New Law School Opening for Fall Semester; Modern Structure First At Lincoln Square

The Lexagram, Fordham Law School
Professor Joseph W. McGovern
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This year marks a new era in the development of Fordham Law School. On May 3, 1960, Francis Cardinal Spellman unveiled the cornerstone of the new law school and library at Lincoln Square. Since that time construction has progressed according to schedule so that it seems certain that the new buildings will be ready in time for the Fall Semester.

The new $3,000,000 school is the first phase of the future two-block, seven and a half acre Fordham Mid-Town Campus which is expected to be completed by 1965 at a cost of $25,000,000. The new law school is ideally located on Manhattan's upper Westside, just north of Columbus Circle and immediately adjacent to the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. In years to come Fordham Law School will be the neighbor of the Metropolitan Opera, New York Philharmonic Society, Julliard School of Music, a Repertory Theatre and the newly-created Theatre of the Dance—all components of what is hailed as the world's most important cultural and educational center.

The main part of the L-shaped building faces north on 62nd Street, directly opposite the site for the Theatre of the Dance. It has four floors, three of which will rise above street level. The connected three-floor (one below street level) wing, which contains the law library and faculty offices, will run one block southward to what is presently 61st Street. In the main building will be the administrative offices, classrooms, seminar rooms, and faculty and student lounges.

The new school will present a facade of more than fifty per cent glass, with aluminum-framed windows set with alternating mullions. Limestone will be used to complete the curtain wall construction. The building, which will be set back from the sidewalks, will be bordered by landscaped aprons.

The entire 98,179 sq ft. interior of the new building, will be air-conditioned; it will have terrazzo or linoleum floors and fluorescent lighting through-out. Acoustical tile will be used in most public areas.

The ground floor of the new building has been reserved primarily for storage space at present, although an area has been designated for student lockers. This floor will provide room for expansion of office and classroom facilities in the future.

Along the main corridor of the first floor will be the offices of the Dean, Assistant Dean, Registrar and the Law Alumni Placement Office. There will also be spacious lounges for the faculty and the students. Immediately off the main lobby and opposite the main entrance, is the entrance to the new law library. Another corridor, running the full-length of the west side of the building, will lead to seven faculty offices and a large faculty reading room.

To get to the second floor there is an elevator available in the main lobby in addition to three sets of stairways—one at each corner of the building. The second floor is primarily devoted to five classrooms and two seminar rooms. Their capacity ranges from thirty to ninety students. There are also offices for the Law Review Moderator, Law Review Staff, and Student Bar Association along the inside of the main corridor. The entire west side of the second floor will be used for eleven faculty offices.

There will only be one classroom on the third floor. It will be the largest one in the building, having a seating capacity for one hundred and fifty students. Adjoining this classroom will be the moot court room, which, with its judge's chambers and jury room, will take up the remainder of the third floor.

The most important feature of the new school buildings is the law library. The new library because of its five stack levels will permit our present collection to be expanded from 70,000 volumes to over 200,000 volumes. The main reading room will seat approximately two hundred and forty students. The third stack area is level, with the floor of the main reading room. The lower and upper levels will be accessible from the main reading room. On each level there will be individual carrels for the convenience of research. Other features of the library are the offices of the Librarian and Reference Librarian, two lawyer's rooms for private conferences, and a micro-reproduction room.

OUR NEW HOME
Working Progresses for September opening