



ERECTO  
MCM  
A.D.



DISCE

LUX VITA HOMINUM

# H Book

HOBART COLLEGE

August 2023

## CONTENTS

Introduction	1
The Alumni Association of Hobart College	2
Bishop John Henry Hobart	4
The Hobart Seal	5
Hobart Colors	6
The <i>Alma Mater</i>	7
Life at Hobart College	9
Presidents of the College	25
Deans of the College	27
Fraternities	28
Growth of the College	29
Interesting Alumni and People from Hobart's Past	39
Some Recipients of the Hobart Medal of Excellence	42
Hobart Athletics	44
<i>Pro Patria</i> – For Country	46

*Cover photograph:*

The Hobart seal is located on the north side of the Coxe Hall tower. It is topped with a bishop's mitre, visually linking it to the founder of the College, Bishop John Henry Hobart. The Hobart seal is located on the north side of the Coxe Hall.

## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOBART ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

To the Hobart Class of 2027,

On behalf of the Hobart Alumni, I am very pleased to welcome you to Geneva and to Hobart College. The H Book is a longstanding tradition that serves as an important touchstone for every Hobart student.



In this book, you will learn about the history of many of the places on campus where you will live, learn, and play during your time here. You will also get a picture of the values that our community holds dear—those of integrity, leadership, and living lives of consequence.

Though you will spend dedicated time and energy in this place for the better part of the next four years, the connections you make to the Colleges on the shores of Seneca Lake and the people that make those Colleges thrive will last a lifetime.

Best of luck to you and Hip Hobart!

Paul A. Wasmund '07  
*President, Hobart Alumni Association*



*In your entire lifetime, you can only experience four autumns and  
springtimes at Hobart.  
Make them times that will form memories you will  
treasure forever . . .*

Walter Hetherington Durfee, Class of 1908  
Dean of Hobart College  
(1938-1947, 1955-1959)

## INTRODUCTION

What do the inventor of the silicon transistor, the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States, a former Chief Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, the originator of modern weather forecasting, a dedicated doctor who saved many lives at Chernobyl and the former president of Standard & Poor's ratings group all have in common? They are all alums of Hobart College.

The *H Book* is a tradition dating back to 1917 at Hobart. Its purpose is to help you learn about Hobart College. It also serves to introduce you to the Alumni Association and reminds you that you are an important part of Hobart College. You share in the history and heritage of this special place.

Hobart is very much a place of past and present Hobart men. They wrote the *Alma Mater*, designed the seal of the College, picked the College colors, served as guardians of College traditions, founded the clubs that have counterparts here today, provided the nucleus of the books for the library and generally made this College the special place that it is now. Alumni work hard to keep the College strong and welcome you now as the newest Hobart students.

This is not intended to be a complete history but to focus on a sampling of the rich history and heritage of Hobart College. For more detailed information see *Hobart and William Smith: The History of Two Colleges* by Warren Hunting Smith.

The *H Book* was prepared under the guidance of the Druid Society, Hobart College's oldest honor society, and the Alumni Association of Hobart College.

## THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HOBART COLLEGE

**Purpose:** The first alumni group – The House of Convocation – was founded at Hobart College in 1848. Today’s Alumni Association works to promote the interests of Hobart College and to strengthen the bonds between the College and its alumni.

**Membership:** All students who have attended Hobart for one year and whose class has graduated or who have earned a degree from Hobart are members of the Association.

The Alumni Association conducts the Association’s business. The Association includes the officers of the Association, the Association Trustees, the past presidents of the Association, and various subcommittees. The Association meets semi-annually. All alumni are encouraged to attend these meetings.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The Association presents several awards:

**The Medal of Excellence** is presented to an alumnus who has brought honor and distinction to the College through professional, business or community service activities.

**Student Awards** are presented to juniors and seniors for academic excellence and to seniors for service to the Colleges and community.

**Citations** are presented to alumni who have significantly contributed to the goals of the Association and helped strengthen Hobart College.

**The Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Service** is presented to alumni who have made exceptional contributions throughout their lives to the alumni program of Hobart College.

**The Distinguished Faculty Award** honors outstanding teachers at the Colleges and is presented jointly with the William Smith Alumnae Association.

## REUNION

The Office of Alumni and Alumnae Relations sponsors reunions annually for anniversary classes on a 5-year cycle – 5th, 10th, 15th, etc. – although all classes are encouraged to attend every year. The weekend occurs after graduation, typically in early June.

## VOLUNTEERS

Our alums are one of the College's greatest resources, all of whom believe in the Hobart and William Smith experience. As students, they took away much from their years here. Now, in return, they give generously of their time, talents, and financial resources.

**Admissions:** Throughout the year, alums assist with recruiting promising high school students through outreach projects and at special receptions, often held in their own homes.

**Career Services:** Alums provide important internships, job shadowing experiences, networking, and career connections through the Career Network database of alums nationwide. We welcome your participation in career development and networking activities.

**Fundraising:** Many alums participate as class agents for the Colleges' Annual Fund.

**Connecting:** Alums serve as class correspondents for *The Pulteney St. Survey*, the Colleges' magazine, and as Reunion coordinators to ensure that the important friendships and memories made here remain alive.

## OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

The Office of Advancement, located at 775 South Main Street, is the hub for all events and activities involving alums throughout the year. Staff will help you whenever you have a question about alum activities.

## BISHOP JOHN HENRY HOBART



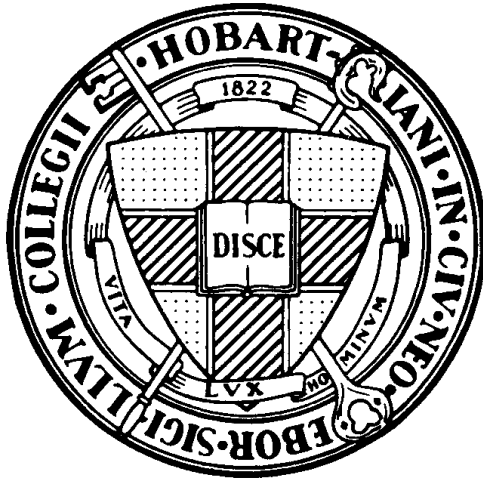
*A portrait by John Paradise*

John Henry Hobart (1775-1830) became the third bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of New York in 1811. At that point, the diocese covered the entire state, and the Bishop regularly journeyed to the remote interior as part of his pastoral duties. Until the Erie Canal opened in 1825, stagecoaches provided the primary means of transportation for the long, grueling trip to Western New York. As Bishop Hobart crossed the state, he became aware that the church needed an institution of higher learning in the “West.”

Although he had considered other sites, by 1818, Bishop Hobart felt that Geneva was the best place for an outpost. Geneva, then a thriving village of 1,700, could boast many amenities, including an “academy,” founded in 1796. Four more years would follow before that academy would become Geneva College—the forerunner of Hobart College. Sadly, Bishop Hobart died in 1830 in Auburn, N.Y., on one final pastoral journey, only eight years after the founding of the College.



## THE HOBART SEAL



Arthur Cleveland Coxe, who was named after his grandfather, Bishop Arthur Cleveland Coxe (for whom Coxe Hall was also named), designed the seal in 1895. The Latin phrase *Sigillum Collegii Hobartiani in Civ Neo Ebor*, along the margin of the seal, translates “The Seal of Hobart College in the State of New York,” and *Vita Lux Hominum*, the phrase on the scroll, translates “Life and Light of Mankind.” *Disce*, the Latin word for “learn,” is undoubtedly a charge to the students to excel, while 1822 signifies the date of the College’s charter.

On the shield, the book represents learning and education, and the cross represents religion. The key on the left may symbolize knowledge. The crossing key, on the right, is symbolic of the bishop’s crook—a reminder of the College’s founder, Bishop Hobart.

## HOBART COLORS

Why orange and purple? These colors may go back as early as the 1870s, when, according to legend, students went into Geneva to buy paint for Homecoming signs. Only orange and purple paints were available so those colors were used. They have been Hobart's official colors since 1904, when the Board of Trustees adopted them. At the turn of the century, the yearbook listed the official Hobart College colors as scarlet and gold, even though the student colors were orange and purple.

## THE ALMA MATER

The *Alma Mater* celebrated its centennial in 1995. Professor C.J. Rose, of the Hobart Class of 1876, composed the music; Edward John Cook, of the Hobart Class of 1895, wrote the lyrics. The song was first sung by the Hobart Glee Club on Dec. 13, 1900.

Prominent in the *Alma Mater* is the phrase "Hip Hobart." Countless alums have sung these words, but few have understood their significance. At the turn of the century, each class had its own cheer. The class yell for 1900 went, in part:

**"Hip Hobart! Hip Hobart!  
Hip, Ho! Hip, Ho! Hip Hobart!"**

Thus "Hip Hobart," like the more commonly known "Hip, Hip Hooray," is a rousing cheer for "Old Hobart."

