

ASNS saw a change of principals in 1907. Principal Irving O. Bragg retired, and the Board of Trustees appointed Mr. San Lorenzo Merriman as the new principal of Aroostook State Normal School. Also in that year, the school hired its first assistant principal, Mr. William D. Hall.

The year 1909 marked the beginning of the production of the Salmagundi, then the school newspaper. Since then, the Salmagundi evolved into the school yearbook. The students of ASNS chose the name "Salmagundi" for a very specific reason. Salmagundi is actually an "old Dutch Dish which consisted of a mixture of spices, chopped meat, pickled herring, oil, vinegar, pepper and onions." The word was reinterpreted into an abstract meaning to be understood as a mixture of a little bit of everything. With that in mind, the students decided to call their paper that would consist of a little bit of everything the "Salmagundi," and even to this day, Salmagundi seems an appropriate title for the yearbook of the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

In order to provide more training with youngsters, the Aroostook State Normal School offered its first summer session in 1910. This six-week term began on July 10, and allowed student teachers to increase their knowledge of and experience with the teaching profession, and to offer student teachers a proper Normal School training. There was more good news for the Training School in 1911. The town of Presque Isle and ASNS drew up a contract between them to allow ASNS to use the old Presque Isle High School building as a training facility. This provided more space for training.

The class of 1913 had a say in the future of the Aroostook State Normal School. Not only did the class of 1913 choose the school motto "Education for Service," but the same class also began a tradition that continued on for a number of years. The class of 1913 decided to leave its mark on campus for a long time to come by planting a tree. They dedicated the tree to Miss Ardelle Tozier. After this first tree planting and dedication, each graduating class, for some time, would dedicate a tree to someone and plant it on Arbor Day.

Aroostook State Normal School closed its doors for a short period in 1918 when the influenza epidemic ran rampant through the town of Presque Isle. At this time, the dorms were emptied, classes were suspended, and parts of the old school building were used as a hospital where many of the townspeople were cared for.

Although the Aroostook State Normal School had grown intellectually since its conception, its physical self had not grown in size since the addition of Normal Hall in 1905. The faculty, staff, and students recognized the need for a new facility, but getting the government to realize their need was not an easy task. In 1919 Governor Milliken stated that ASNS could have a new building if it could guarantee a large growth in student enrollment over the next five years, but his council did not want to make that promise to ASNS. It was not until State Senators and Representatives visited the Aroostook State Normal School that they saw the definite need for a new building. When the Senators and Representatives visited ASNS in 1919, they saw that space was limited, and that heating conditions were extremely poor, as they had to keep their coats on during their visit. As a result of that visit, the state government appropriated funds toward the construction of a new building. When that building was completed in 1921, it was commonly called the Administration Building, but since then it has been renamed Preble Hall.

June 3, 1921 marked the school's very first form of public entertainment when the senior class presented its class play, "A Girl in a Thousand," under the direction of Miss Alice Coffin. This began a long tradition of classes presenting senior plays and of theater in general for the Aroostook State Normal School.

Also in 1921, Principal Merriman built a home off-campus for himself, and what was the principal's home and part of Central Hall were converted into 16 dormitory rooms for women. The building that was the principal's home came to be known as South Hall, as it was the southern-most building on campus at that time.

In the winter of 1921-1922, ASNS began its annual Winter Carnival. The Winter Carnival allowed students to compete with each other in a number of events. For that first year, the events included a flag relay race, a snowshoe dash, and basketball games between the Seniors and Juniors.

The original St. John's School building met its demise in 1923 when the building burned down. The following year, in 1924, a new building was erected in place of the original buildings, and this was named South Hall, as it is still called today.

During the next years, Aroostook State Normal School grew. The number of students increased, and the amount, type and popularity of student clubs, organizations, and athletics grew enormously as well.

In 1940, Principal Merriman retired from his long history of dedication and service to ASNS. Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden replaced him as principal.

The year 1943 brought an immense change for the faculty and students of Aroostook State Normal School. With World War II in full swing, the federal government decided to close down ASNS so that the Federal Public Housing Authority could use it as a home for women workers at the airbase. ASNS did not provide enough space for housing purposes, so two barracks were built behind the Administration Building (Preble Hall). For the duration of the war Principal Wieden, faculty, and students of ASNS went to Washington State Normal School in Machias to continue their education. On September 23, 1946, after three years of being closed down as a school, Aroostook State Normal School reopened its doors to 52 students as ASNS.

In 1947 there was a very significant status change for ASNS, when the state legislature gave ASNS Junior College status. Soon after, in 1950, Aroostook State Normal School upgraded its curriculum to a four year program, then in 1952 the institution was renamed the Aroostook State Teacher's College (ASTC) in order to reflect the upgrade in curriculum. In that same year, Mr. Jan Kok was hired as a music instructor. He remained at the school for a long time and greatly impacted the music program and the appreciation that students at ASTC had for music.

