



THE HARPETH HALL SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

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FALL 1976

GROUNDBREAKING – May 20, 1976



Mr. Sheridan, Miss Morrison, Mrs. Davis, and Miss Gerakios

The entire student body and faculty, the Board of Trustees, and numerous parents and friends of the school joined together the morning of May 20th to celebrate the beginning of construction on our new gymnasium-auditorium-art gallery.

Following the invocation, a singing group from Opryland entertained. Dr. Daugh Smith, President of the Board of Trustees, Miss Idanelle McMurry, Headmistress, and Miss Maria Gerakios, 9th grade student, each addressed those present. They spoke of the value of these new structures in enhancing the breadth and depth of the educational experience offered each Harpeth Hall student. Dr. Smith spoke with special pride of the development of the school in the 25 years since it opened in the fall of 1951 following the close of Ward-Belmont the

previous spring. Miss McMurry said that these new structures in effect "complete" the physical facilities of our campus.

Those being especially honored through his project used a unique four-handled shovel to break ground. Participating were Miss Morrison (the Catherine E. Morrison Gymnasium); Mrs. Davis (the Frances Bond Davis Auditorium); Mr. Gerald Sheridan, father of Marnie Sheridan who died in an automobile accident in 1972 in the spring of her Senior year (the Marnie Sheridan Art Gallery); and Maria Gerakios, 9th grade student at Harpeth Hall, representing the present student body.

On Monday morning, June 7th, the bulldozers arrived to take over what was symbolically begun on May 20th.

Dear Friends,

It is with great enthusiasm and a feeling of deep pride that I watch the progress of the new Auditorium-Gymnasium Complex at Harpeth Hall. Surely the inconvenience to the parents and students of an unsettled parking lot, the nuisance of big trucks and heavy equipment blocking the hook-up lines, is offset by the satisfaction and knowledge of this great project actually becoming a reality.

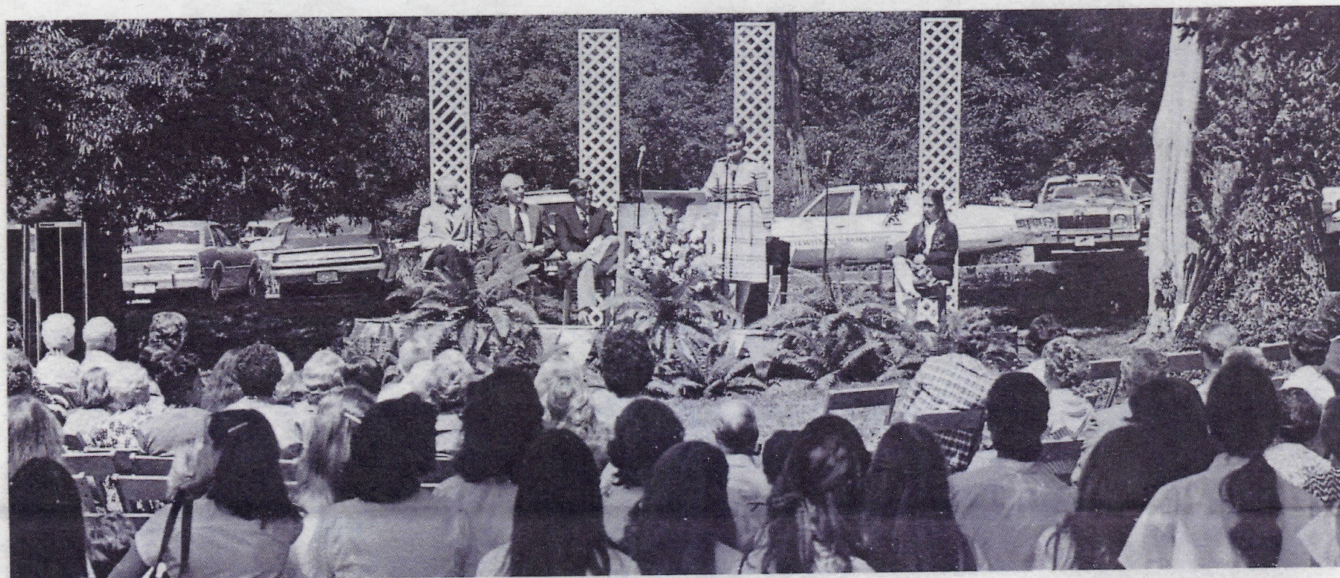
Presently, I am pleased to report, Harpeth Hall has collected in pledges and/or contributions three-fifths of the total building cost. This also means that we still have approximately \$800,000 to go. In the opinion of many, the construction of these buildings is extremely necessary if we are to assist Harpeth Hall in continuing to meet its excellent academic and cultural potential.

Harpeth Hall is extremely fortunate in having a superior Headmistress, Sam McMurry, a creative and gifted faculty and staff, supportive parents and Board of Trust, and many wonderful friends in the Nashville community. Harpeth Hall is grateful and appreciative of these many blessings.

Mrs. George D. Clark (HH '56)
Chairman



Dr. Daugh W. Smith, President of the Harpeth Hall Board of Trustees and one of the original founders of the school, traced the development of Harpeth Hall through its first twenty-five years.



Miss Idanelle Sam McMurry (W-B '43), Headmistress of Harpeth Hall, addresses the several hundred students, parents, and friends of the school at the May 20, 1976, groundbreaking ceremonies.



In deep conversation following the ceremonies are honorees Frances Bond Davis (a graduate of Ward Seminary), left, and Catherine E. Morrison (W-B faculty through its entire existence), center. At right is Miss Patty Chadwell (W-B '35), Head of the Physical Education Department at Harpeth Hall. Miss Chadwell was one of the original Ward-Belmont High School Department faculty who helped found Harpeth Hall in the fall of 1951, six of whom are still active with the school.