# ALMA MATER

Words by E. J. COOK, '95  
Music by PROF. C. J. ROSE, '76

Arrangement by  
Harry H. Hobbs, '26 and  
William H. Thompson

1. Ev-er-more thy sons shall be,— Hip Ho-bart, my Hip Ho-bart, Champ-ions  
2. Ev-er-more thy fame shall last, Hip Ho-bart, my Hip Ho-bart, Glo-rious

bold of lib-er-ty, Hip Ho-bart, my Hip Ho-bart; Ev-er shall thy cham-pions prove, Filled with  
still as in the past, Hip Ho-bart, my Hip Ho-bart; With a faith and cour-age strong, Bat-ting

brave un-chang-ing love, Lift-ing souls to heights a-bove, Hip Ho-bart, my Hip Ho-bart.  
ev-er 'gainst the wrong, Hon-ors great to thee be-long, Hip Ho-bart, my Hip Ho-bart.

## CHORUS

Raise the or-ange and pur-ple high, Let us shame them nev-er,

Shout the tri-umph to—the sky, "Hip Ho-bart, for-ev-er!"

# HOBART FIGHT SONG

## March, Men Of Hobart

23

Words and Music by  
HOWARD R. PATCH, 10

Arrangement by Wm. H. Thompson

March, men of Ho - bart, for - ward to - day, ———

Your Al - ma Ma - ter proud - ly points the way; ———

Sing a song of vic - try, Cheer with all your heart And

raise the cho - rus to the skies for old Ho - bart. *Fine* *D. C. al Fine* RAH! RAH! RAH!  
(Shout)

The musical score consists of four systems. Each system includes a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano accompaniment features a steady, rhythmic pattern of chords and single notes, providing a march-like accompaniment for the vocal line. The vocal line is written in a simple, clear style, with lyrics placed below the notes. The score concludes with a double bar line and the instruction 'Fine' and 'D. C. al Fine', followed by the shout 'RAH! RAH! RAH!' in a larger font.

## LIFE AT HOBART COLLEGE

**The Founding of the College:** Tradition has it that in the gray, predawn hours of a day in September 1818, Bishop Hobart led a small group to a hillside overlooking Seneca Lake. “Here, gentlemen,” he stated as he slowly raised his staff and stuck it into the ground, “is the spot for the College.” The first College building, Geneva Hall, was built near that site in 1822.

For many years, Bishop Hobart’s walking stick has been carried in student processions. It represents the founding of the College and links us to that defining moment.

### 1822-1880

**The Early Years:** The College was often in dire need of funds and looking for new presidents, as the position was vacated quite regularly. The college year had three semesters: “Trinity,” which ran from September to December, “Epiphany,” from January to April, and “Easter,” beginning in May and ending in August.

A first-year student’s classes included geometry, Latin grammar and Livy, Greek grammar and Homer, algebra and Roman history—a classical education. During the 1840s, an observer noted, “It was a very quiet college life . . . students were few.” Another added that Chapel was at 5:30 a.m., followed by recitation before breakfast.

From 1871 to 1876, the Rev. Maunsell Van Rensselaer, president of the College, served also as chaplain, to save expenses. During this period, Hobart often had unsalaried professors, the Class of 1874 had only four graduates and plans were often discussed to move the College to Buffalo.

A student in the 1870s paid the following each semester: tuition—\$20, room—\$15.

### The historical record:

- 1822 First building, Geneva Hall; provisional charter
- 1829 The first Native American student, Abraham (or Abram) La Fort from the Class of 1829, studied at Geneva Medical College but did not graduate.
- 1825 Geneva College chartered by New York State
- 1826 First graduation - six students
- 1830 Death of Bishop Hobart
- 1834 Medical School established, first degrees in 1835
- 1836 Isaiah George DeGrasse is the first African American student to matriculate at Geneva Medical College
- 1844 Peter Wilson becomes the first Native American student to graduate from Geneva Medical College
- 1848 House of Convocation, forerunner of Alumni Association
- 1849 Elizabeth Blackwell, first woman in America graduated with Doctor of Medicine degree
- 1850 School of Theology started (more than 100 graduates by 1896)
- 1852 Geneva College renamed Hobart Free College
- 1858 Yearbook, *The Echo of the Seneca*, started
- 1871 Phi Beta Kappa charter
- 1872 Last medical degree conferred
- 1879 *Hobart Herald* founded

The Fifth Hobart General Catalogue, published in 1897, was the last to list all the students who had graduated since the founding of the College. A summary of its data showed:

Graduates in Arts (B.A.), 1826-97	600
Graduates in Letters and Science (B.S. and B.L.)	150
Non-Graduate Students	835
Students in Classes 1898-1901	124
Graduates in Medicine, 1835-72	637
Honorary Graduates, 1827-97	463
Total Alumni and Students	2,809

By 1900, Hobart finally surpassed an enrollment of 100, growing to 400 by 1937.

## 1880-1920

**College Life:** In the late-19th century, Hobart students had several peculiar customs that have since disappeared. Whenever a new student passed beneath a dormitory window, it was customary for a member of any other class to empty the contents of a water pitcher on his head. Naturally, after one or two deluges of this kind, the new students kept to the walks when passing the dormitories. Sophomores sold chapel seats - daily chapel was required - to the unsuspecting new arrivals for whatever amounts they could trick them into paying. Under no circumstances was the victim of this fraud entitled to his money back.

Life on campus during this period was marked by many student pranks. Often cows were found in the Chapel waiting for the morning service. Cannonballs went thundering down the dormitory halls in Geneva and Trinity in the middle of the night, and professors found themselves locked in their classrooms.

One man not to trifle with was mathematics professor, and later Hobart dean, William Pitt Durfee. "Old Durf," as he was known, had the habit of taking his class down to the railroad tracks along the lake.

He would ask them to copy down the numbers on the train cars and then add them up. As the last car passed, he would turn to the class and announce the result that he had mentally added. He was always right.

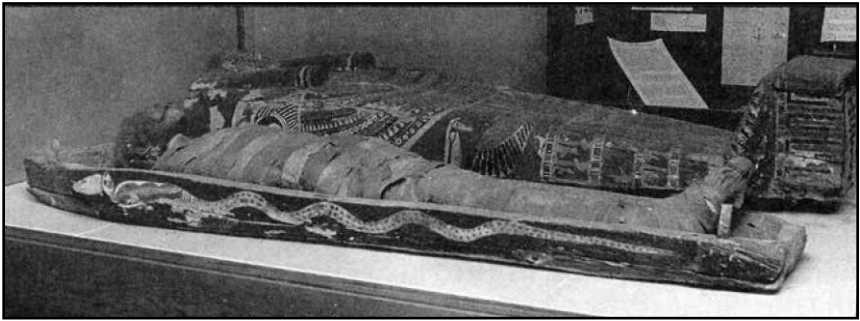
In the Cellar Pub in Coxe Hall are stained-glass depictions of William Pitt Durfee's life, which include his famed skill with mathematical equations.



*"Old Durf" in the Cellar windows*



**Hobart's Mummy:** In 1879, the wife of a Hobart history professor donated a mummy to the College. For many years, it was on public display around the campus and thought to be an elaborate hoax. In 1975, Hobart student David Kamerance '76 began an independent research project to see if the body was authentic. The mummy was X-rayed and carbon-dated. The results showed that it was a female, 18-25 years old, who had lived around 320 B.C. Analyses of the hieroglyphics were inconclusive. It is believed that the case was repainted during the early part of the 20th century. Today, due to its fragile condition, the mummy is no longer on public display and is in special storage in the Warren Hunting Smith Library.



**Honor Societies:** For nearly 180 years, Hobart men have been recognized by their peers and the faculty, deans, chaplain and president of the Colleges for outstanding contributions to the College community.

The Druid Society for seniors, founded in 1903, defines the highest goals for a Hobart man: character, leadership, loyalty. The Druids are the guardians of Hobart traditions and advise the dean and president on matters relating to Hobart heritage and customs.

The Chimera Society for juniors, founded in 1903, takes as its emblem a mythical creature with a lion's head, a goat's body and a serpent's tail. The men of Chimera are chosen on the basis of their many accomplishments and service to the Colleges.

The Orange Key Society for sophomores, founded in 1926, recognizes those who have had an exceptional first year at Hobart based on

scholarship, leadership and accomplishments. Its emblem, the orange key superimposed on a purple “H,” represents the liberal arts education that Hobart students receive.

Inductions for all societies are held during Charter Day Weekend in the spring semester.

**Boswell Bowl:** The original Boswell Field was located where the library and Scandling Campus Center are today. It is named after Charles Partridge Boswell (Class of 1860), who donated the land to the College in 1907. It was used for all College games until the 1970s, when the new field was built near Odell’s Pond. The Boswell family is closely associated with Hobart and William Smith, and many members of the family have attended the Colleges.