A change in athletics came in 1954 when ASTC became a charter member of the Northeast College Conference, giving them more teams to compete against in intercollegiate athletics. Also in 1954, ASTC became the first state-sponsored school of practical nursing. Training for this program was held in the barracks that remained on campus from war-time. The nursing program moved to the Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute (now called Northern Maine Technical College - NMTC) in 1962.

1958 marked the beginning of the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation programs at the Aroostook State Teacher's College. Since that time, the Physical Education program has been recognized as an excellent program, and it continues to be a strong program to this day.

A new multi-purpose building was added to the physical body of Aroostook State Teacher's College. In April of 1960, this new building was completed and dedicated as Wieden Hall, in honor of Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden. This new building was the first new building (not including the barracks from the war) since 1924 when South Hall was rebuilt after it burned to the ground.

In 1962 the Aroostook State Teacher's College bought the Ben Marks Farm for \$60,000.00. This purchase added 123 acres of land to the size of the campus, giving the campus a total size of 150 acres. This purchase was important in the years to follow, as it was in the late sixties that many more buildings were added to the Aroostook State Teacher's College. Without the purchase of the Ben Marks Farm, this much-needed expansion of the physical body of ASTC would not have been possible.

In 1963, a new dormitory, Emerson Hall, was added to campus. Emerson Hall was originally built with the purpose of being a woman's dormitory. As a result, it was named after Miss Leah Crabtree Emerson, the first female member of the State Board of Education.

With the expansion of educational programs at ASTC, the focus of study was no longer only on teaching; therefore, in 1965, the school was once again renamed. This time, there was only a small change. The new name of the institution became Aroostook State College (ASC).

It soon became evident that there was a need for more residence halls, so in 1967 a new men's dormitory, Merriman Hall, was completed. This dormitory was named after the second principal of the Aroostook State Normal School, Mr. San Lorenzo Merriman, in honor of his dedication and contributions to this school.

Also in 1967, Kelley Commons, the dining hall was completed. This building was named in honor of Miss Mary E. Kelley, the first matron of the school.

This school first became a part of the University of Maine System in 1968. As a result of this affiliation, the school was renamed again, this time to the Aroostook State College of the University of Maine (ASC of UM).

Another new facility was completed in 1968. This time, the purpose of the building was as a classroom building, and the new facility was dedicated as Folsom Hall, in honor of Miss Ida Folsom, a long-time science teacher at this school. She taught at Aroostook State Normal School from 1912-1935, and had a real impact on the school's science program.

Also in 1968, the Aroostook State College of the University of Maine joined the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

1969 proved to be another important year for the addition of buildings to the campus, as two more were added that year. Park and Pullen Halls were finished and dedicated in 1969. Park Hall, a dormitory, was built where the Reverend George M. Park's home stood. Park Hall was named in his honor for his efforts in making Presque Isle the site of the new normal school in 1903. Mr. Park played a significant role in the establishment of this institution. Pullen Hall was named in honor of Miss Marguerite Pullen, a long-time teacher.

Also in 1969, President Clifford O.T. Wieden retired. His position as president was filled by Dr. Stanley F. Salwak.

The year 1970 marks the latest change of name that this institution has gone through. In 1970, the ASC of UM was renamed once again, this time to its current name, the University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI). Also in 1970, the Norton Museum was donated and moved to the UMPI campus.

In 1971, Normal Hall was renovated. The change was a significant one, with the rooms being changed from residential dormitories to faculty offices.

There were curriculum changes in 1973 with the addition of the Bachelor of Arts degree, as well as program study in the subject areas of Criminal Justice and Soviet Studies.

In 1974 the Smith House was purchased.

The year 1975 marked the completion of the Library, an addition to UMPI that was greatly needed.

President Salwak retired in 1980, and was replaced by President Constance H. Carlson, the first female president of any university under the University of Maine System.

1981 marked the beginning of the school newspaper, the University Times. In 1982, the Special Collections Room was added to the basement of the Library.

President Carlson retired in 1986, and was soon replaced by Dr. James R. Roach.

President Roach felt that it was important that the President's House be on campus, so in 1987 the Smith House, which then served as a Student Services facility was transformed into the President's House, where Mr. and Mrs. Roach lived the remainder of his time as president of the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

President Roach advocated for the addition of another building to the campus. This new facility was to be a student center with offices for student organizations, and meeting spaces to fulfill the needs of campus groups wishing to hold meetings, workshops, banquets, and other social gatherings. The work on this building was completed in 1992, the same year that President Roach retired from UMPI. In 1993, our current leader, Dr. W. Michael Easton took over the position of president of the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Since that time, many of the school's buildings have undergone some major renovations. Many offices in Preble Hall have been renovated. The first floor of Normal Hall has been renovated to include 3 additional classrooms. In addition, each of the dormitories have been renovated to include carpets in each room and in the hallways, making the atmosphere more friendly and comfortable. In 1996, the University of Maine at Presque Isle bought a

building called the Skyway Suites. The Skyway Suites are located about 3 miles from the school, by the Northern Maine Technical College. Also in 1996, the school became home to the Northern Maine Museum of Science, located in the hallways of Folsom Hall, the science building.



