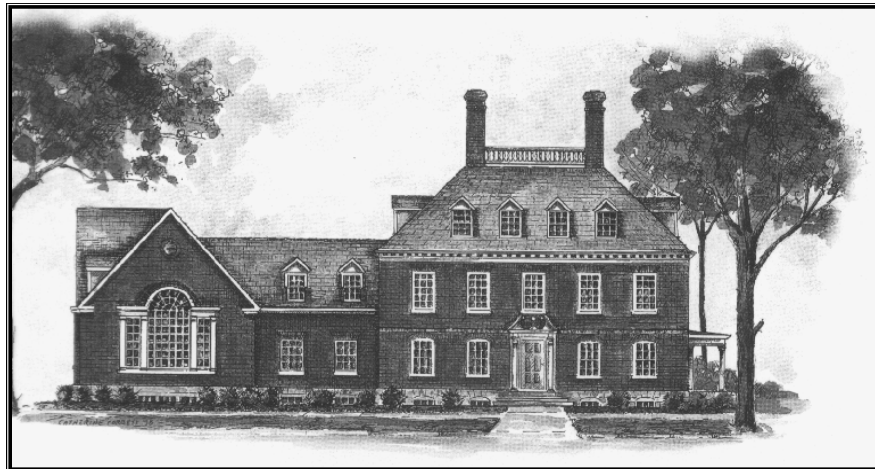


Phi Delta Theta International Headquarters



The Tour of General Headquarters Historical Information

Paul E. Martin Building
2 South Campus Avenue
Oxford, Ohio 45056

Welcome to the Phi Delta Theta General Headquarters

Welcome to the Headquarters of the Phi Delta Theta International Fraternity and Foundation. We are pleased to share with you the many historic and heraldic features of our central office.

Please enjoy the history of our great Fraternity that is enshrined within these walls and feel the pride we all share in the accomplishments of our brothers.

Headquarters History

From the founding of the Fraternity, all day-to-day affairs of the organization were undertaken by members of the General Council until an Assistant to the Council was appointed in 1918 whose office was in the memorial chapter house in Oxford, Ohio. The Central Office was created by the General Convention of 1920. It was moved to Indianapolis in 1921 and to Detroit in 1923. In 1926, by General Convention action, the Central Office was permanently located at the birthplace of Phi Delta Theta in Oxford. The Fraternity purchased property at 208 East High Street in 1927, and this building served as the General Headquarters for two decades.

In 1940, the General Convention authorized the erection of a Memorial Library and General Headquarters to be ready for dedication during the Centennial of the Fraternity in 1948. Ceremonial groundbreaking on this project occurred on December 15, 1945, and the laying of the original cornerstone took place on July 6, 1946. The General Headquarters building was dedicated during the Centennial Convention in September 1948. The site of the new Headquarters was the birthplace of Caroline Scott Harrison, first President General of the Daughters of the American Revolution and wife of President Benjamin Harrison.

On June 19, 1998, during the Sesquicentennial Convention, another ceremonial groundbreaking occurred with the recent expansion of the headquarters building.

The headquarters building resembles the Governor's Palace located in Williamsburg, Virginia.

General Headquarters Building named in honor of: **Paul E. Martin**
Office space donated by: **Joseph D. Williams, Jr.**
Office space donated by: **Paul H. Smucker**
Leadership Consultant area donated by: **Marvin J. Perry**
Office space donated by: **C.J. "Pete" Silas**
Office space donated by: **Ralph O. Taylor**
Conference Room donated by: **F. Ross Johnson**
Harrison Study named in honor of: **U.S. President Benjamin Harrison**
Banta Library named in honor of: **David Demaree Banta**
Founders Room named in honor of: **Kenneth Jastrow II**
Flagpoles donated by: **J. Paul Price**; named in honor of NASA astronauts **Neil Armstrong, F. Story Musgrave, and Jon McBride**
Lou Gehrig Memorial Award in memory of: **Jeffrey D. Gragg**
Assembly Room & Costello-Read Leadership Center donated by: **John H. Costello III and Roger T. Read**

A Guide to the Phi Delta Theta Headquarters

Please take the opportunity to sign our guest book as you arrive.

First Floor

The Grand Foyer

The entrance hall in the Memorial Headquarters Building is quite majestic in its design. Two exquisite murals greet you upon your entrance. The south wall mural pictures the Miami University campus as it appeared in 1848. Included on this mural are North Dormitory (the founding site of Phi Delta Theta), South Dormitory, and Old Main. These buildings are now all named in honor of members of Phi Delta Theta: Elliott Hall, Stoddard Hall and Harrison Hall. The mural on the north wall illustrates the strength of Phi Delta Theta throughout North America by denoting each of the Fraternity's undergraduate chapters.