**The Founding of William Smith College:** William Smith was born in 1818 in England. After the death of his father in 1829, he came to America to join his brothers’ nursery business in Geneva. He was a friend of many of the women active in the Women’s Rights Movement in nearby Seneca Falls. At the turn of the century, Smith decided to establish a college for women.

In 1903, the Hobart President, Rev. Langdon C. Stewardson, learned of Smith’s plans and tried to convince him to help Hobart, which was in dire financial straits. Unable to influence Smith to directly aid Hobart, Stewardson asked Smith to found a college for women coordinate with Hobart College.

In December 1906, Smith agreed to this plan, and in 1908, William Smith College enrolled its first class of 18 students. Smith’s gift allowed the construction of Smith Hall and the hiring of three new faculty members specializing in biology, sociology and psychology, areas not previously taught. William Smith died in 1912, four years after the founding of the College.



**William Smith Seal:** The seal of William Smith College depicts a lamp, which is the traditional symbol of enlightenment and education. Greek words meaning “life” and “soul” are placed above the lamp. This suggests that the College is concerned with all phases of life and attempts to meet both the physical and spiritual needs of the students. The date of the founding, 1908, is at the base of the lamp, and the inner field is surrounded by boughs of laurel.

### The historical record:

- 1891 Intercollegiate football started
- 1894 Barnabas Tokutaro Sakai, from Nagoya, Japan, is the first Asian student to graduate from Hobart.
- 1898 Intercollegiate lacrosse started
- 1901 Intercollegiate basketball started
- 1903 Druid and Chimera societies founded
- 1908 William Smith College founded
- 1917 Student Army Corps on campus during World War I
- 1920 School of Theology moved to Buffalo
- 1932 Alger L. Adams, first African American graduates from Hobart College

### 1920-1950

**Student Life:** Competitions between classes were an old Hobart tradition. Moving-Up Day (now Charter Day) was always distinguished by the Freshman-Sophomore Flour Scrap. This was a freewheeling scuffle on the Quad involving buckets of water and bags of flour.

**Dramatics:** Student plays and shows flourished during the latter part of the 19th century. A handbill from 1871 advertised the “Sophomore Exhibition,” an evening of skits and parody. When William Smith was founded, the men quickly asked their counterparts to join them in these plays. (The men had previously taken the women’s parts.) This

opened new interaction between the two Colleges, which, at the time, had separate classes.

**The Medbery Mummers:** A theatre company in the early part of the century, the Mummers were followed by the formation of the **Little Theatre** in 1935 as the chief dramatics club on campus. Hobart alumnus Alexander Campbell '25, professor of English, helped to found the Little Theatre. Today, the **Phoenix Players** continue this long tradition of dramatics on campus.

**Schola:** For more than 30 years, the premier choral group on campus was the *Schola Cantorum*, from the Latin “Singers of the Colleges,” directed for many years by Professor Lindsay Lafford P’65, P’71, L.H.D. ’87. *Schola* performed a variety of music, singing not only on campus, but also in New York City, Washington, D.C., and other areas. One of the highlights of the year for the campus was the annual December candlelight concert at Trinity Church on South Main Street. In 1992, a *Schola* reunion brought a large and enthusiastic group back to campus to sing again with Professor Lafford. The Colleges Chorale and Cantori, direct descendants of *Schola*, have performed in New York City, Boston and Washington, D.C.

**Origins of the Hobart Statesmen:** In the early part of the century, the football team was often referred to only as the “Orange and Purple,” coached in the 1920s by Vincent S. “Deak” Welch. Briefly, in the early 1930s, it became “The Deacons.” This name was used until 1936 when a sports writer referred to the Hobart team as “the Statesmen from Geneva” in his column covering the Hobart vs. Amherst football game. This was a reference to the statesmen of the League of Nations, which was located in Geneva, Switzerland. This quickly stuck and has been the name of all Hobart teams since then.

**Statesmen Bell:** Before every football and lacrosse game, the bell tolls in memory of those who lost their lives in service to their country. The solid bronze bell, located at the north end of Boswell Field, was a gift to Hobart College in 1976 by the United States Coast Guard and was previously used by the United States Lighthouse Service. The letters “USLHS” are engraved on the bell.

**Colleges of the Seneca:** This corporate name for the Colleges dates to the 1943 charter for HWS. President John Milton Potter chose the name. It was Potter's intent to include all the previous incarnations of the College: Geneva Academy (1796), Geneva College (1822), Geneva Medical School (1834) and Hobart and William Smith. With the adoption of the new charter, William Smith, previously a department of Hobart College, was raised to equal status with Hobart.

**Saga:** In 1949, three World War II veterans and enterprising Hobart students, William F. Scandling '49, LL.D. '67, Harry W. Anderson '49, LL.D. '67 and William Price Laughlin '49, LL.D. '67, founded a new food service on campus.

The Saga Corporation, named after the American Indian word for Geneva, "Kanadesaga," grew to become a leader in college dining services. The Marriott Corporation acquired the Saga Corporation in 1986 and assumed responsibility for the Colleges' dining services.

Saga has so long been synonymous with campus dining that the main student dining area in the Scandling Campus Center was officially renamed "Saga Hall" in conjunction with Hobart's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The founders received the Hobart Medal of Excellence, the Alumni Association's highest award.

**WEOS:** The radio station's call letters stand for "Echo of the Seneca," also the name of the original Hobart yearbook. Founded in 1949 as an AM station, WEOS was carried by wire across campus and could only be heard in the vicinity of the Quad and the Hill.

Today, WEOS-FM is a non-commercial, public radio station licensed to the Colleges by the Federal Communications Commission, broadcasting at 89.5 MHz, with a power output of 6,000 watts. The signal covers an area from west Rochester to the western suburbs of Syracuse, from Lake Ontario to Ithaca.

### The historical record:

- 1922 Hobart College's Centennial celebration
- 1922 The first joint commencement is held, eroding some of the strict separations between Hobart College for men and William Smith College for women.
- 1926 Orange Key Society founded
- 1936 First mention of name Statesmen in *The Herald*
- 1941 Full coeducational classes
- 1943 New charter established Colleges of the Seneca recognizing Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- 1946 New coordinate courses, including Western Civilization
- 1949 Honors program instituted
- 1949 WEOS Radion Station founded
- 1949 Saga founded
- 1949 Elizabeth Blackwell Centennial Convocation

### 1950-70

#### Freshman Regulations:

*“No Freshmen will cut across campus, but will use the sidewalks. This custom holds especially for the Hobart Quad.”*

*“It is customary for a Hobart man to greet other Hobart men and to speak with courtesy to all faculty members.”*

*“All Hobart men must familiarize themselves at the earliest moment with the Alma Mater and Marching Song.”*

*“Beanies will be worn until the last football game of the season.”*

*“These customs are under the supervision of the Druid Society. These regulations will be strictly enforced.”*

**Western Civ.:** Many alums who attended from 1950 to 1970 mention Western Civ. as their most memorable HWS experience. This course traced the historical, philosophical, religious, political and even psychological history of Western Civilization. All students took Western Civ. I, II and III, but Western Civ IV was optional for science majors. Students read many of the great works—Dante, Machiavelli,

Plato, Homer, the Bible, etc.—which were then discussed in lectures and weekly seminars. Students had to pass mandatory 4-5-hour qualification examinations, “quals,” to graduate. If you didn’t pass, you didn’t graduate. Once, when asked on a test what was written over the Gate to Hell in Dante’s “Inferno,” a Hobart student responded: “Welcome to Western Civ. III.”

**Calendar Days:** Until the late 1960s, students were required to attend all classes and were allowed a limited number of cuts. On the days before and immediately after each vacation, cutting classes was forbidden. All students, except those on the Dean’s List, had to be in class on those special Calendar Days.

**Chapel Requirement:** From Hobart’s inception in 1822 as an Episcopal college until 1964, Hobart men had to attend chapel as a requirement for graduation. In later years, the requirement could also be satisfied by attending a local service in Geneva or taking and passing two semesters of religion and philosophy. Still, some students did not have enough slips to show that they had attended chapel once each week. They then found themselves doing makeup chapel on a daily basis in order to graduate.

**“G.E. College Bowl”:** In 1961, a team of students from Hobart and William Smith appeared on the “G.E. College Bowl,” a weekly televised intercollegiate competition. Much in the manner of “Jeopardy,” students earned points by answering complex questions.

The HWS team of Jerome Levy ’63, Joseph Rishel ’62, James Zurer ’63 and Marcia Berges Hodges ’61 retired undefeated, joining the ranks, at the time, of Colgate and Rutgers as the only undefeated college teams in the nation. Many alums today acknowledge that the outstanding performance of the HWS team convinced them to attend the Colleges.