Important People



Miss Ardelle M. Tozier - The First Librarian of ASNS



Miss Ida Folsom



Miss Marguerite Pullen



Mr. Sanford E. Preble



Mr. Jan Kok - A long-time music teacher



Miss Mary E. Kelley



Dr. Clifford O. T. Wieden

Miss Caroline Gentile - Miss Gentile has been with this school since 1946. It is greatly due to her efforts that the Physical Education program has grown into the excellent program that it is recognized as today. Miss Gentile exemplifies the meaning of dedication and true accomplishment.



Reverend George M. Park - Mr. Park was largely responsible for the establishment of Aroostook State Normal School in Presque Isle. He put a great deal of time and effort into campaigning for support of the new normal school in Presque Isle.



Emerson Hall

Named in Honor of: Leah Crabtree Emerson



Emerson Hall is the oldest building on campus that remains a dormitory. Emerson Hall was completed in 1963 and was dedicated to Leah Crabtree Emerson on November 7, 1963. Although Miss Emerson was not affiliated with our school, she was the very first woman on the State Board of Education and she served as its chairman from 1960-1961.

Emerson Hall began as a women's dormitory, but has since moved to a co-educational dormitory, that is, each floor contains both men and women. Emerson Hall typically is only open to upperclassmen, and can house approximately 160 residents. Each floor comes equipped with its own laundry facilities, and there are additional facilities on the first floor that all residents are welcome to utilize. These facilities are: a large lounge area with a large screen television, a pool table, and a ping-pong table, a kitchen, and a comfortable study lounge. Each residential room has both basic cable and telephone services.

Part of the north-west corner of Emerson Hall was renovated to become what is now called the Emerson Annex. The Emerson Annex is home to the offices of Health Services, the Residence Hall Association, Residence Life, Safety and Security, Student Activities, and the Students Activities Board.



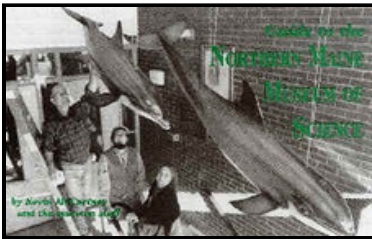
Folsom Hall

Named in Honor of: Ida M. Folsom



Folsom Hall was completed in 1968, and it was dedicated on May 25, 1969 to Miss Ida Folsom, who served as a science teacher at Aroostook State Normal School from 1912 until 1935.

Folsom Hall was built with the purpose of being a mathematics and science facility. Many classrooms on the second floor are used for mathematics, while the third floor is home to five science laboratories, a herbarium, and one classroom. The first floor of Folsom Hall contains a large lecture auditorium, commonly called the Fishbowl by the campus community. That same floor also contains three computer laboratories.



A special feature of Folsom Hall is that it recently, on October 5, 1996, became home to the Northern Maine Museum of Science. Museum displays are on the topics of conchology, mineralogy, ornithology, paleontology, and zoology.



Kelley Commons

Named in Honor of: Mary E. Kelley



Kelley Commons was completed in 1967 and was dedicated to the first matron of the school, Miss Mary E. Kelley. Miss Kelley was the matron of Normal Hall when it first opened to students in 1905. The primary purpose for Kelley Commons was as a dining hall (2nd floor) and space for social activities (1st floor). Since the addition of the Campus Center in 1992, the first floor has fulfilled other needs. The first floor now contains the school bookstore, the mailroom and switchboard, and the daycare center. The second floor remains the dining hall which can seat up to 300 people at a time. In the summer of 1994 the dining hall was renovated to make it a more modernized and appealing facility. The dining hall is now equipped with two full serving lines and a salad bar, and has comfortable seating with a good atmosphere.



Merriman Hall

Named in Honor of: San Lorenzo Merriman



Merriman Hall, the southern-most building on campus is a residence hall that can house up to 65 students. Merriman Hall was built with the intention of being a men's dormitory, but has become a co-educational dorm by floor, and is typically a freshman dorm. Merriman Hall's construction was finished in 1967 and was dedicated on May 25, 1968 to Mr. San Lorenzo Merriman, the second principal of Aroostook State Normal School. Merriman Hall contains on-site laundry facilities, a kitchen, and two lounges. One lounge contains a large screen cable television, and the other contains a pool table and a ping-pong table.



