinian Friar when he entered Augustinian Academy on Staten Island in 1922. Father McQuade completed his studies with a doctorate in sociology at The Catholic University of America in 1938.

He began his ministry as an educator at Villanova College in 1938 and served that institution in a variety of ways until 1946. His experience at Villanova was a unique preparation for Father McQuade's major apostolate, to establish a new college at North Andover where he was appointed the founding president on December 18, 1946. From that date until his resignation twenty-two years later in 1968, he labored tirelessly as president to create a flourishing new college from the original single family brick house at 111 Peters St., North Andover, and some wooded land, to a 220-acre campus. That original house became the first Augustinian faculty house and later was named **CASCIA HALL** when the Augustinian Friars moved into **AUSTIN HALL**, usually referred to as 'the Monastery,' in 1952. Cascia Hall then became a residence for female students. The original house on Peters Street is currently a family residence. When the college sold the house, the name **Cascia** with its Augustinian connection to St. Rita became available once again and was used to designate the small, white New England style church building when Merrimack obtained it for use as a multi-purpose meeting space on campus.

During Father McQuade's twenty-two years as president, Merrimack College grew from two "temporary buildings" to thirteen major buildings. These permanent structures included the

Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher, laboratories, classroom buildings, a student union building (The Sakowich Campus Center), Austin Hall (The Monastery) and the magnificent **McQUADE LIBRARY** named in his honor. After his sudden death at Villanova University on February 11, 1971, less than three years after leaving Merrimack, Father McQuade was buried in the Augustinian plot at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lawrence, Mass.

The McQuade Library today is the intellectual and geographical center of the college campus, serving both traditional and contemporary roles. The library holds 131,000 volumes and 900 periodical subscriptions. It is also the site of the Information Technology Center, Media Center, the Writing Center, the Mathematics Center and the Study Center.



*Older version of the Augustinian seal located on Cushing Hall, the first building*

During the fall semester of 2000, a section of the third floor of the library was designated as the **WILLIAM L. WENZEL, SR. – GERTRUDE F. McFADDEN AUGUSTINIAN COLLECTION**. The books in this collection were written either by or about St. Augustine of Hippo together with books pertinent to the Augustinian Order. On **February 14, 2001**, this section

of the library was dedicated in memory of the parents of Rev. James A. Wenzel, O.S.A., the author of this tour who currently ministers in both the Center for Augustinian Study and Legacy and the Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry.

Committed to service to students, faculty and staff, the library provides professional reference assistance, library orientation, and ongoing instruction. General research strategies are taught utilizing specific reference sources in both traditional and electronic formats. The library staff provides classes in basic research skills to all freshmen through the First Year seminar program and the Introduction to College Writing course.

Access to library material is made available through a Web-based, online catalogue and circulation system through the library membership in NOBLE (North of Boston Library Exchange). NOBLE is an automated resource-sharing network of 27 area libraries including eight academic, 17 public and one

special library. McQuade Library also provides access to its electronic resources including the online catalog, electronic databases and the Internet on thirteen workstations located in the Reference Room.

The library has a collection of new and popular fiction for recreational reading interests. Pleasant study areas, seminar rooms and a 190-seat auditorium further enhance the



*McQuade Library*

library as a center of learning and activity. As of this writing, plans are underway for a complete renovation of the library.

## **FOCUS ON MERRIMACK'S CATHOLIC IDENTITY, ITS AUGUSTINIAN ROOTS AND ITS DEDICATION TO THE STUDY OF THE LIBERAL ARTS**

Leaving McQuade Library and taking the path between the next two classroom buildings on the green (Cushing and Sullivan), the path which leads to Austin Hall, there is a lovely memorial to one of the most popular professors in the history of Merrimack College. On the left side of the path and on the left of the main entrance to Cushing Hall, there is a stone bench with the simple but telling inscription:

**In Memory of**  
**JOSEPH A. FLAHERTY, O.S.A.**  
**1916 – 1993**  
**Professor of English Literature**  
**From Students, Colleagues and Friends**

