Within the next four months, Kalamazoo College plans to break ground for the first academic building constructed outside the campus quadrangle since the original 43-acre site was acquired in 1946. A fine arts building, estimated to cost about $1,200,000, will be located on a plot owned by the college on the northeast corner of Academy and Thompson streets. It will house the art, music and theater arts departments which are now located about as far apart as is physically possible in three different buildings on the present campus site: Welles Hall (music), Bowen Hall (theater arts) and the MacKenzie House (art).

Private residences will be removed from the proposed site, including the college-owned MacKenzie House which now houses the art department. This converted former home of Clark W. MacKenzie, local business executive and longtime friend and honorary trustee of the college, was acquired in 1959.

MORE
Back in 1846, five Kalamazoo residents donated $750 to buy 41 acres on which the present campus quadrangle and most of the buildings are located. The Michigan Central Railroad reached the city that year and paid $500 for the right-of-way across the east corner of the property. This meant that the entire present K-college campus cost only $250.

Future building plans, revealed recently in connection with a 10-year expansion program, include a new library, remodeling of the present library for faculty offices and additional classrooms, and a new maintenance building and a swimming pool.

New men's and women's dormitories and enlargement of Calder Fieldhouse will be required as enrollment is increased. Although K-college intends to stay small, enrollment is expected to rise from the present 750 to 1,300 within the next ten years. However, because of the staggered vacations, study abroad and off-campus research programs, only 850 students will be on the campus at any one time.

A men's dormitory was the first building erected on the present K-college quad. It was completed in 1848. Classes were held in both this building and in the "Lower Hall," located farther down the hill to the east. The "Gazette" stated that "the building which is now finished and occupied by students and for public rooms, is the largest now completed in the State for educational purposes."
Now standing on the site of the first men's dorm is Hoben Hall, the present men's residence. Funds were provided by the late Dr. and Mrs. Enos DeWaters of Flint, turn-of-the-century K-college graduates. Finished in 1937, the hall was named for Dr. Allan Hoben, president from 1922 to 1935.

Oldest existing building on the "quad" is Bowen Hall. Erected in 1902, it was named in honor of Charles Clark Bowen, for many years the chairman of the board of trustees.

Mary Trowbridge House, residence for women on the west end of the campus, was first occupied in 1925. The R. E. Olds Science Hall, a gift of the late trustee whose name it bears, was built in 1927. It houses the chemistry and physics departments. Mandelle Library, dedicated in 1930, was a gift of the late Miss Mary Senter Mandell of Connecticut.

Welles Hall, erected in 1939 on the southwest corner of the quadrangle with funds contributed by the late F. R. Welles, houses the dining hall, music department, faculty offices, student lounge and student senate and newspaper offices.

Stetson Chapel, overlooking the quad from the west end, was constructed in 1932 and named in honor of Herbert Lee Stetson, president from 1913 to 1922.

Harmon Hall, men's residence, named in honor of the late Dr. Claude M. Harmon, trustee from Detroit, was built in
1947 on the northeast corner of the quadrangle.

Latest addition to the original quadrangle is Upton Hall, built in 1956 on the east end of Olds Hall. A memorial to the late Louis C. Upton, a trustee, it houses the Biology and Mathematics departments.