Normal Hall



With the need for a dormitory at Aroostook State Normal School growing, Governor William S. Cobb signed a bill appropriating \$20,000.00 for the construction of a dormitory. The town of Presque Isle did not feel that this amount was adequate to appropriately build and complete a dormitory such as they wanted, so the town of Presque Isle also gave \$20,000.00 to help fund the construction of the new dormitory. On December 12, 1905 students moved into the new dormitory, which at this time was still incomplete on the inside. Walls were not painted, there were no window shades, and there were no doors on the rooms. The dormitory was named Normal Hall.



This picture shows one of the student dormitory rooms in Normal Hall.

Normal Hall is the oldest building that remains on campus today. Normal Hall was built out of a need for dormitory space, and remained a residence hall for women until it was converted to offices to serve the needs of faculty in 1971. What is now the Faculty Lounge was once the dining commons for residence who lived in Normal Hall. In addition, during the summer of 1996, the first floor of Normal Hall was renovated, once again, making the first floor consist of classrooms, in addition to the lounge and kitchen area.



Norton Museum



The Norton Museum, a gift of Katherine and Leroy Norton, was given to the University of Maine at Presque Isle in December of 1969, a bit of an early Christmas present. Leroy Norton had recently passed away, but it was his wish that his museum (which he himself built) and all its specimens would be permanently housed on the university campus. Although Mr. and Mrs. Norton had no children of their own, Mr. Norton loved young people, and donated his museum to help with the study of science at this school.

Among the specimens in the Norton Museum are sea shells, animal footprints, geological specimens, and preserved animals. Mr. Norton, a mail carrier, loved science and spent much of his free time gathering specimens to include in his collection. He and his wife traveled all over the United States and Canada in search of sea shells. In addition, he attended auctions where he bought specimens to add to his collection.

Included in the museum is a rare shell called the Precious Wentletrap. When Mr. Norton purchased this shell, there were only six known of in the world. Another of the donated shells, the so-called Man Eating Clam was the largest in the world (it weighs 650 pounds) at the time of its donation. Mr. Norton also became interested in taxidermy, and preserved many small animals native to Maine as well as all Maine fish.

The Norton Museum was thankfully proudly accepted by the University of Maine at Presque Isle, and remains on campus to this day.



Park Hall

Named in Honor of: Rev. George M. Park



Park Hall was completed in 1969 and was dedicated on May 3, 1969 to the Rev. George M. Park, a leader in the establishment of Aroostook State Normal School. Park Hall was built on the site of Park's home. The original purpose of Park Hall was as a women's residence hall, but has since become a co-educational dorm, by floor, to house incoming freshmen. Park Hall can house up to 90 students, and also contains family housing apartments in the basement. One of those apartments serves as the home of the Director of Residence Life. Also located in the basement is a large lounge area and a kitchen and laundry facility that is open to all residents. In addition, the first floor contains a large television lounge, and there is a study lounge on each of the second and third floors. The third floor also contains a laundry room with full laundry facilities.



Preble Hall

Named in Honor of:
Mr. and Mrs. Sanford E. Preble



Preble Hall was the second building constructed, of those that remain on campus today. The faculty, staff, and students of campus recognized the obvious need for a new facility, but getting the government to realize their need was not an easy task. In 1919 Governor Milliken stated that Aroostook State Normal School (ASNS) could have a new building if it could guarantee a large growth in student enrollment over the next five years, but his council did not want to make that promise to ASNS. It was not until State Senators and Representatives visited the Aroostook State Normal School that they saw the definite need for a new building. When the Senators and Representatives visited ASNS in 1919, they saw that space was limited, and that heating conditions were extremely poor, as they had to keep their coats on during their visit. As a result of that visit, the state government appropriated funds toward the construction of a new building. When that building was completed in 1921, it was commonly called the Administration Building. The Administration Building was renamed Preble Hall in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford E. Preble. Mr. Preble taught at ASNS from 1921-1943, and Mrs. Preble was the director of teacher training from 1926-1940.

Preble Hall has been utilized in a number of different ways since its conception in 1921. The basement of Preble Hall housed the school's gymnasium, and much of Preble Hall was used for classrooms and the school's library during its early years. In addition, Preble Hall served as the center for communication, as this is where the campus switchboard and bookstore were housed for a long time, before they moved to the Campus Center.

Currently, Preble Hall serves as the campus administrative center. Offices that reside in Preble Hall today are: Computer Services, the Business Office, the Registrar's Office, the Admissions Office, the Academic Affairs Office, the Financial Aid Office, the University Relations Office, the Personnel Office, The Duplicating Center, the Student Teaching and Certification Office, and the President's Office.



President's House



The president's house was not always on campus. It was not until 1974 that the University of Maine at Presque Isle owned the building that currently serves as the home of the president. When that building, the Smith House, was purchased, it was turned into a Student Services facility.