*“AND GLADLY WOULD HE LEARN AND GLADLY TEACH.”*  
**Chaucer**

Quite near this bench, a tree was planted, also to memorialize Father Flaherty. The tree was donated to the college by the acclaimed British actress Judi Dench, whose recent films include *Shakespeare in Love* and *Tea with Mussolini* (both in 1998), *As Time Goes By* and *The World is Not Enough* (both in 1999) and *Chocolat* (in 2000) for which she received an Academy Award nomination. Father Flaherty had met and become a friend of Judi Dench when she was an aspiring young actress in London. Father Flaherty often spent several weeks each summer continuing his study of English literature and enjoying the world famous theatres of London. When Judi Dench was informed of his death, she wanted to express her gratitude for his friendship and chose to have this living memorial at the college he loved so well. With the exception of three years (1964 – 1967 when he was academic vice president and later president of Villanova University), Father Flaherty was associated with Merrimack College from 1948 until the time of his death in 1993. He served the college faithfully and fruitfully for almost forty-two years, not only as a professor of English but in a number of administrative positions as well. He was a first cousin of Father John Aherne, the college’s second president.

**CUSHING HALL**, dedicated in 1949, was the first permanent building erected on Merrimack’s campus. This building, as well as Sullivan Hall, houses offices and classrooms connected with liberal arts and the social sciences. It was named to honor **RICHARD JAMES CARDINAL CUSHING** (1895 – 1970), Archbishop of Boston from 1944 to 1970 who invited the Augustinians to found the college in the late summer of 1946.

Cardinal Cushing became a close personal friend of Father

McQuade and indeed of the Augustinian family. In September of 1960, the Cardinal was officially affiliated to the Augustinian Order and both at and following the ceremony of affiliation, dressed in the black religious habit of the friars.



*Bench dedicated to Father Flaherty*

Cardinal Cushing was an outstanding bishop in the Archdiocese of Boston, founding some 100 parishes, many parochial grammar schools, regional high schools, colleges, hospitals and other institutions during his twenty-six years of service. Rome recognized his dedication as a priest and bishop when he was named a cardinal. He participated in the sessions of the Second Vatican Council, became a personal friend of Blessed Pope John XXIII, offered the benediction at the Presidential Inauguration of John Fitzgerald Kennedy and was the celebrant of the president's funeral in 1963. His name and memory live on at Merrimack College in gratitude for his foresight and dedication to this institution of higher learning. The **STEVENS THEATRE**, named to honor the Stevens Foundation, generous contributors to Merrimack, is located in Cushing.

Crossing the green and walking to Sullivan Hall, we arrive at **AUGUSTINIAN PLAZA**, located to the right as one faces the main entrance of Sullivan. The inscriptions found on the monument and on a granite marker near the monument provide the reason for this plaza.

**This plaza has been constructed as a permanent remembrance of Merrimack College's Augustinian Founders and The Order's continuing contribution to the institution.**

*CONDISCIPULI IN SCHOLA CHRISTI* SERMON 278.11  
DISCIPLES TOGETHER IN THE SCHOOL OF CHRIST

IN GRATITUDE

AUGUSTINIAN PLAZA

DEDICATED

JUNE 1, 1991

Members of the Board of Trustees

The names of those who were trustees when the monument was dedicated as well as the names of all of the Augustinians who have served at Merrimack since its founding are inscribed.

On the granite marker, we read:

Since it was founded in 1947, Merrimack College has been blessed with the dedication and service of many individuals. Most important to the young institution were the Augustinians who donated their energy and expertise from 1947 to 1972. Their years of service without pay, their "living endowment," provided the strong foundation upon which Merrimack has grown.

The Order of St. Augustine continues to be the largest single benefactor of Merrimack College and Augustinians have continued their tradition of service to the institution. It is with a deep sense of gratitude that we acknowledge and honor their contributions.