### **Anti-Gravity Monument:**

Quietly tucked beneath the trees outside Albright Auditorium since 1961 is a curious “tombstone.” Its cryptic message reads:

*“Erected to remind students of the blessings forthcoming when a semi-insulator is discovered in order to harness gravity as a free power and reduce airplane accidents.”*



The location of the stone on campus was linked to a gift to the Colleges of “gravity grant” stocks, now totaling more than \$1 million, from Roger Babson, the founder of Babson College. The eccentric Babson was intrigued by the notion of anti-gravity and inclined to further scientific research in this area. The Colleges used these funds to help construct Rosenberg Hall in 1994.

Two trees that shade the stone are said to be direct descendants of Newton’s famous apple tree.

### **The historical record:**

- 1951 Air Force ROTC program began
- 1953 Intercollegiate soccer
- 1958 First Elizabeth Blackwell Award
- 1961 G. E. College Bowl
- 1962 *Echo* (Hobart) and *Pine* (William Smith) combined into one yearbook
- 1964 End of compulsory chapel, four-year ROTC and coat and tie at dinner
- 1965 Three-course, three-term system inaugurated
- 1969 Minority Studies program established
- 1970 Black Studies Program established; HWS becomes one of the first colleges in the U.S. to offer Women’s Studies as a major; and HWS is one of first New York State colleges accepted to host the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP)



## 1970-PRESENT

**“Tommy the Traveler”:** In 1970, during the Vietnam War, a young man appeared at the Colleges posing as an organizer for Students for a Democratic Society, an antiwar group organizing on college campuses. He said that he was traveling from one campus to another in upstate New York, hence earning the nickname “Tommy the Traveler.”

Tommy was, in fact, an undercover agent of the Ontario County Sheriff's office and the FBI. Over a period of several months, he attempted to incite students into violent antiwar activities. On May 1, 1970, two Hobart students, incited by Tommy, fire-bombed the basement of Sherrill Hall, which at the time was the location of the Air Force ROTC detachment. Though there was some smoke damage to the ROTC offices, no one was injured. On June 5, 1970, the local sheriff's department attempted to serve warrants on several students. Tommy, leading the police, was quickly unmasked as a police agent provocateur. For two hours, a confrontation between students and police closed down the campus.

Because of the confrontation, the governor of New York convened a special grand jury. It indicted Hobart and William Smith on four counts of coercion for “recklessly tolerating” the June 5 riot. The Colleges were subsequently found innocent of these charges. No action was ever taken against Tommy.



Hobart alumnus Marc Weiss '69 documented these events in a film, “The Revolutionary Was a Cop,” that is available in the library on videotape.

**Folk Fest:** Founded in 1976 by Matthew Stamell '78, P'04, Folk Fest was an annual rite ahe Colleges. Last held in 2002, it celebrated music, crafts and good food. Folk Fest grew to a major regional event that brought visitors from across the state to campus.



**The Oaks:** From 1947 to 1986, the Twin Oaks was the main student hangout. Located at the corner of Pulteney and Hamilton streets, where the HWS entrance marker is today, the Oaks offered a chance to get away from the pressures of the day amid the memorabilia of the past: autographed footballs, ancient lacrosse sticks and yellowed photos of HWS. The food was even good! Time at the Oaks is perhaps one of the most shared experiences for alumni.

**Scissors Sculpture:** The large sculpture on Smith Green, south of the Warren Hunting Smith Library, was installed in 1989. Designed by art students as a final class project for Three-dimensional Design, the goal was to create an oversize object in the tradition of artist Claes Oldenburg, creator of large-scale sculptures. Building the scissors was proposed by students.



The sculpture, while interesting visually, also has been described as symbolizing the distinctive coordinate system at HWS. As the two parts of the scissors work together and form a functional whole, so also do the separate Colleges of Hobart and William Smith complement each other.

**Swimming Test:** Until 1994, all students attending the Colleges had to pass a swimming test as a requirement for graduation. Legend has it that the drowning of a child in Seneca Lake caused the test to be added. In truth it was simply the outgrowth of activities by former athletics staff members.

William Smith began the requirement in 1941, and Hobart followed suit in 1948. Until the late 1960s, the test occurred in downtown Geneva at the old YMCA. Most students got it out of the way the first year. However, as late as 1991, some were turning up at the Bristol Gym pool three hours before graduation to take the test.

**“Celebrate Service...Celebrate Geneva”:** In 1994, more than 700 volunteers from the Colleges and the local community came together to perform a day of community service in Geneva. They cleaned city

sidewalks, beautified parks, raked, painted, swept and generally made Geneva a better place. This event is now held annually, and in 2008, two additional days of service were added to the HWS calendar. Students also join alums for similar events in Boston and Washington, D.C.

**Launch:** In 2004, the Alumni Council collaborated with the Druids to establish a formal ceremony to welcome soon-to-be graduating seniors into the Alumni Association.

The Hobart Launch, now an annual tradition at the College, begins with the procession of seniors down the banks of the Seneca to the Bozzuto Boathouse where they are greeted by alums who line the Boathouse, path and walkway. Each member of the class is presented with a paddle, as a celebration of the College, its heritage, and the promise of a reciprocal lifelong bond. Remarks are made by select College officials, and often an honorary member of the class is announced and initiated. (Former Hobart Athletic Director Michael J. Hanna '68, P'99 was the first, initiated at Launch 2004.)

**The historical record:**

1970: Air Force ROTC terminated

1972: Sesquicentennial of Hobart

1973: Third World Coalition was established by students to address racism on campus. The group comprises African American, Latino and Asian students

1976: Folk Fest established

1976: *HWS Explorer* launched

1976: Latin American Organization established to raise awareness of Latin American culture on campus through various programs and events

1981: Druid Society returns to campus

1986: The Oaks is demolished

1988: African American Student Coalition established

1994: Swimming test dropped

1994: For the first time, more students were admitted to William Smith than Hobart  
1995: Hobart Lacrosse goes Division I

1996: Orange Key and Chimera societies return to campus

- 1997: 175th anniversary of Hobart College
- 1998: Fisher Center for the Study of Women and Men founded
- 1999: Caribbean Student Association established
- 2000: Colleges move back to a semester system following 34 years of trimesters 2001: *HWS Explorer* renamed *The William Scandling*
- 2001: *Hobartones* founded
- 2002: LGBT Studies offered as a major 2004: Hobart Senior Launch tradition established
- 2005: Saga co-founder and HWS benefactor William F. Scandling '49., LL.D. '67 dies
- 2006: More than 1,500 alumni, alumnae, faculty, staff and students attend the campus launch of *Campaign for the Colleges*.
- 2007: Abbe Center for Jewish Life established
- 2008: William Smith Centennial
- 2012: Muslim Student Center established 2016: Opening of the Gearan Center for the Performing Arts
- 2017: Gregory J. Vincent '83 becomes the Colleges first Black president
- 2017: LGBTQ+ Resource Center established
- 2018: Hobart celebrates 200 years since the Episcopal Diocese of New York arrived in Geneva and determined the spot for the College
- 2019: Thomas B. Poole '61 and Family Sports Dome opens
- 2019: Joyce P. Jacobsen become the Colleges first female president
- 2022: Hobart College celebrates its Bicentennial (200 years)
- 2023: The Alger L. Adams '32 Intercultural Center opens (*formerly known as the Intercultural Center*), became the first building to be named after a person of color on the campus.



*The President's House*

**The President's House** (1836) is a fine example of the Greek Revival style of architecture. The College acquired the house, with its four-column Doric portico, in 1885 during the presidency of Rev. Eliphalet N. Potter (1884-97).

President Potter was a controversial man. He had been president of Union College but left after a series of disputes with the trustees. His conduct here remained eccentric; he stalked out of faculty meetings to exercise his horse and often fled to Europe to forget his troubles on campus.