In 1987, under President Salwak, the Smith House was renovated with the purpose of becoming the home of the President of the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Today, this building remains as the home of the President and is occupied by President Easton and his wife, Mrs. Louise Easton.



Pullen Hall

Named in Honor of: Marguerite A. Pullen



Pullen Hall, completed in 1969, was built with the purpose of being a classroom building. The namesake of Pullen Hall is Miss Marguerite A. Pullen, a teacher at Aroostook State Normal School from 1921 until her sudden and untimely death in 1940. Pullen Hall was dedicated to Miss Pullen on May 3, 1969.

Pullen Hall still remains a classroom building to this day. The first floor contains the interactive television (ITV) classrooms, in addition to other classrooms. The second floor, while mostly classrooms, also holds the International Studies Center and the Media Center. The third floor houses the Fine Arts Studios, as well as the Marguerite Pullen Art Gallery.



Skyway Suites



In 1996, the University of Maine at Presque Isle acquired a building called the Skyway Suites. The Skyway Suites, located about 3 miles from the school, are another form of student housing in addition to the dormitories. Each suite consists of two large living spaces with bathroom and kitchen facilities between them.

Families, or married couples, are given first priority. Families are given one entire suite. Individual students who are at least 21 years of age may also live in the Skyway Suites. Two individual students occupy one of the large rooms, so that four students total share the kitchen and bathroom facilities.

This option for residential life is a good opportunity for students who wish to live outside of their home but who do not want the noise of a dormitory. This is especially beneficial for married couples, one of which must be attending UMPI, that cannot afford the added living expenses of their own apartment.



South Hall



This photo shows the burning of the original building of ASNS, which came to be known as South Hall. The placement of this building is where the current South Hall stands.

The original St. John's School building, which was called South Hall because it was the southern-most building on campus, met its demise in 1923 when the building burned down. The following year, in 1924, a new building was erected in place of the original buildings, and this was again named South Hall, as it is still called today. South Hall is the third oldest building on campus behind Normal and Preble Halls. When the South Hall that stands now was built, it was used as a dormitory, and remained a dormitory until quite recently.

In the spring of 1989 South Hall was supposed to completely close down as a dormitory; however, with a great deal of protest by students, the third floor of South Hall remained open for one more year. In the meantime, the first and second floors were converted into office spaces. The academic year of 1989-1990 was the last year that any part of South Hall served as a dormitory. After that school year, the third floor was also turned into offices to serve the growing needs of office space for faculty.

Today, South Hall still serves the needs of faculty to have office space. In addition, the offices of Upward Bound and Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity are also housed in South Hall. The first floor of South Hall contains a computer laboratory and the Academic Services Center. The Academic Services Center serves multiple needs of students including Academic Advising, Counseling, Career Planning and Placement, and Student Support Services.



Wieden Hall

Named in Honor of: Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden



Wieden Hall's construction began in 1959, but the new multi-purpose building was not completed until 1960. That year, on April 2, 1960 the new building was dedicated as Wieden Hall, in honor of President Clifford O.T. Wieden. This structure was built to house a gymnasium, some classrooms, and an auditorium to seat 400 people.

Over the years there have been various renovations to Wieden Hall, making it a larger structure than when it was originally built. Space that has been added include the music wing (Music Room - in 1966), the ceramics lab, and the back part of Wieden Hall that is behind the gymnasium.

Now, Wieden Hall is a very important structure to this campus. Not only does it contain the gymnasium, auditorium, and classrooms, but it also contains the Athletic Hall of Fame Room, the athletic training room, the weight room, the fitness center, the ceramics lab, various faculty offices, and the office of the Director of Athletics.



The groundbreaking ceremony for Wieden Hall.

The construction of Wieden Hall.



Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden



Principal, 1940-1943, 1946-1952
President, 1952-1969

Clifford Oscar Titus Wieden was born to a Baptist minister on August 30, 1902. His birthplace was Wilmington, Delaware, but he did not stay there too long, because his parents had to move around often from pastorate to pastorate. As a result of Wieden's father having migrated from Sweden, he grew up with a strong Swedish influence. In 1910, the Wieden family, with the exception of Wieden's mother who had recently passed away, moved to New Sweden, Maine, where Wieden lived as a farm boy.

Wieden attended a small, one-room schoolhouse in New Sweden. In this school, all classes of all grades were taught in one room and by one teacher, very much unlike what Wieden was used to having gone to urban schools. As a result of this, Wieden was more advanced than students in his own grade, so he skipped a grade in order to give the student a challenge. In 1915, Wieden graduated from New Sweden Elementary School, and the following year he entered his freshman year at Caribou High School, in Caribou, Maine. After four successful years of high school, Wieden was accepted to and attended Colby College. After one year at Colby College, Wieden transferred to Acadia University, a university predominantly known for studying of ministry, but to the dissatisfaction of Wieden's father, Wieden majored in Biology instead.