At the west end of the entrance hall is the magnificent Palladian Window. The glass doorway leads to the Sesquicentennial Courtyard. Twin oak staircases wrap around the wall to the second floor.

The Sesquicentennial Courtyard

The red-bricked Sesquicentennial Courtyard is located just outside the Palladian Window. This courtyard is home to several thousand engraved bricks honoring and memorializing members of Phi Delta Theta, as well as their friends and family members. Orders for personalized bricks are still being accepted. There are currently over 4,000 bricks in the courtyard.

Prominently situated in the courtyard is the monument that reads as follows:

“To the memory of the sons of Phi Delta Theta who gave their lives in the wars of their country. Their sacrifice will be remembered by continuing generations who will strive to fulfill their dream of lasting peace and universal brotherhood.”

Foundation and Fraternity Offices

The goal of the building expansion was to house the Foundation and Fraternity staffs together, enabling them to better serve alumni and undergraduate members. This has been achieved, and the remodeling of the existing building has allowed for more efficient use of space.

From the foyer, the south hallway leads to the new wing of the Headquarters. Pallas, the Ancient Greek goddess of wisdom and the tutelary goddess of Phi Delta Theta, is prominently displayed at the end of the hall. The tile just below Pallas is emblazoned with the Fraternity's Coat of Arms.

The most striking feature in this area is the elegant arched 69-paned window that opens the building to the east, overlooking the Miami campus. Also outside said window are three flagpoles named in honor of NASA astronauts **Neil Armstrong, F. Story Musgrave,** and **Jon McBride**. Both Fraternity and Foundation staffs use this area of the building.

The hallway that extends westward leads to Foundation and Fraternity staff offices. The central receiving platform and shipping room are located at the end of this hall.

Lower Level

The Assembly Room

Located below the Grand Foyer, at the bottom of a winding wooden staircase, the Assembly Room was established in 1948. In 1948, then Executive Vice President Paul Beam referred to it as the Assembly Room. It resembles a Chapter Hall; a place where visiting chapters can come and perform initiation ceremonies as well as chapter meetings. The large portraits on the east and west walls honor the three past Executive Vice Presidents of Phi Delta Theta. The Assembly Room reclamation was made possible by the generous funding support provided by John H. Costello III and Roger T. Read.

The Costello-Read Leadership Center

To the south is the Costello-Read Leadership Center, dedicated in honor of The Ohio Epsilon Chapter in 2016. This is the only room in General Headquarters that is dedicated to a specific chapter—undergraduate brothers and alumni alike. The Costello-Read Leadership Center is the hub of leadership programming of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. It is where the Education Committee meets to deliberate on the fraternity's major conferences and educational initiatives. The Costello-Read Leadership Center also hosts various General Headquarters staff webinars and educational training as well as visiting chapter executive board and chapter retreats. The Miami University and Greater Oxford community is also encouraged to use the space for meetings and/or retreats. Outside of the Leadership Center's astonishing engraved glass doors is our records and archives storage area.

Second Floor

The Library, Harrison and Founders' Rooms

At the top of the winding oak staircases is the entrance to the David Demaree Banta Memorial Library, home to approximately 3,500 books that were written by or about members of Phi Delta Theta.

Doors on the north side of the Memorial Library enter the Harrison Room. On the shelves in this room are issues of The Scroll, catalogues, yearbooks, records, and inter-fraternity documents.

Doors on the south of the Memorial Library enter the Second Founders Room, home to some of the more impressive, as well as anecdotal, memorabilia of Phi Delta

Theta. Portraits on the walls are those of the Second Founders of the Fraternity, George Banta Sr. and Walter B. Palmer.

The Founders Room

The door that leads south from the Memorial Library enters the Founders Room. The beautiful display cases in this room exhibit a sampling of interesting memorabilia. Portraits of The Immortal Six, the founders of Phi Delta Theta, are displayed on the walls. The Founders Room is also where our most prestigious trophies are on display, including the Kansas City, Founders, Housser and Harvard trophies. On the opposite side of the doorway from the major trophies, there is an interactive micro web site that allows visitors to read up on the Founders, Presidents of the General Council, famous Phi alumni, Lou Gehrig Memorial Award winners, chapter houses, and chapter and individual award recipients.

Fraternity Operations Wing

The southwest section of the second floor is set back from the arched window and also overlooks a section of the floor below. This second floor extension is used for the Fraternity's chapter services and expansion efforts.



PHI DELTA THETA

Become the greatest version of yourself

Thank you for visiting!