SULLIVAN HALL, dedicated in 1951, keeps the memory of Rev. Mortimer Augustine Sullivan, O.S.A. (1887 – 1949) alive. Like Cushing Hall, this building on the green is devoted to offices and classrooms associated with liberal arts and the social sciences. Father Sullivan was also a native of Lawrence, Mass. and was the Prior Provincial of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova in 1946. That year Archbishop Cushing of Boston, in later years Cardinal Cushing, wished to open two colleges, one south and one north of Boston. He invited a number of religious

orders to respond to this request. When the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, through the Provincial, Father Sullivan, met with Archbishop Cushing, the friars chose to found a new college in the Merrimack Valley because they had roots here through staffing parishes in the area for almost one hundred years. Father Sullivan appointed Father McQuade as its founding president. Father Sullivan died in 1949 and is buried in the Augustinian plot at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lawrence, Mass.

Sullivan Hall houses the **CENTER FOR AUGUSTINIAN STUDY AND LEGACY** which was initiated and funded by the Augustinian Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. The Center has a two-fold mission. First, it ensures that the college will continue to draw on the intellectual and spiritual legacy of St. Augustine and of the Augustinian Order. Second, as an important feature of Merrimack's emphasis on mission effectiveness, the center also provides opportunities for members of the college and visiting scholars to access, research and explore the works of St. Augustine and his continuing influence on thought and culture, thus helping to foster Merrimack College's mission to *Awaken the Minds and Hearts of a New Generation*. "The center's work enriches the academic community at Merrimack and advances the continuing relevance of Augustinian thought."



St. Augustine of Hippo

## **T**HE HEART OF THE CAMPUS

Returning to the path on the green, the tour continues to **AUSTIN HALL**, which was dedicated in **1952**. From the beginning, this building housed both administration offices as well as many of the Augustinian Friars who ministered at the college. Austin Hall is connected to **THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF CHRIST THE TEACHER**. These two buildings are the heart of campus life. In the Dedication of Merrimack College brochure, dated September 22, 1947, "Notes on Development of Master

Plan” state: “The Chapel will occupy the dominant location at the junction of the highways, adjacent to the future dormitories and the educational buildings.” From the beginning, the significance of the college church was envisioned.

**THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF CHRIST THE TEACHER** was dedicated with a Solemn Pontifical High Mass by then Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, on **April 26, 1955**, the Augustinian Feast of Our Mother of Good Counsel. It was built to seat 1,000 persons. The lower level of the church has an auditorium with a stage.

Over the years, this church has been the site of religious services including ordinations to the priesthood, marriages of



*Austin Hall*

graduates, funerals of Augustinians and faculty members, Baccalaureate Masses for graduating classes and Sunday Eucharist for the campus community. The dedication of one of the stained glass

windows in the Church offers an interesting bit of ecclesiastical history. Entering the Church by way of the main door, the third window on the left is dedicated **in honor of Archbishop Cushing by his friend, Cardinal Spellman**. In 1955, the time of the Church’s dedication, Archbishop Cushing had not been made a cardinal. At that time, however, another priest of the Archdiocese of Boston, Francis J. Spellman, who had been an auxiliary bishop of Boston, was both the Archbishop of New York and a cardinal.

## **A BRIEF RETURN TO MERRIMACK'S HUMBLE BEGINNING**

This tour would not be complete without a word about the three original buildings that 'were' the college in the early days of Merrimack. Across the street from the statue of Christ the Teacher, making a left turn off of Elm Street and behind the Ipswich Bank located on the southwest corner of Wilson's Corner, a road leads to the three plots of ground where these three original structures were located: **CASCIA HALL, GUILD HALL** and **THE GYMNASIUM**.



*Collegiate Church of Christ the Teacher*

## **MERRIMACK'S BEGINNING BUILDINGS**

**CASCIA HALL** was the name given to the brick house located at 111 Peters Street, North Andover, a house acquired in 1947 from John A. Murphy. It served as the first residence for the Augustinian Friars who pioneered the beginning of the college. It is now owned and occupied by Mrs. Ann Royal, the widow of a beloved faculty member, John "Doc" Royal. When the Royals moved into the house, the name Cascia Hall was dropped but as has already been mentioned, this name has been revived and given to the New England style church building that is located near the Sakowich Campus Center on the campus.