Upon Wieden's graduation from Acadia University in 1923, Wieden quickly found a job at Mapleton High School as a French teacher. Although this was not Wieden's area of expertise, he took the challenge and taught French, in addition to the two science classes he was hired to teach. That same year, Clifford O.T. Wieden married a young Latin teacher named Marguerite Hill. His father performed the marriage ceremony for them, as his wedding present to them.

That summer, Wieden went to Bates College to work on his M.A.. There he met numerous superintendents from around the state, and in the fall he attended a conference of superintendents in Castine, Maine. At this conference, Wieden was offered a few different jobs, and the one that he accepted was at Gorham State Teachers College in Gorham, Maine. At Gorham State Teachers College, Wieden was called upon, once again, to teach in areas of education that he was not trained in. This time, he was asked to teach English Grammar, Physical Education, and was requested to coach 2 basketball teams. With a little help from an English teacher and with

some additional education at Colgate College to learn about Physical Education, Wieden was able to successfully fulfill what was asked of him.

At this time, Wieden and his wife lost their four year old son to a sudden illness. After this misfortune, Wieden changed significantly both in his personal and professional life. Prior to his son's death, Wieden was a strict man. Following this experience, Wieden became much more relaxed and did not place so much emphasis on discipline, as it was not as important to him as he had once believed. This change showed in his private and professional life.

Wieden remained a teacher in Gorham for 16 years, until there was an opening for principal at Aroostook State Normal School. In 1940, Wieden became principal of ASNS, and remained so for the 3 years before ASNS closed down as a result of the war. During the period that ASNS was closed, Principal Wieden, faculty, and students went to Washington State Normal School in Machias, Maine. In 1946, after the war was over, Wieden came back to ASNS to serve as principal. In 1953, when ASNS was upgraded to a four-year curriculum, the name of the school was changed to Aroostook State Teacher's College. Along with that change, came a change in the title of Wieden. His status was now as president, rather than as principal. Therefore, Wieden became the last principal and the first president of this school.

Over the time period from 1947 to 1969 when President Wieden retired, there were many important changes to the school that helped mold it to what it is today. Following are some of those changes.

On June 7, 1947 San Lorenzo Merriman's old home was acquired by ASNS and dedicated as the Merriman House. This was to serve as the principal's home. Also in that year, the Aroostook State Normal School was given Junior College status by the State Legislature. In 1950 the curriculum was upgraded once again, this time to a four-year program. 1952 marked the end of this institution as a Normal School, as it was renamed the Aroostook State Teacher's College (ASTC), and in that same year, Wieden was appointed president.

On February 10, 1952, Kappa Delta Phi, founded by Hubert Thibodeau, became the first fraternity on campus. In 1954 ASTC became a member of the Northeast College Conference for intercollegiate sports. Also in 1954, ASTC became the first site of a state-sponsored school of practical nursing; however, in 1962 that major moved to Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institute (now known as Northern Maine Technical College).

In 1958 the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation programs were established at ASTC. In 1960 a new building was completed. The purpose of this building was to house an auditorium, a gymnasium, and several classrooms. As a result of President Wieden's commitment to and influence on ASTC, the building, Wieden Hall, was named in honor of him.

In 1962 the Ben Marks Farm was purchased by ASTC for \$60,000.00. The addition of this land added 123 acres to the present 27 acres, making the total campus size 150 acres. This was a welcome addition, especially considering the growing need for dormitories. In 1963 some of that need was fulfilled when Emerson Hall, a residence hall, was completed.

1964 was an important year for student financial aid, as this marked the beginning of the the Work-Study Program. In addition, the Equal Opportunity Grants were first awarded in this same year.

Another name change occurred in 1965 when Aroostook State Teacher's College was renamed Aroostook State College (ASC). This change was needed as a result of the growing curriculum which focused on other areas of study other than teaching.


Two more buildings were added to the campus in 1967 when Merriman Hall and Kelley Commons were constructed. Merriman Hall was built as a residence hall, and remains so today. Kelley Commons was built to fulfill the need for a cafeteria.

Once again, the name of this institution was changed. In order to reflect the fact that ASC had become a part of the University of Maine System, the name of ASC changed in 1968 to the Aroostook State College of the

University of Maine. Also in 1968 another new building was added to the campus. This building, a classroom building, was named Folsom Hall.

Another two buildings were added to campus in 1969. One, Pullen Hall, was built as a classroom building, and the other, Park Hall, as a residence hall.