## PRESIDENTS OF THE COLLEGE

### GENEVA COLLEGE

1826-28      The Rev. Jasper Adams  
1830-35      The Rev. Richard S. Mason

### HOBART COLLEGE

1836-58      The Rev. Benjamin Hale  
1858-67      The Rev. Abner Jackson S.T.D.  
1868-69      The Rev. James K. Stone  
1869-71      The Rev. James Rankine  
1871-76      The Rev. Maunsell Van Rensselaer M.A. S.T.D.  
1976          The Rev. William S. Perry

1876-83 The Rev. Robert G. Hinsdale S.T.D. 1887  
1884-97 The Rev. Eliphalet N. Potter  
1897-1902 The Rev. Robert E. Jones

### **HOBART AND WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES**

1902-12 The Rev. Langdon C. Stewardson LL.D. 1913  
1913-18 The Rev. Lyman P. Powell  
1919-36 The Rev. Murray Bartlett L.H.D.'37  
1936-42 William A. Eddy Litt. D. '47  
1942-47 John M. Potter  
1947-48 Walter H. Durfee '08, Sc.D. '59  
1948-55 Alan W. Brown  
1956 H. Newton Hubbs P'40, LL.D.'56  
1956-66 The Rev. Louis M. Hirshson L.H.D. '61  
1966-68 Albert E. Holland  
1969-70 Beverley D. Causey Jr. L.H.D. '77  
1970-82 Allan A. Kuusisto P'78, P'81, L.H.D. '82  
1982-91 Carroll W. Brewster L.H.D. '91  
1991-99 Richard H. Hersh L.H.D. '99  
1999-2017 Mark D. Gearan L.H.D. '17, P'21  
2017-2018 Gregory J. Vincent '83  
2018-2019 Interim President Patrick A. McGuire L.H.D. '12  
2019-2022 Joyce P. Jacobsen HON'22  
2022-Present Mark D. Gearan L.H.D. '17, P'21

## DEANS OF THE COLLEGE

1888-1925	William Pitt Durfee, first dean of an American liberal arts college – Durfee Hall is named for him.
1925-38	Milton Haight Turk
1938-47	Walter Hetherington Durfee '08, Sc.D. '59
1948-55	Seymour Ballard Dunn
1955-59	Walter Hetherington Durfee '08
1960-66	Benjamin P. Atkinson
1966-67	Rev. R. Channing Johnson
1967-69	Richard C. DeBold
1969-73	John R.O. McKean
1973-82	Charles E. Love Jr. '62
1983-92	Joseph P. Healey
1992-97	Richard Guarasci
1997-98	Aaron Shatzman
1998-2006	Clarence E. Butler L.H.D. '06
2006-18	Eugen Baer P'95, P'97
2018-20	Khuram Hussain
2020-Present	Scott Brophy '78, P'12

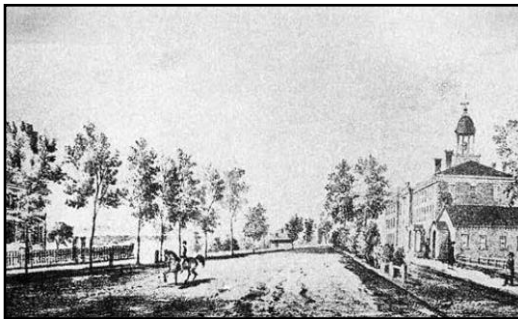
## FRATERNITY & SORORITY (Greek Life)

Greek-letter organizations have been part of the campus life at Hobart and William Smith since 1840. Beta Sigma Tau (founded 1947), which became Beta Sigma after leaving its national fraternity in 1958, was the first multicultural fraternity on campus.

Additionally, several literary fraternities flourished at Hobart in the 19th century: the Euglossian Society—the first student club at Hobart—the Hermenean Society and Alpha Phi Delta. The libraries of these student groups became the nucleus of the Hobart Library. Today, the Colleges and the Greek Life are partners in the “Accreditation Program for Fraternity and Sorority Life at the Colleges.” This program stresses the highest standards of academic excellence, campus leadership and community service and links the fraternities’ mission to the mission of the Colleges.

The following fraternities and sororities currently have charters on campus:

- Kappa Alpha Society (*founded 1844*)
- Chi Phi (*founded 1860*)
- Kappa Sigma (*founded 1935; recolonized 2000*)
- Phi Sigma Kappa
- Theta Delta Chi
- Delta Chi (*founded 1948*)
- Sigma Chi (*founded 1892; recolonized 2016*)
- Alpha Phi Alpha (*founded 2017*)
- Theta Phi Alpha (*founded 2017*)



“Old College Row” circa 1852: Geneva Hall, Middle Building and Trinity Hall, and the old chapel building.



## GROWTH OF THE COLLEGE

Hobart's main plant consisted of four buildings, all in a row, on Main Street, commonly called "Old College Row."

**Geneva Hall**, 1821-1822, the oldest building on campus, originally contained dormitory rooms, classrooms and the chapel. It was called the "old building" by 1836. Although plain architecturally, of note are the class cornerstones on the northeast and southeast walls, which list the names of class members. An early observer called Geneva Hall "a large stone edifice, a gloomy looking pile . . . [which] from its heavy appearance would have been taken for a state prison."

**Middle Building**, 1835-1836, a narrow structure between Geneva and Trinity halls, was the medical school. After the school moved downtown, Middle Building housed offices and the library. When it burned in 1885, students and faculty rushed into the building to save the library's books.

**Trinity Hall**, 1837-38, was built as a replica of Geneva Hall. It housed classrooms and student rooms. Class cornerstones also adorn the northeast and southeast ends of the hall, a gift from Trinity Church in New York City.

**St. John's Chapel**, 1860-66, was designed by Richard Upjohn. The chapel was originally freestanding, built of Waterloo limestone with a slate roof in the English "parish church" style of Gothic architecture. The sanctuary and altar were at the east (lake) end of the building and the room had collegiate stalls facing each other. A rose window was set in the west wall, the current altar area. The interior was remodeled in 1961 and enlarged with the addition of St. Mark's Tower. The tower is topped with a 128-foot spire. From the organ in the chancel, the 49-bell Louis M. Hirshson carillon can be played. The carillon was rebuilt in 1997 as a gift from the Classes of 1997.

The chapel is one of the most architecturally interesting places on campus. The window at the east end is dedicated to Bishop Hobart and depicts St. John the Evangelist. The baptismal font and eagle lectern were part of the original chapel.

There are many carvings in the chapel. Note the seals of Hobart and the Diocese of Rochester on the front walls near the altar, as well as carvings depicting special events in the history of the Colleges. These include: the granting of the Hobart charter in 1822; the graduation of Elizabeth Blackwell in 1849; the establishment of Phi Beta Kappa in 1871; the first intercollegiate lacrosse game (Hobart beats Cornell) in 1898 and winning the “G.E. College Bowl” in 1961. Note also the memorial plaques, including the bas-relief of President Louis M. Hirshson (1956-66) near the south entrance.

**Chapel Sundial:** Located above the door to St. John’s Chapel is a small sundial with the Latin phrase *Pereunt et Imputantur*, which translates “The moments pass away and are charged to us.” The phrase comes from “A Book of Epigrams” by the Roman poet Martialis, written sometime between A.D. 86 and 106.

The motto is an admonition to use one’s time wisely. Time is fleeting and the hours and days are, in the end, charged against a person’s account. This message is particularly fitting, given that the Chapel was consecrated in the midst of the Civil War.



*The Chapel Sundial*

**Merritt Hall**, 1879-1880, was a gift of Julia Douglas Merritt and housed the chemistry department. The ventilator hood exhaust ducts are still visible near the roof on the west side. The building had the College clock in its gable for many years.

**Demarest Hall**, 1885-88, the old library, was also a gift of Julia Douglas Merritt, a generous patron of the College. It was joined to the Chapel in 1961 with the construction of St. Mark’s Tower, and expanded in 1965 with a new wing that increased the library area. Located in the original library wing of Demarest is the Elizabeth Blackwell Room, a place still reserved for study and quiet contemplation. This is one of

the most attractive rooms on campus and was for many years the main reading room of the library. Alcove stacks on the balcony were open to students and often claimed as choice places to study, read or even nap—if the ever-alert librarians allowed. Within the room is a large stained-glass window showcasing the likenesses of Bishop Hobart, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, William Shakespeare, William H. Prescott, Washington Irving and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.



*The Hobart Quadrangle at the turn of the 20th century*

**Coxe Hall**, 1900, dedicated to the memory of Bishop Arthur Cleveland Coxe, currently houses the main administrative offices of the Colleges. At the time of its construction, it had marked a major departure from the College’s rather plain Gothic architecture and a movement toward Jacobean style.

Coxe Hall’s auditorium quickly became the center of the campus for memorials to past faculty and presidents. Today it houses the Bartlett Theatre, named in honor of Blanchard Howard Bartlett, wife of Hobart and William Smith President Murray Bartlett and one of the founders of the Little Theatre group in the 1930s.

**Medbery Hall**, 1907, named in memory of brothers Joseph and Sylvester Medbery, completes the confines of the Quad. Unlike previous residence halls, Medbery was designed without long central halls to prevent “rioting,” or at least high jinks such as rolling cannonballs down the hall.

**Smith Hall**, 1907, the first building of the new College, was the first building to be used by both Hobart and William Smith. It provided badly needed science facilities for the Colleges. Today, it houses the offices of the deans of Hobart and William Smith.

**Williams Hall**, 1910, the old Hobart gymnasium, was named in memory of Charles Rose Williams, who died at the age of 12 from drowning while skating. It had a running track above the gym and a pool in the basement. It was used as the gymnasium until 1965, when Bristol was opened. It currently serves as home to the IT Services.

