



Thomas Aquinas College  
**NEWSLETTER**  
**WINTER 1976**

26812 W. Mulholland Hwy., Calabasas, California 91302



## Dr. McArthur Announces Gift of New Campus Site

College President, Ronald P. McArthur, has announced the donation of Ferndale Ranch in Ventura County to Thomas Aquinas College during 1975. The ranch, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barker, Jr., of San Francisco, California, will be the site of the permanent campus of the college. Located midway between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, it was originally a Spanish land grant and was once owned by the Doheny family. Surrounded on three sides by the Los Padres National Forest, the ranch has a panorama of mountain ranges as primitive as can be found in the United States, including the nation's only Condor Refuge.

"A more beautiful location for a college campus could not be imagined," stated Dr. McArthur. "The former owners planted a 36 acre parkland in the heart of the property. This area, with its spring-fed streams surrounded by oak, walnut, chestnut and redwood trees, will be maintained and used as a retreat for the students. In addition, a large section of the upper portion of the property will be used as a natural history study area. We hope to be in our new home by September, 1977."

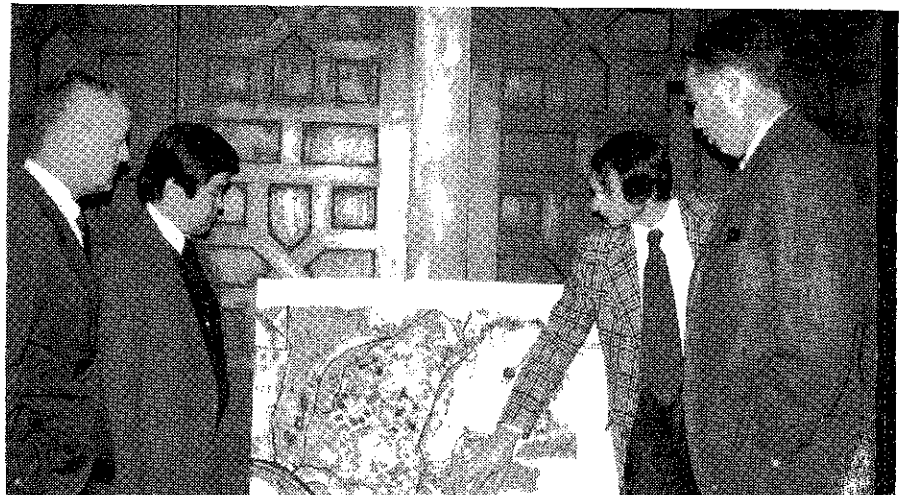
The college is currently located in leased facilities in Malibu Canyon. "Our present site has served us well," continued Dr. McArthur. "However, it only accommodates 100 students and as our applications increased, it became apparent that we must have new quarters. We are all deeply indebted to the Barkers for the gift that makes this move possible."

The Los Angeles based architectural and engineering firm of Albert C. Martin and Associates has been retained by the college to do the planning

for the proposed campus. The preliminary phases, culminating in a general land use plan, a Concept Plan and an Environmental Impact Report have been completed. Once these have been approved by the County, the actual design of the buildings will begin. If all goes according to plan, ground will be broken this August and the initial stage of the campus, providing facilities for 160 students, will be ready for occupancy in September of 1977. Sub-

sequent phases of the development program, providing for the college's maximum enrollment of 350, will be completed by 1983.

In making the announcement, Dr. McArthur emphasized the importance of the college's relatively small maximum enrollment. "It is essential with our educational program," he stated, "that stress be put on personal contact, small classes, and a sense of community."



*Architects Donald Toy and Robert Braunschweiger explain concept plan for new college to President Ronald P. McArthur and Vice President William S. Lawton, Jr.*

### WILLIAM OLIVER MARTIN Requiescat in Pace

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Dr. William Oliver Martin who died recently after a long illness. Dr. Martin was a member of the college's Board of Visitors, a long time supporter of the aims of the college, and one of those present at the formal founding of Thomas Aquinas College in 1968.

Dr. Martin, an author of many books on philosophy and religion, received his M.A. in Philosophy from Ohio State University and his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Harvard. He was Chairman of the Philosophy Department at the University of Rhode Island.

# Plans Unveiled for New Campus

Plans for the new Thomas Aquinas College campus were unveiled recently to the mayors, supervisors, county commissioners and other leading citizens of Ventura County at a luncheon held in the hacienda on Ferndale Ranch. The luncheon was hosted by the Ventura division of the President's Council.

The plans, prepared by architects from the firm of Albert C. Martin and Associates, call for the campus to be located on 60 acres immediately east of the existing hacienda. The beautiful landscaping presently surrounding the hacienda will be preserved and extended to include the entire campus.