**GUILD HALL** was the first building used by Merrimack College when it opened in September of 1947. This building was erected by a local builder, Jeremiah J. Murphy, of the Tower Hill section of Lawrence and a brother of John A. Murphy. Located across the street from Cascia Hall, this building, an E-shaped cinderblock structure, housed seven classrooms, two laboratories, a small library and a few administrative offices. It served as a

temporary building to enable the college to begin classes in September of 1947, a year earlier than had originally been intended. In the early years, it was simply identified as the classroom building. At the suggestion of Father William J. Wynne, O.S.A., one of the original Augustinians on the faculty who also served as college librarian for many years, the building was called Guild Hall around the time that Cushing Hall was dedicated on the permanent campus. Since this new building had a name, it seemed to be opportune to dedicate the original classroom building. In those early days, an organization, the Men of Merrimack, was formed, consisting of men of the area who contributed in countless ways to help get the fledgling institution on its feet. When it was decided to make the members of the Men of Merrimack honorary members of the alumni, the name **GUILD HALL** was chosen. This name was suggested after the example of the many guilds which were prevalent and popular in the Middle Ages in Europe. These guilds were composed of skilled craftsmen whose work contributed to the building of the cities. As a way of honoring the dedicated people who gave of themselves with their many gifts and skills to begin Merrimack College, this simple, practical and multi-functional building was called Guild Hall to thank those who had contributed to found this new institution of higher learning in the Merrimack Valley.

**THE GYMNASIUM** was also constructed by Jeremiah J. Murphy in the winter of 1947 – 1948 and, though a temporary structure like Guild Hall, it served the college well for many years as a multi-purpose building. This building was what was known as a Quonset hut, a type of building that was very common during and post World War II. The name is a trademark used for a prefabricated shelter set on a foundation of bolted steel trusses and built of a semicircular arching roof of corrugated metal insulated with wood fiber. The name is taken from Quonset, Rhode Island, the place where such structures were first constructed. The gymnasium was used for gatherings of the whole student body and faculty, for religious services, for athletic events, especially basketball games, for dances, for concerts and for many events in the social life of the students. The gymnasium later burned down. Once a sufficient number of permanent buildings had been erected on the campus, Guild Hall was torn down.