**Gulick Hall**, 1951, originally Hobart Saga dining room and named for Merle Gulick '30, former chair of the Board of Trustees

**Durfee, Hale and Bartlett Halls**, 1951, dedicated in 1959, were named after Hobart Dean William Pitt Durfee and presidents Benjamin Hale and Murray Bartlett.

**Sherrill Hall**, 1961, was named for Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church from 1947 to 1958. Today, in addition to residence halls, it also houses the College Store and HWS Connect, the student Phone-a-thon program.

**Bristol Gymnasium**, 1965, and **Bristol Field House**, 1989, were named for longtime Hobart athletics benefactor and alumnus Robert A. Bristol '31. **The Elliott Varsity House** is named for longtime Board of Trustees member William Elliott P'66, LL.D. '64.

**Jackson, Potter and Rees Halls**, 1967, honor presidents Abner Jackson, John Milton Potter and James Rees, first chair of the Board of Trustees. The nickname "Superdorm" was given by the students to the buildings, which at the time made up the largest complex on campus. Today they are also known collectively as J. P. R.

**Warren Hunting Smith Library**, 1976, was named in honor of musician, historian, editor, trustee, philanthropist and author Warren H. Smith. Although he was the grandnephew of William Smith, he did not attend Hobart.

**Scandling Campus Center**, 1984, honors William F. Scandling '49, LL.D.'67 one of the founders of the Saga Corporation. The Scandling Campus Center incorporates the facade of the old Humphrey Press

Building, which for many years did the Colleges' printing. The Center was renovated in 2008 and nearly 18,000 square feet were added, including the multi-purpose Vandervort Room, named by Janet Vandervort Cable '45 in honor of her parents.

**Bampton House**, 1986, honors James Bampton '32 P'68, GP'92, GP'95, LL.D. '68, national alumni chair of the Capital Gifts Campaign of 1960 and member of the Board of Trustees.

**Rosenberg Hall**, 1994, was named in honor of Henry A. Rosenberg Jr. '52, L.H.D. '02, captain of the Hobart lacrosse team during his senior year. Rosenberg was also a lacrosse All-American and is a member of the Hobart Athletics Hall of Fame.

**Napier Classroom Center**, 1994, was named in memory of William J. Napier '57, P'89.

**Hanley Wildlife Preserve**, 1994, the Colleges' 108-acre wildlife refuge, offers students an area for ecological studies. The preserve, located about 20 miles from campus, has more than 40 ponds, a deciduous forest, cultivated fields, old fields, swamps, a stream and numerous other habitats. It is inhabited by waterfowl, deer, beaver, muskrats, coyotes, foxes, many birds, reptiles and amphibians. **The Richard Ryan Field Laboratory** was opened on the preserve in 1994, and provides a location for lecture and laboratory activities.

**The Elizabeth Blackwell Sculpture**, 1994, on the Hobart Quad near Gulick Hall, is an 800-pound bronze sculpture of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1911), the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States. Dr. Blackwell applied to and was rejected or ignored by 17 medical schools before being admitted in 1847 to the medical school of Geneva College, renamed Hobart Free College in 1852. She graduated at the head of her class in 1849.

The sculpture of Dr. Blackwell was created by A.E. Ted Aub, professor of art. It is one of only the few public monuments in the United States that depict women. Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell is shown in Aub's creation as a young woman about to begin her life's work.



**Elizabeth Blackwell Sculpture**

At the base of the sculpture, engraved in granite, is a quotation from a letter written by Blackwell in 1847: *I cannot but congratulate myself on having found at last the right place for my beginning.*

Elizabeth Blackwell was first honored at the Colleges before her death in 1911. Blackwell House, the first residence at the new William Smith College, was named for her.

In 1958, the Colleges awarded the first **Elizabeth Blackwell Award**. This award is presented to a woman who has shown “outstanding service to humankind.” Recipients have included former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright (2001); Billie Jean King, tennis champion and advocate for women’s athletics (1998); Wilma Mankiller, first female

chief of the Cherokee nation (1996); and the late legislator Barbara Jordan (1993). The award is presented at a ceremony with all members of the HWS community present.

**Hellstrom Boathouse for Crew**, 1995, is located on the Cayuga-Seneca Canal, which links Cayuga and Seneca Lakes and provides more than six miles of calm, protected water.



*Aerial view of the campus, ca. 2005*

**L. Thomas Melly '52 Academic Center**, 1998, is located in the Warren Hunting Smith Library. Mr. Melly completed a 10-year term as chair of the Board of Trustees in May 1998. During his leadership, 10 major facilities were constructed on campus, and the Campaign for Hobart and William Smith raised more than \$102 million. The Melly Center has doubled the size of the library and provides valuable high-tech information resources to the Colleges. In 2008, Daniel Rosensweig '83 enabled the transformation of the first floor into a state-of-the-art space that uses technology to advance formal and informal instruction as well as individual and group research.

**H.J. McCooey Memorial Field**, 2000, is a 1,500-seat artificial turf stadium. The facility was made possible by a lead naming gift from the family of Herbert J. McCooey Sr. P'76, P'78, P'82, P'90, P'92, GP'04, GP'08, GP'09, who sent five of his seven children to the Colleges.

The state-of-the-art AstroTurf 12 surface was installed during the fall of 2000. The Hobart-Army lacrosse game on March 10, 2001 (an 11-9 Hobart win) was the first intercollegiate game on the new surface. The \$1.8 million facility includes lights and a press box. The stadium is home to the William Smith field hockey and lacrosse teams and is a “prime-time” second home for the Hobart lacrosse team, as well as an alternate site for the rest of the Colleges’ athletic teams.

**Stern Hall**, 2003, a three-story building that houses five academic departments, includes classrooms, conference rooms, offices and student work areas. Stern Hall is next to the Warren Hunting Smith Library on Pulteney Street. The building is named after former federal court Judge Herbert Stern ’58, P’03, LL.D. ’74. Judge Stern, who was also on the Colleges’ Board of Trustees, was the lead donor backing the 28,000-square-foot project.

**Bozzuto Boathouse**, 2003, houses the Colleges’ nationally ranked sailing team and also serves the Outdoor Recreation Adventure Program. The structure was named in memory of Charles Bozzuto, father of the project’s lead donor, Thomas S. Bozzuto ’68 L.H.D.’18.

**The Salisbury Center**, 2004, was created within the refurbished Trinity Hall. Named for lead donor and former board of trustee’s chair Charles H. Salisbury Jr. ’63, P’94, L.H.D. ’08, the Center houses the Colleges’ Career Services, Community Engagement and Global Education offices, as well as classrooms.

**The Finger Lakes Institute**, 2004, at 601 South Main Street, is a world-class research and education center initiated and run by HWS. Working with regional environmental partnerships, as well as state and local government offices, FLI promotes environmentally-sound development practices throughout the region and shares accumulated knowledge of the 11 Finger Lakes with the public at large. The Institute offers workshops, K-12 educational outreach, and a well-stocked resource library.

**Caird and de Cordova Halls**, 2005, are each 174-bed residences designed with student life in mind. Among other amenities, they feature spacious, modern lounge space, exercise and game rooms, and large-screen televisions. de Cordova Hall was dedicated in 2006 in recognition of the generous commitment of Arthur E. de Cordova ’56,



P'82, L.H.D. '05 to the Colleges. Caird Hall was dedicated in 2007 in recognition of James F. '56, L.H.D. '12 and Cynthia L. Caird's L.H.D. '12 generous commitment to the Colleges.

**The Katherine D. Elliott Studio Arts Center**, 2006, on the Houghton House Grounds, is home to the art department. This facility provides 14,600 square feet of academic space, including classrooms, offices, studios for painting and printing, as well as wood and metal shops. Students, faculty and staff aided the architects with suggestions about what the building should look like.

**The Goldstein Family Carriage House**, 2006, also on the grounds of Houghton House, constructed in 1913, the Carriage House was renovated in 2006 to include a digital imaging lab and a photo studio with a darkroom for black and white photography. The building fosters the artistic community of HWS art and architecture students with a studio to display and critique images. Sheldon and Ruth Goldstein provided the lead gift to renovate the building in honor of the couple's granddaughters, Sara Nargiso '07 and Rachel Nargiso '04.

**Admissions Center**, 2006, a generous donation of nearly \$1 million from Thomas B. Poole '61, L.H.D. '06, and his wife, Mary Jane Poole P'91 helped to combine the staff under a single roof and improve a prospective student's visit to campus. The funding enabled the Colleges to acquire 50 percent more space through an addition to one of the buildings, while keeping its historic appearance stylistically the same. Renovations began in the spring of 2005 and the staff moved in January 2006. The renovations included modernizing and upgrading the entire admissions facility by improving office space, furniture, conference room, reception area and landscaping.

**Centennial Center for Leadership**, 2008, was renovated and endowed as part of the Campaign for the Colleges. The Centennial Center hosts a variety of lectures and events and is home to HWS Leads, the Colleges' leadership development certification program. Trustee Cynthia Gelsthorpe Fish '82 made the lead gift in honor of the William Smith Centennial.