During President Wieden's time as head of this institution of higher learning, many changes were made to the campus. The campus grew from 27 to 150 acres, and from 3 to 10 buildings. In addition, the enrollment grew from 140 to 600 students. As a result of Wieden's commitment to this school and of his own superior knowledge, he was awarded two honorary doctorates. The first came in 1958 and the second in 1969. President Wieden retired as president in 1969, but in the years following his retirement before his death, Wieden remained an important figure to this institution. He annually attended some school events, such as the Awards Convocation held in April. This school owes a great deal of its success to the efforts of Dr. Clifford O.T. Wieden, and he will always be remembered by this institution.



Dr. Constance H. Carlson



President, 1980-1986

When Dr. Constance H. Carlson became the president of the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 1981, she became the first female president ever in the University of Maine system. President Carlson felt that education was very important, but she also stressed other activities to make a college experience complete. She felt that athletics, as well as other social activities, were important components of college life.

President Carlson had previous experience in the University of Maine system, as she taught undergraduate and graduate courses in English at the University of Maine at Orono for 10 years, from 1962 until 1972. Prior to becoming president of UMPI, Carlson was the dean of Bangor Community College at the University of Maine at Orono. Undoubtedly, her experience in an administrative position made her well-qualified for taking on the role of president.

Although President Carlson's time as president was short, she did help contribute to our school's continued success. Under President Carlson there were a number of improvements made to the curriculum, the University Bookstore was added, and the honors program was started.

Dr. James R. Roach

President, 1986-1992

In August of 1986, Dr. James R. Roach was named the new president of the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Dr. Roach had many experiences that made him an excellent candidate for the position of president. From 1950-1954, James Roach served in the United States Navy. In 1957, Roach received a Bachelor of Science degree (with honors) in education from Boston College. In 1963, he earned a Master of Arts degree in Philosophy and Theological Studies from St. John's College. Additionally, he earned his Doctorate of Philosophy degree in World Religions from Boston University in 1972. In 1978, Roach completed a post-doctoral study at the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University.

Following the completion of his own education, Roach worked at North Adams State College in Massachusetts.

Roach served numerous roles while at North Adams State College, including Vice-President of Academic Affairs, President (for a brief time), Academic Dean, and Director of Academic Counseling Services. He taught at many other schools during his career, including Annotto Bay College in Jamaica, Boston University, Salem State College, and St. John's University.

Through the persistent efforts of President Roach, the Campus Center was added to the University of Maine at Presque Isle. In addition, he also promoted greater school spirit and excellence in the classroom. After his resignation from this university, Roach went on to Western Connecticut State University to assume the position of president.

Dr. W. Michael Easton



President, 1993-Present

Monday, June 14, 1993, Dr. W. Michael On Easton assumed the Presidency of the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Prior to that time, President Easton had been involved with public higher education for 23 years, including some teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

Following high school, President Eason went to the University of Washington, where he earned his Bachelor's degree. He then earned his Doctorate and Master's Degrees from the University of Oregon.

In 1969, Easton became Assistant Dean, then went on to become the Dean of Students at Eastern Montana College. From 1973 until 1982, President Easton served as Director of Student Services then as Vice President of Student Services and Public Information at the University of South Dakota. In 1987, Easton became president of Western Montana College. Before that, he held the position of Vice President of University Relations at the University of Montana.

Dr. Easton has also been active in a number of national organizations, including the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and Rotary.

Irving O. Bragg

Principal, 1903-1907

Irving O. Bragg, the first principal of Aroostook State Normal School, was dedicated to education. Following his own schooling in St. Albans, Maine, Bragg went to the Farmington State Normal School, where he graduated from in 1893. Following his graduation from Farmington State Normal School, Bragg taught and served as principal in Maine for five years, from 1893-1898. After that experience as teacher and principal, Irving Bragg decided to expand on his own education; therefore, Bragg applied to Bates College, where he subsequently graduated from in 1902. With the opportunity to serve as an instructor at Fargo College, in Fargo, North Dakota, Bragg left the state of Maine. For one year Bragg taught in North Dakota, but with the opportunity to serve as principal and instructor for a new Normal School in Aroostook County, Maine, Bragg left Fargo College and returned to Maine.

On September 15, 1903 Irving O. Bragg opened the doors of the new Aroostook State Normal School to 17 students. Bragg served as principal of ASNS, but in addition to that tremendous task of starting up a new school from scratch, Bragg also served as an instructor of numerous courses, such as Moral Philosophy, Civics, and Arithmetic. As if that was not enough, Irving O. Bragg also served as bursar, the individual who bought needed materials and food for the school and its participants. There were only two other people on the staff of ASNS during that first year: Mr. Alonzo Knowlton and Miss Ardelle M. Tozier.

Principal Bragg accepted and excelled at the task of running a new school. During his time as principal, the school underwent some very significant changes. In 1905, the first dormitory, Normal Hall, was built. This allowed students to live on campus, rather than to stay in local homes, as they had to do in the two years prior to the opening of Normal Hall. In addition, the Training School opened under the direction of Miss Florence Hale. The Training School was a very important component of the education of students, as it allowed them to learn about and practice teaching to children in a classroom environment.