*Merrimack College in its early years*



*Merrimack College 2001*

## A POSTSCRIPT

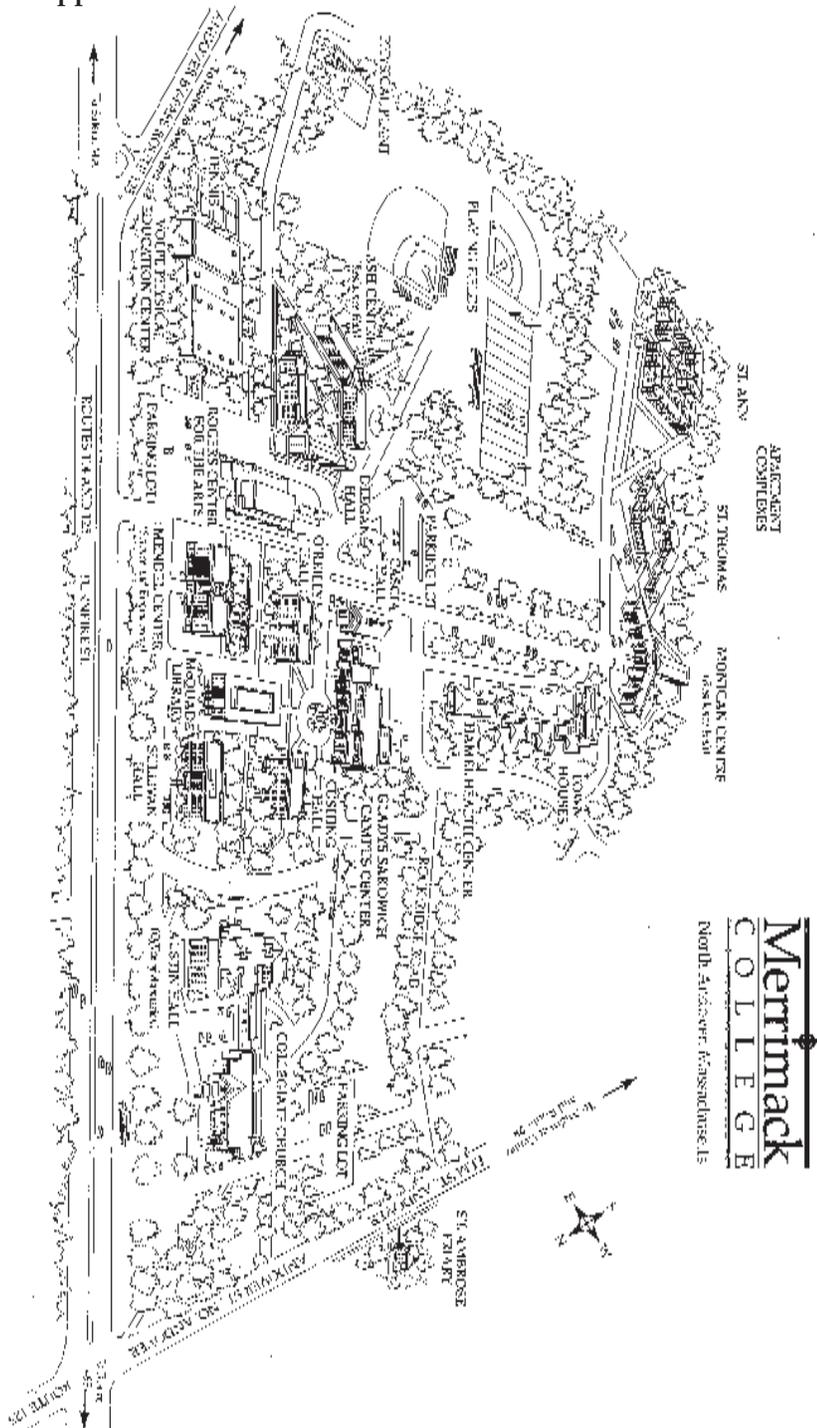
The preceding words are described as “a walking tour” of the campus of Merrimack College. As I think of the college beginning its fifty-fifth academic year and reflect upon how essential it is to “*keep on walking*” into the future, a section of one of St. Augustine’s sermons comes to mind.

*You ask, “What does walking mean?” I’ll tell you very briefly: it means forging ahead, in case you should possibly not understand, and start walking sluggishly. Forge ahead, my brothers and sisters; always examine yourselves without self-deception, without flattery, without buttering yourselves up. After all, there’s nobody inside you before whom you need feel ashamed, or whom you need to impress. There is someone there, but one who is pleased with humility; let him test you. And you, too, test yourself. Always be dissatisfied with what you are, if you want to arrive at what you are not yet. Because whenever you are satisfied with yourself, there you have stuck. If, though, you say, “That’s enough, that’s the lot,” then you’ve even perished. Always add some more, always keep on walking, always forge ahead. Don’t stop on the road, don’t turn round and go back, don’t wander off the road. You stop, if you don’t forge ahead; you go back, if you turn back to what you have already left behind; you wander off the road, if you apostatize. The lame man on the road goes better than the sprinter off the road.*

Sermon 169, 18

The walking tour recalls some important historical events in the life of Merrimack College. However, when a person takes the tour, it is my prayerful hope that whoever he or she may be - student or parent, faculty member or trustee, friend or benefactor, administrator or staff member - the future of this institution will come to mind.

Appendix I

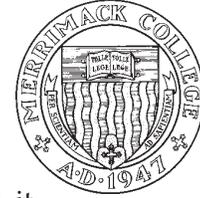


**Merrimack**  
**COLLEGE**  
 North Andover, Massachusetts 01855

## Appendix II

### The Seal of Merrimack College

Merrimack College's official seal was designed by heraldry expert William F. Ryan in New York.



Circular with a blue peripheral band, edged in gold, it bears the title MERRIMACK COLLEGE with "A.D. 1947" between two crosses fleurette also in gold.

The center of the seal is a shield, whose upper portion bears the image of a book with the words "*Tolle Lege Tolle Lege*" across it. Incorporated in the shield are wavy lines and a cross, superimposed on a trimount figure at the bottom. Encircling the base of the shield on a silver background is a golden scroll displaying the college's motto "*Per Scientiam Ad Sapientiam*" ("Through Knowledge to Wisdom") in blue letters.

