

Hobart Estate Seen Ideal As Paterson College Site

Bosshart Says Mansion and 200-Acre Tract Will Help Meet Area's Need

Trenton Bureau.

TRENTON—Paterson's new State Teachers College is going to be more than the name indicates.

The State Board of Education and Rutgers University are planning to make it the cultural and educational center for all of Passaic, Eastern Morris and Western Bergen counties.

State Education Commissioner Bosshart said today that title to the 200-acre estate of the late Garrett A. Hobart Jr., near the crest of Gaedes' Hill, off Pompton road, Wayne, north of Paterson, probably will be closed within a few days. Hobart was the son of the Vice President who served during President McKinley's first term.

The state is buying the property for \$200,000 although it has a value at least double and probably three times that amount. It is a short distance south of the intersection of Pompton turnpike and Snake Hill road.

\$1,000,000 Project

Work in converting buildings on the estate to college purposes and construction of a combined gymnasium, auditorium and science building probably will begin within about a year. It is expected that from \$200,000 to \$250,000 will be spent in the conversion work and from \$550,000 to \$600,000 for the new building, thus accounting, with the cost price, for the \$1,000,000 that was appropriated this year for expansion of the Paterson College.

Bosshart said Rutgers will offer day and evening courses in the liberal arts and sciences for students in the area and that the Department of Education will continue to operate the Teachers College.

Objective of both, he said, is to establish a cultural center for the rapidly developing industrial area around Paterson and to give its residents and the younger generation some of the educational advantages now enjoyed by Newark, New York and other urban centers.

Tuition rates will be the same as those offered to day and evening non-resident students at the Rutgers branches in Newark and the main colleges in New Brunswick.

Bosshart said the beauty and expansiveness of the estate and the contour of the land will permit for future expansion to keep pace with the growth of the area and its educational demands.

The main residence building on the estate will be used to house the administration offices, library and about nine class rooms. An adjoining brick building will make room for another three, four or five rooms and there probably will be five rooms for science instruction in the combined gymnasium-auditorium.

A cafeteria with kitchen and dining room will be built in one of the existing buildings, a large garage.

Fills Need in Area

Bosshart says that the state was fortunate in being able to purchase the property, which is within 10 minutes of Paterson's business section. He says it is particularly fortunate to make such an acquisition in the Paterson area because statistics prove that there are many capable students in this general area that should be able to continue with a higher education but do not have the funds to do so.

If future general educational demands in the section increase, it may be possible to transfer teacher training activity from Paterson to the Montclair Teachers College, leaving the Paterson institution for regular college courses. Because the Montclair college is only a short distance from Paterson there still will be adequate teacher training facilities for that area.

Opening of the new college will permit the state to return the existing Paterson Teachers College to the city. This building at 19th avenue and 22d street never was owned by the state and now is needed by the city for its expanding elementary school population.