The campus itself will be built in the Spanish Mission style of architecture indigenous to the region. The core of the campus will be a landscaped rectangular plaza dominated on the west by the college chapel. Enclosing the remaining sides will be classrooms, laboratories, faculty and administrative offices and the dining commons. The dormitories, each housing approximately 40 students, will be positioned in such a way as to relate to the plaza as spokes of a wheel to the hub. Recreational facilities will adjoin the campus from the south.

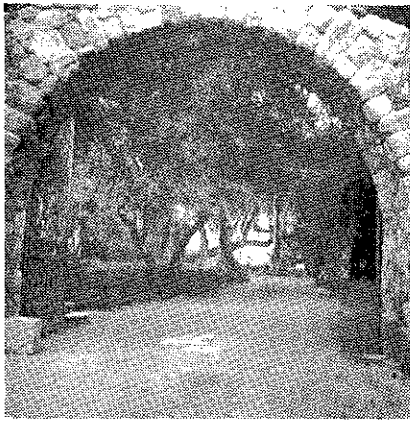
*Clockwise from top:*

*One of three natural springs on Ferndale property.*

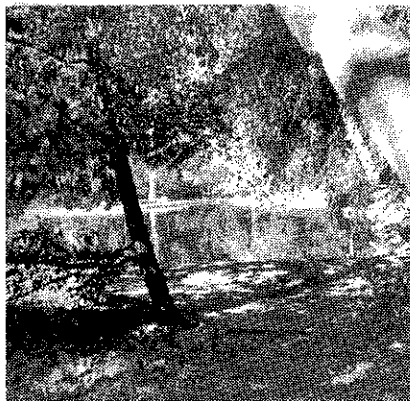
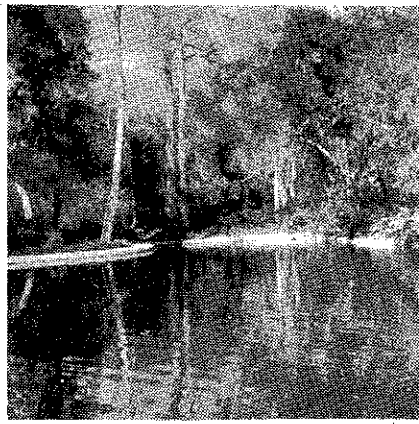
*Detail of plans for new campus.*

*Ventura community leaders at Ferndale luncheon.*

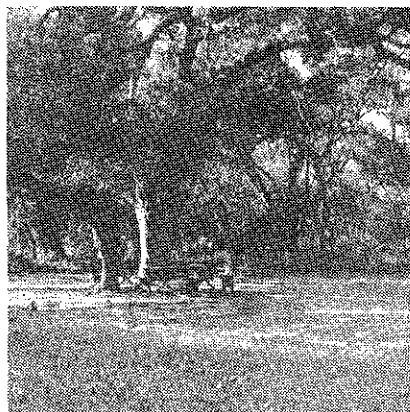




*A more beautiful location for a college campus could not be imagined. The former owners planted a 36 acre parkland in the heart of the property.*



*This area, with its spring-fed streams surrounded by oak, walnut, chestnut and redwood trees, will be maintained and used as a retreat for the students.*



## Recruiting Committee A Success

The last newsletter announced the formation of a recruiting committee to assist the Admissions Office in contacting prospective students. "My recent trip to the Midwest and the East coast," commented Mr. Koller, Director of Admissions, "was successful in part because of the many people who volunteered to become part of that committee." Mr. Koller announced a substantial increase in application inquiries from all parts of the country, further proof that there is a thirst on the part of many students for this kind of education.

Mr. Koller again asks that friends of the college assist him in the very important work of spreading the word of the college's existence to young people throughout the country.

## Archbishop Elko Visits Campus

Most Reverend Nicholas T. Elko spent three days on the Thomas Aquinas College campus in October. The primary reason for His Excellency's visit was to deliver a talk to the campus community as part of the Friday night lecture series. He arrived a few days early, however, in order to visit classes, get to know the students and generally become better acquainted with the college as a whole.

Archbishop Elko's lecture was entitled, "The Duality of Christian Democracy and Marxism." His Excellency, a member of the college's Board of Visitors, is Auxiliary Archbishop of Cincinnati and is well qualified to speak about the effect communism has had on the West. A graduate of Duquesne Univer-

sity, Archbishop Elko has traveled extensively behind the Iron Curtain as well as spending many years preparing Catholic programs for weekly broadcasts behind the Iron Curtain through Radio Free Europe. During the Hungarian Revolt, His Excellency established stations near the border to help refugees. His lecture focused on the renewed interest in Christianity in Russia that comes as a direct effect of the logic the communists have taught their students for the past 58 years—logic that leads people inexorably to a belief in a power higher than the Kremlin.