Principal Irving O. Bragg resigned in 1907 with the intention to attend Harvard Law School, in order to study to become a lawyer.

San Lorenzo Merriman

Principal, 1907-1940

San Lorenzo Merriman, the second principal of Aroostook State Normal School, was born on his father's ship, the "Isaac Lincoln." Merriman's mother named her newly born son after the first land she saw following his birth. The land she saw was San Lorenzo Island. Merriman was raised in a small town called Harpswell, Maine, and he graduated from Brunswick High School in 1892. Following high school, Merriman attended Bowdoin College, where he graduated from in 1897. For the next ten years, San Lorenzo Merriman served as principal at Island Fall High School, Patten Academy, and at Presque Isle High School. Merriman was appointed principal of Aroostook State Normal School in 1907, following the resignation of the school's first principal, Irving O. Bragg.

Over the next 23 years, Principal Merriman served as an excellent role model to faculty, staff, and students, as he encouraged the start of, and he participated in, many school activities and functions. He was very respected by everyone, and brought a great deal of enthusiasm and commitment to ASNS. His service helped mold the University into what it is today.

The first major change in the school during the time that Merriman was principal occurred in 1910 when the first summer session was held. The summer session provided students the opportunity to further train for teaching children. Another change was the construction of the Administration Building (Preble Hall) in 1921, a much-needed facility in order for the school to function adequately. Sadly, the original building of ASNS burned down during Merriman's time as principal; however, one year later, in 1924, a new building (South Hall) was erected where the old one had stood. The curriculum also changed while Merriman was principal, as the freshman class of 1934 entered ASNS under the new, 3-year program.

Principal Merriman's involvement with the overall functioning of ASNS, and his interaction with the students left an impressive mark on the school. He modeled a positive attitude, good moral character, and involvement with his school as a whole, which showed that he really cared about the people involved in his school and about the success of the school. In 1940, President Merriman retired from ASNS, but he had left a great mark on the school.

Stanley F. Salwak

President, 1969-1980

Stanley F. Salwak was the second president of this school. Dr. Salwak was a very educated man, as he took time to earn a P.H.D.. Dr. Salwak attended the University of Massachusetts, where he received his Bachelor of Arts Degree. He then went on to further his education at Penn State, where he received his P.H.D.. His dedication to higher education was evident, as he served as the Director of the Massachusetts Board of Community Colleges and as Director of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation of the Big 10 Universities, prior to becoming president of this institution.

President Salwak saw a large amount of change to the campus of this school during his presidency. First of all, during his first year, Park and Pullen Halls were added to the campus in order to fulfill residential and classroom needs. In that same year, the Norton Museum was donated and moved to campus. Over the years, a number of new educational programs were added to the school's curriculum, including the Criminal Justice Program. In addition, the Bachelor of Arts Degree was first offered during Salwak's Presidency. 1971 marked the final change in the name of the institution to its present name, the University of Maine at Presque Isle. In 1974 the Smith House was purchased by the University and was transformed into a Student Services building, and in 1975 the present Library building was constructed. During Dr. Salwak's 11 years as president of this institution, he saw a great deal of changes, both physical and curricular. His leadership aided the continued growth and success of the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Theater Groups

The history of theatrical performances at this school is a long one, going back to June 3, 1921 when the senior class put on the play "A Girl in a Thousand," which was the first form of public entertainment that the school participated in. After that, it became a tradition for the senior class to put on a class play each year. Following is a listing of each of the organized theatrical groups that have existed on this campus, from its beginning in 1928.

- **Dramatic Club** - The Dramatic Club was organized in 1928. The goal of the Dramatics Club was to provide students with a time and place to practice and display their talents in the area of acting. Productions were held frequently, and all students were encouraged to join the Dramatic Club. At one point, the Dramatic Club was renamed the Hudramics Club, but the goal remained the same.
 - **Association of Performing Arts** - Under the direction of new theatrical directors, the name of the Hudramics Club was changed in 1974 to the Association of Performing Arts. Along with the name change came a slight change in focus. The Association of Performing Arts (APA) opened their auditions to the community in addition to university members. Additionally, the APA was open to all forms of the performing arts, rather than being a strictly theatrical organization, as was the focus of the Hudramics Club.
 - **Pioneer Playhouse** - Pioneer Playhouse, a children's theater summer program, was started by Mr. John Sbordone in 1974. The summer program, while it does not continue today, lasted up until 1990.
 - **The Drama Club** - After a period of difficulties with having enough interested participants to put on performances, the Association of Performing Arts slowly died out; however, in the Spring of 1996 interest rose, and the following fall saw the rebirth of dramatics at the University of Maine at Presque Isle when a group of students formed The Drama Club.
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