**The Caird Center for Sports and Recreation**, 2010, unites several keystone elements of the Colleges' remaining athletics campaign priorities, including Boswell Field, the Froelich Gatehouse and the

Elliott Varsity House expansion. The Caird Center provides boundary definition for the western-edge of campus and carves out space dedicated to athletics and recreation that extends beyond any one building. The Center provides broad-reaching support that directly benefits all students who participate in intramural, club sports, outdoor and other wellness programs, in addition to nearly two-thirds of our varsity athletes, including the lacrosse, squash, tennis and football teams.

**The Gearan Center for the Performing Arts**, opened in January 2016, and is located at the heart of campus on Pulteney Street across from the Scandling Campus Center. The 65,000 square foot facility serves as a performance space for theatre, music and dance, and includes 18 faculty offices, practice and recital rooms, as well as a film screening room for media and society. The Performing Arts Center is a hub for events and programs available to the greater Geneva community.

**Thomas B. Poole '61 and Family Sports Dome** Construction of the \$3.5 million state-of-the-art Stiles Field at the Thomas B. Poole '61 and Family Sports Dome was completed in 2019. Hobart and William Smith Trustee and Hobart Hall of Famer Thomas B. Poole '61, L.H.D. '06 and his wife, Mary Jane Poole P'91, were instrumental in making the new facility a reality through a \$1 million lead gift for the fundraising campaign. The nearly 86,000-square-foot Field, Turf surface, is lined for all of the Colleges' varsity field teams, field hockey, football, lacrosse and soccer.

**The Alger Adams '32 Intercultural Center**, formerly known as The Intercultural Affairs Center (1970) was renovated in 2022 and honors the Reverend Dr. Alger L. Adams '32, D.D.'83, the first African American to graduate from Hobart College. The Adams Intercultural Center is a welcoming space that fosters an environment where students find support, challenges, and grounding for their personal growth, academic success and development of their leadership skills. The programs and collaborative initiatives aim to broaden cross-cultural understanding, foster an appreciation of diversity, inclusion and social justice and strengthen community bonds.

## INTERESTING ALUMNI AND PEOPLE FROM HOBART'S PAST

**Jeffrey Amestoy '68, P'11, P'14:**

Druid and former chief justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, shown at right with President Clinton. Before becoming chief justice in 1997, he was elected attorney general 12 times without opposition. He is a recipient of the Hobart Medal of Excellence.



**Dr. Christopher Beyrer '81:** Director of the Johns Hopkins University Fogarty AIDS Program, senior scientific liaison for the U.S. government supported HIV Vaccine Trials Network, medical adviser to the Dalai Lama, and expert on HIV/AIDS in Africa and Asia. He is a recipient of the Hobart Medal of Excellence.

**Eric Bloom '67:** Singer, guitarist and keyboardist for Blue Oyster Cult.

**Gen. Edward S. Bragg 1848:** Commander of the Civil War's "Iron Brigade," which took part in all but three of the battles waged by the Army of the Potomac.

**Hugh G. Campbell 1918:** Football quarterback who later became one of the "valiant 15" members of Eddie Rickenbacker's famed Lafayette Escadrille flying aces in World War I.

**Paul Fenimore Cooper 1849:** Class valedictorian. His father, author James Fenimore Cooper, gave an address at the College attacking the American press and the weakness of democracy. James's last story, *Lake Gun* (1850), used Seneca Lake geography and history as a setting.

**Edward "Joe" Crone 1945:** Taken prisoner during World War II by the Germans and, while a captive, met Kurt Vonnegut, also a POW. Vonnegut used Crone, who died in April 1945 in a Dresden prison camp, as the model for Billy Pilgrim in his antiwar novel "Slaughterhouse Five."

**Isaiah G. De Grasse 1832:** First student of color to attend the College. He left in 1835; only two members of his class graduated. Hobart was at its lowest ebb financially during this period.

**Rev. Frederick R. Graves 1878:** Known as the “Statesman Bishop of the Orient” while Bishop of Shanghai for 40 years, spanning the 19th and 20th centuries.

**Rev. Henry Gregory 1826:** The College’s first graduate became a missionary to the Menominee Indians, president of a college, and rector of a Syracuse church. He later taught at Geneva College, becoming a Trustee and an alumni leader.

**John P. Grotzinger ’79, Sc.D.’13:** Director of the Earth Resources Laboratory at MIT, expert on evolution, and member of the NASA Mars team.

**Rev. Benjamin Hale:** President of the College, 1836-58. He is credited with saving the College from financial collapse and increasing the number of faculty members. During his presidency, the “House of Convocation,” forerunner of the Alumni Association, was founded in 1848.

**Rev. Abner Jackson:** President of Hobart College, 1858-1867. Along with Richard M. Upjohn, the Chapel architect, he envisioned the quadrangle plan for the College.

**Alan R. Kalter ’64:** Former Voice of the “Late Show with David Letterman.”

**Abraham La Fort 1829:** English name of a young Onondaga chief, Dehat-katons, who was a member of the Class of 1829 but did not graduate.

**Christopher McDonald ’77, L.H.D. ’13:** Acted in more than 100 movies, TV shows and plays, including appearing as defense attorney Billy Flynn in the Broadway musical “Chicago;” in the films “Grease 2” (1982), “Dutch” (1991), “Thelma & Louise” (1991), “Quiz Show” (1994) and as golf pro Shooter McGavin in “Happy Gilmore” (1996); and on television programs including “Cheers,” “Veronica’s Closet,” “Family Law,” “Matlock,” the “Wayne Brady Show,” “Law & Order:

Criminal Intent,” “Star Trek The Next Generation.”, “The Watcher”, “Secret Invasion” and “Hacks”.

**Gen. Albert J. Myer 1847:** Nicknamed “Old Probabilities,” he originated the system of signal flags adopted by the U.S. Army and Navy, now used worldwide. He also is credited with inventing modern weather forecasting. His work developed into the U.S. Weather Bureau. Fort Myer, Va., where Arlington National Cemetery is located, is named after him.

**The Upjohn Family: Richard Upjohn** was a noted New York architect who designed Trinity Church on Wall Steet. He also designed the chapel and Blackwell House. His son, **Richard M. Upjohn**, designed the chaplain’s house, Demarest Hall and Alumni Hall, the latter of which later burned to the ground. He is said to have formulated the plan for the Hobart Quadrangle. Grandson **Hobart Upjohn** designed Comstock House and redesigned Trinity Church on South Main Street after a disastrous fire in 1932.

**William Smith**, local philanthropist and nurseryman who founded Hobart’s coordinate partner, William Smith College. Smith was a man of diverse and somewhat eclectic interests whose intellectual fervor made him welcome among the forward-thinkers of his day. An ardent spiritualist who recorded two volumes of his communications with the dead, he also collected minerals, stuffed birds and books. His interest in astronomy led him to build two observatories on his property and hire the noted astronomer William R. Brooks as his resident stargazer.

**Emerson Spies 1936 and Ralph C. Willard 1904:** Hobart College’s only Rhodes Scholarship recipients - to date.

**William T. Whitaker Jr. ’73, L.H.D. ’97:** Emmy Award-winning correspondent for CBS News. He received an honorary degree from HWS in 1997, and is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Colleges. Whitaker also received the Alumni Association’s highest honor at his 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2023, the Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Service Award.

## SOME RECIPIENTS OF THE HOBART MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

**Merle A. Gulick '30, LL.D. '66:** Businessman, athlete, trustee and benefactor of Hobart College. He is the only Hobart alumnus elected to the National Football Hall of Fame. Gulick Hall is named for him.

**Nicholas Rasetzki '35:** 20th-century Renaissance man—composer, conductor, author, businessman, volunteer and educator.

**Willis A. Adcock '44, P'71, Sc.D. '89:** A pioneer in the field of electronics, he developed the silicon transistor at Texas Instruments.

**Ben J. Wattenberg '55, LL.D. '75:** Speech writer for President Lyndon B. Johnson, author and senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.

**The Hon. Herbert J. Stern '58, P'03, LL.D. '74:** Prosecutor and judge. Served as Special Outside Counsel in the Iran-Contra case *U.S. vs Oliver North et al.*

**Leo C. O'Neill '62, GP '22:** Former president of Standard and Poor's Ratings Group; a leader in the world of finance and business.

**Dr. Robert Peter Gale '66, L.H.D. '87:** Bone marrow specialist who treated victims of radiation exposure in Chernobyl, Russia.

**Reynold Levy '66, L.H.D.'14:** Former President of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, and former president of the International Rescue Committee.

**Jeremy N. Foley '74:** Athletic director for the University of Florida and winner of the 2007 Medal of Excellence.

**Warren W. Littlefield '74:** Former president of NBC Entertainment, credited with developing such hits as “Seinfeld” and “Cheers.”