Wavy lines represent water in heraldry, so wavy pallets were chosen to represent Merrimack, which meant "swift water" to some of the Indians who once lived in the Merrimack Valley. The wavy lines are vertical rather than horizontal, not alone for artistic reasons, but also because wavy vertical lines seem to better capture the feeling of swiftly flowing water. The seal is an unusually good example of canting arms of which the medieval heralds were so fond. Canting arms, or "arms parlantes" sing out the name of the bearer. The thirteen wavy pallets recall that Massachusetts was one of the thirteen original colonies. And-over (Andover) all in the base is a trimount, charged with a cross fleurette, from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Boston. The old name of Boston was Trimountain or Tremount. The cross fleurette refers to the French ancestry of Bishop Cheverus, the first Bishop of Boston (1810-1823). Thus the shield refers to the name of this Augustinian college and to its location in the Archdiocese of Boston. The trimount also is a charge on the coat of arms of Pope Pius XII, in whose pontificate Merrimack College was established.

The order of Saint Augustine is represented in the college seal by the image of a book imprinted with the famous words connected with Saint Augustine's conversion, "*Tolle Lege*" ("take up and read"). The school colors, blue (color of loyalty and the cold, rippling waters of the Merrimack) and gold (symbol of wisdom and a paper color), predominate on the shield.

### **Appendix III**

Names and brief biography of the Augustinian Friars for whom roadways are named on the campus of Merrimack College.

**AHERNE AVENUE: John R. Aherne, O.S.A. (1912-1990)**

Father Aherne came to Merrimack in 1962 as academic vice president. From 1968-1976, he served the college as its second President. An avid music lover, he initiated the college's Celebrity Series which evolved into the Concert Series, during his presidency.

**BURKE ROAD: Thomas A. Burke, O.S.A. (1912-1984)**

Father Burke came to Merrimack after serving at Villanova University for many years. He served as the dean of engineering at Merrimack College from 1957-1965 and also as a professor in that department during those years. His outgoing personality made him one of the popular Augustinians on campus.

**CULLEN AVENUE: William G. Cullen, O.S.A. (1901-1968)**

Father Cullen was a member of the original Augustinian faculty at Merrimack College, arriving here in the summer of 1947. He was an assistant professor of physics for many years and he served the college in a variety of capacities until 1960.

**FENTON ROAD: Ezra J. Fenton, O.S.A. (1913-1981)**

Father Fenton ministered at Merrimack College from 1957 to 1969 as assistant to the president, dean of admission and assistant professor in the Education Department.

**FLAHERTY WAY: Joseph A. Flaherty, O.S.A. (1916-1993)**

Father Flaherty was one of the founding members of the Augustinian faculty, arriving here in 1947. In 1949, he received a doctorate in English at Harvard University. He taught as a beloved member of the English Department until his tenure was interrupted when he became a vice president, and was then named president of Villanova University in 1965. He returned to Merrimack in 1967 and retired to Our Mother of Good Counsel Monastery on campus.

**MURRAY WAY: William J. Murray, O.S.A. (born 1921)**

Father Murray arrived at Merrimack College in 1959 as guidance director. In 1960, he was appointed dean of men and remained in that position until 1970 when he was named vice president of student services, a position he held until 1983. He was also professor of physics, mathematics and theology from 1959 to 1971. In all, Father Murray served the Merrimack community for 24 years. He resides at the Augustinian Health Care facility at Villanova University.

**WALSH WAY: Thomas F. Walsh, O.S.A. (1909-1990)**

Father Walsh was assigned to Merrimack College in September of 1950 and spent the next 40 years, the remainder of his life, at Merrimack. During his ministry at the college, he taught such various courses as philosophy, mathematics and religious studies. He organized and was involved with a great number of students as well as alumni activities, especially in the area of music and choral groups.

**MEDINA DRIVE: Alberto Medina, O.S.A.**

Father Medina was an Augustinian Friar from Spain, on loan to the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova. During his eighteen years of ministry at Merrimack, from 1962 to 1980, Father Medina was an Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy.