

University expansion plans include parking, band areas

The University, boxed in by railroad tracks to the north and east, the downtown area to the south and Interstate Highway 180 to the west, has a major problem when it comes to expansion.

Campus planners look with envy at campuses like Iowa State, "growing up," as Carl Donaldson puts it, "from plowed ground."

Donaldson, who has been around the NU campus since 1924, recently was appointed as a special consultant to President Joseph Soshnik on campus improvement.

Donaldson pointed out that some progress in expansion has been made in buying land from the railroads. In 1958, the property east of 17th and Vine Streets, where the playground is located now, belonged to railroad companies who leased the property to lumber yards, he said.

Now the property belongs to the University, he said, with the railroad holdings limited to the main lines.

A recent railroad transportation study made for the Lincoln Metropolitan Transportation Council placed the cost of relocating the Rock Island and Missouri Pacific tracks at about \$1.8 million each. The study recommended abandoning segments of railroad tracks from the City Campus, allowing expansion eastward into the Malone area.

Donaldson stressed that moving railroad tracks is a complex issue, involving more than cost. The issue draws in federal, state, county and city governments as well as the University administration and the railroad companies, he said.

Facing warehouses, city buildings, and the Interstate to

the south and west, the campus can expand only toward the tracks to the north and east, Donaldson continued. As the campus expands, he said, parking lots are being moved to the outskirts.

These lots are already nudging the railroad tracks. A new kind of parking lot on the campus, capable of holding 500 cars, will open west of 14th and Y Streets as soon as weather permits its construction, Donaldson said. The lot is operated by gates, he explained, and a meter tells when the lot is full.

The shuttle bus service from the fairgrounds lot to campus will be expanded to handle users of the new lot, he said.

A high-rise parking lot was considered, but the cost of \$1,200 per stall — a dollar-a-day for each user — makes a shuttle-bus service more desirable, he added.

Another part of the plan uses several natural settings for concerts. Natural band shells having the proper acoustics already are provided by the north side of Kimball Hall and the sides of Sheldon Art Gallery, he added.

"Nobody wants to be told where to have a concert," he said. "So rather than having a fixed auditorium, with 'x' number of seats, we worked these natural settings into the plan."

How fast the changes come seems to depend on the perspective the progress is seen from.

"Sometimes I get to thinking campus growth is quite rapid, when I look at the changes since I've been here," Donaldson said. "But then I remember that it's taken over 40 years for the campus to grow from 12th Street to where it is now."

Woods art collection at Sheldon

The Nelle Cochrane Woods Collection is now on exhibit in Gallery C of the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery through Jan. 31.

The collection was purchased by a fund given to the Nebraska Art Association in 1954 in honor of Mrs. Frank Woods. At that time a stipulation was made that no more than \$2,500

could be spent per year. The last picture bought with the original grant money was Ben Kamihira's "Nude". However, the Woods family has now given the Nebraska Art Association \$25,000 more to be spend in the same way.

The Woods Collection follows the basic policy of the Gallery, which is to show American art

in the 20th century in as much breadth and depth as possible.

Among artists in the Woods collection are Frank Duveneck, Theodore Robinson, Helen Frankenthaler and Robert Indiana. The collection also includes the work of two graduates of the University and of Robert Henri, who spent part of his childhood in Nebraska.

No parking

Some faculty parking areas, as yet undetermined, will not be available for use on Thursday. Campus security officers will direct traffic away from those areas and faculty will be permitted to park in any other lots on campus.

The fairground parking area is open and shuttle buses will be operating to carry people between the fairgrounds and the campus.



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