Archbishop Elko concluded his visit to the college by celebrating a High Mass for the students on the Feast of All Saints.



Thomas Aquinas College

## NEWSLETTER WINTER 1976

26812 W. Mulholland Hwy., Calabasas, California 91302



# Dr. McArthur Announces Gift of New Campus Site

College President, Ronald P. McArthur, has announced the donation of Ferndale Ranch in Ventura County to Thomas Aquinas College during 1975. The ranch, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Barker, Jr., of San Francisco, California, will be the site of the permanent campus of the college. Located midway between Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, it was originally a Spanish land grant and was once owned by the Doheny family. Surrounded on three sides by the Los Padres National Forest, the ranch has a panorama of mountain ranges as primitive as can be found in the United States, including the nation's only Condor Refuge.

"A more beautiful location for a college campus could not be imagined," stated Dr. McArthur. "The former owners planted a 36 acre parkland in the heart of the property. This area, with its spring-fed streams surrounded by oak, walnut, chestnut and redwood trees, will be maintained and used as a retreat for the students. In addition, a large section of the upper portion of the property will be used as a natural history study area. We hope to be in our new home by September, 1977."

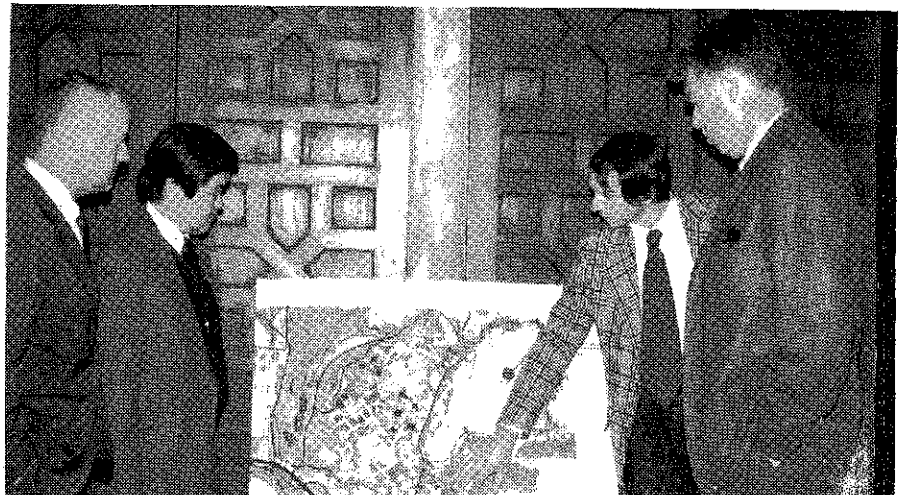
The college is currently located in leased facilities in Malibu Canyon. "Our present site has served us well," continued Dr. McArthur. "However, it only accommodates 100 students and as our applications increased, it became apparent that we must have new quarters. We are all deeply indebted to the Barkers for the gift that makes this move possible."

The Los Angeles based architectural and engineering firm of Albert C. Martin and Associates has been retained by the college to do the planning

for the proposed campus. The preliminary phases, culminating in a general land use plan, a Concept Plan and an Environmental Impact Report have been completed. Once these have been approved by the County, the actual design of the buildings will begin. If all goes according to plan, ground will be broken this August and the initial stage of the campus, providing facilities for 160 students, will be ready for occupancy in September of 1977. Sub-

sequent phases of the development program, providing for the college's maximum enrollment of 350, will be completed by 1983.

In making the announcement, Dr. McArthur emphasized the importance of the college's relatively small maximum enrollment. "It is essential with our educational program," he stated, "that stress be put on personal contact, small classes, and a sense of community."



*Architects Donald Toy and Robert Braunschweiger explain concept plan for new college to President Ronald P. McArthur and Vice President William S. Lawton, Jr.*

## WILLIAM OLIVER MARTIN Requiescat in Pace

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Dr. William Oliver Martin who died recently after a long illness. Dr. Martin was a member of the college's Board of Visitors, a long time supporter of the aims of the college, and one of those present at the formal founding of Thomas Aquinas College in 1968.

Dr. Martin, an author of many books on philosophy and religion, received his M.A. in Philosophy from Ohio State University and his Ph.D. in Philosophy from Harvard. He was Chairman of the Philosophy Department at the University of Rhode Island.