**The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry '75, D.D. '20:** The 27th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church of the United States and the first African-American to hold the Church's top leadership office.

**Christopher C. Beyrer '81, D.Sc.'22:** Internationally renowned expert on AIDS; Professor at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

**Eric D.W. Cohler '81:** President of Eric Cohler Design; Adjunct Professor of Art and Architecture at HWS.

**Eugen Baer P'95, P'97:** Professor of Philosophy and Dean of Hobart College Eugen Baer P'95, P'97 served Hobart and William Smith for nearly 50 years as an inspirational educator, exemplary scholar, trusted mentor and community leader.

**Michael J. Hanna '68, P'99, Former Director of Athletics, Hobart College:** The longest serving athletic director in Hobart history, Hanna made a considerable and lasting impact on the lives of generations of Statesmen over 37 years. His leadership impacted all aspects of Hobart Athletics, raising Statesmen performance levels in the athletic arena, in the classroom and in the community.

**C. Richard Anderegg '67, Ret. Col.:** Served as an active-duty U.S. Air Force officer for 30 years, and provides policy and guidance to four key components of the Air Force history program: the Air Force Historical Research Agency; the Air Force museum system; the Historical Studies Office; and the worldwide history program. Among his many accomplishments, he is author of "The Ash Warriors," a history of the Mount Pinatubo eruptions and subsequent evacuation of Clark Air Base, and "Sierra Hotel," a history of the cultural changes that occurred in the U.S. Air Force fighter force during the decade after the Vietnam War.

## HOBART ATHLETICS

**Francis L. “Babe” Kraus ’24:** *Starred in football and basketball; played in the first lacrosse game he ever saw and became a lacrosse All-American; Hobart lacrosse coach 1927-1966; gained the longest consecutive coaching record in lacrosse at any college; developed two undefeated teams, 208 victories, and had more than 50 All-Americans; also coached football and served as director of Hobart Athletics.*

### “THAT OLD HOBART DETERMINATION”

**Lacrosse:** A charter member of the U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association, Hobart has been playing lacrosse since the spring of 1898. Dr. Joseph Leighton, a Hobart professor, is called the “Father of Intercollegiate Lacrosse.” Hobart’s first game was a 2-1 victory over Cornell, commemorated in a carving in the Chapel.

Hobart dominated Division III lacrosse, winning 13 National titles between 1980 and 1993. In 1995, the Statesmen became a Division I team.

**Art Kenney:** *“Hobart’s Greatest Fan” personified Hobart spirit and tradition. A native Genevan, Art owned a shoe-shining business in town. Beginning at the turn of the century, he became a practice pitcher for the Hobart baseball team and remained on campus for the next 70 years. To many alums, a game without Art Kenney was unthinkable. Art displayed that “Old Hobart Determination,” and from 1918 to 1960 missed only one home game.*

**Football:** Hobart football marked its 100th anniversary in 1991. For many years, the University of Rochester was Hobart’s arch-rival in football. Over the entrance to Demarest Hall is the phrase “You Are the Hope of the World.” When the building was dedicated in the 1960s, campus humorists quickly seized on this statement, reading it as “U R the Hope of the World?” – a slam on their football rival. The Statesmen Football Team has made 10 NCAA Division III Tournament appearances.

**Basketball:** The Hobart basketball team played its centennial season in 2009-10. Since the start of the 21st century, the Statesmen have



finished atop the Liberty League standings twice and earned an NCAA Tournament bid.

**Hockey:** In 1978, following many years at the club level, hockey became a varsity sport. Our most notable hockey alumnus to date is Pierre McGuire '83, who has enjoyed an impressive NHL career. The Statesmen have won seven conference championships (5 ECAC West and 2 NEHC) and made NCAA Semifinal appearances in 2006, 2009, 2019 and 2023. They were the 2023 NCAA Division III National Champions.

**Soccer:** Since 1953, the Hobart Soccer team has had much success, finishing 4-2 in its second season and getting better all the time. The team has won the Liberty League three times and participated in the NCAA tournament 8 times.

**The Hobart Navy:** Known as the “Boating Club and Hobart Aquatic Association,” the “Navy” was established during the late-19th century. A two-story boathouse, now gone, was built on the edge of the lake and racing shells were obtained. Today, Hobart rowing teams have competed in several prestigious events, capturing sixteen consecutive Liberty League Championships.

**Statesmen Athletic Association (SAA):** The SAA was founded in 1971 to promote the continued development of Hobart athletics. Many believe that athletics programs—intercollegiate, intramural and recreational—are vital aspects of the College. Hobart men compete in rowing, lacrosse, football, basketball, squash, hockey, cross country, golf, soccer, sailing, tennis, skiing, baseball, swimming, and volleyball.

*Information on membership in the SAA is available through the Hobart Athletics Department.*

## *PRO PATRIA* - FOR COUNTRY

### MEMORIAL BENCH AND THE *PRO PATRIA* PLAQUE

Located between Geneva and Trinity halls, Memorial Bench commemorates alumni who gave their lives during World War I. The Latin inscription *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori* roughly translates to “It is pleasing and proper to lay down one’s life for his country.” Similarly, there is a large bronze plaque in the entrance to Coxe Hall with the inscription *Pro Patria*, which lists the alumni and alumnae lost in World War II.

**Civil War:** Seventy-eight alumni served in the Union Army as commissioned officers; half held the rank of captain or above. At least five served in the Confederate forces. A total of nine are believed to have died in the war.

Many Hobart men served in the 126<sup>th</sup> New York Volunteer Infantry. Wayne Mahood’s war history of the 126<sup>th</sup>, “Written in Blood,” notes that, at 4 p.m. on April 25, 1861, students and faculty hoisted the Stars and Stripes over the top of Geneva Hall, where a large crowd of ladies and gentlemen had assembled. College President Abner Jackson led the rally, and 29-year-old Professor of Greek Albert S. Wheeler, 1851, represented the faculty. Wheeler later played a role in organizing the 126<sup>th</sup>. Other Hobart alums leading the unit included Capt. Benjamin F. Lee, 1859, Capt. George F. Pritchett, 1862, and Lt. George L. Yost, 1861.

Less than a month after the regiment was mustered, it was captured at Harper’s Ferry in September 1862. The 126<sup>th</sup> would later prove itself in the wheat field at Gettysburg in July 1863, but the price was high. At Gettysburg, 51 percent of the regiment died. The men of the 126<sup>th</sup> earned three Congressional Medal of Honor.

**World War I:** One-third of all Hobart alumni and undergraduates—about 300—served during the war. The first 10 left the College in 1917 to go to France as Red Cross ambulance drivers. During the war, the Students’ Army Training Corps was established on campus. Coxe Hall auditorium became an Army mess hall, and Geneva and Medbery

halls were turned into Army barracks. Before the war ended, 190 men entered the program and 10 saw service.

**World War II:** More than 1,400 alumni, students and faculty served during this war in all branches of the service.

**Navy V-12:** Started on campus in the autumn of 1943 and continued until the end of World War II in 1945, V-12 was the Navy's largest officer-training program. During the course of the program, almost 1,000 men participated. V-12 was vital to the survival of Hobart, as enrollment had dropped so low that the College may have closed without it. Many V-12 veterans returned to Hobart after the war to complete their degrees. In 1993, a special V-12 reunion was held on campus.



*S.S. Hobart Victory*

**S.S. *Hobart Victory*:** During World War II, the United States commissioned 531 Liberty or Victory Ships as part of the merchant fleet war effort. The S.S. *Hobart Victory* was launched on May 25, 1945, in Richmond, Calif. Serving in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, the ship was decommissioned in 1992 and slated for scrap. In 1993, Hobart alumnus Grady Jensen '44 gave President Hersh the ship's engine room tele graph, which is on display in the Warren Hunting Smith Library.

**Air Force ROTC:** In 1951, Air Force Reserve Officers Training came to campus. Until 1964, this program was mandatory for all students at Hobart for their first two years. Each fall and spring, the entire first- and second-year classes marched around Boswell Field in the fall Homecoming Parade and spring President's Day Review. ROTC ended in the fall of 1970 during the Vietnam War, after the Tommy the Traveler incident (*see page 19*).

**Korean War and Vietnam:** Although records are incomplete, at least two alumni died in Korea and six in Vietnam.



HOBART COLLEGE  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Paul A. Wasmund '07, *President*

Mark A. Darden III '87, P'17, *Vice President*

Ludwig P. Gaines '88, *Immediate Past President, Association Trustee*

Richard S. Solomon '75, P'10, *Association Trustee*

Andrew B. Donovan '12, *Historian*

*Office of Alumni and Alumnae Relations*

775 South Main Street

Geneva, NY 14456

(315) 781-3700

<https://www.hws.edu/alum/>