PHYSICAL CHANGES
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In the 20 years from 1980 to 2000, a number of physical changes have occurred on the University of Nebraska Medical Center campus. A solarium was added to the fifth floor of the University of Nebraska Hospital above the Lions Eye Institute in 1981-82. It was funded by the Hospital Auxiliary with money from the Hospital Gift Shop (19). An extension of Emily Street from 45th Street to Saddle Creek Road was opened in December of 1984 significantly increasing access to the Medical Center (21).

The College of Nursing moved into a new building on the southeast corner of 42nd street and Dewey Avenue in 1976 (65) and the building it previously occupied was designated as the Specialty Services Pavilion. It housed the Nebraska Pain Management Center, Outpatient Surgical Unit, some hospital administrative offices, and various other programs at different times. In 1984, a number of rooms in the Specialty Services Pavilion were refurbished into motel type lodgings and “University House” was started providing housing for patients from outside of Omaha undergoing outpatient evaluation as well as relatives of patients from outside of Omaha receiving inpatient treatment at the Medical Center.

In October of 1989, the Department of Ophthalmology and the Lions Eye Institute moved into a building at Dewey Avenue and 40th Street. The vacated hospital space became the University Clinical Cancer Center for outpatient services (21). In March 2001, the area became the Geriatric Medicine Service Clinic and the Cancer Clinic moved to the Lied Transplant Center.

In 1990 a new edition to the Hattie B. Monroe Pavilion established a connection to the Meyer Rehabilitation Unit. The addition contained new recreational programs, research laboratories, and a motor analysis laboratory (35). In 1997, the Hattie B. Monroe Pavilion combined administratively with the Meyer Rehabilitation Unit to form the Monroe-Meyer Institution for Genetics and Rehabilitation.

In 1985, the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute was incorporated administratively into the University of Nebraska Hospital. In 1987, the Psychiatry Inpatient Program was moved to St. Joseph's Mental Health Center. This provided space for a Geriatric Rehabilitation Unit (32) which started accepting patients on June 3, 1989. The Eating Disorders Program, which had been at the Swanson Center since 1983, moved into the Geriatric Center Building
in 1988. The Pain Management Program which had been in the Specialty Services Building since 1978, moved to the Geriatric Center in 1990.

In 1988 the Board of Regents approved the University Health Care Project to provide needed increased outpatient facilities. The project was funded by donations and some hospital income. No State tax dollars were used. A five-story, 750 stall parking structure was built on the West end of the proposed complex across 44th Street from the Geriatric Center. A helicopter landing pad for the Life Flight Helicopter was constructed on the roof. The main building contained outpatient clinics for ten services, some departmental offices, six operating rooms, and a number of ancillary services (20). It was occupied in the spring of 1993 and an official dedication occurred April 23, 1993. The name was changed from the University Health Care Project to the Outpatient Care Center. In 1998 in response to a very generous donation from Charles and Marge Durham the building was renamed the Durham Outpatient Center (55).
The previous University of Nebraska Clinic Building which had housed many of the outpatient clinics was converted into clinical department offices and the building was renamed “University Medical Associates”.

Five additional stories were added to the Eppley Hall of Science. The work started in 1991 and in March 1993, researchers began moving into the new addition. The seventh and eighth floors were occupied by scientists from the Eppley Institute and the ninth and tenth floors by other researchers from the College of Medicine. The sixth floor had additional administrative offices (41).
A building at 37th Street and Dewey Avenue was purchased by the Medical Center and modified to serve as a temporary residence for the families of patients undergoing transplant. It opened in 1991 as "The Potter House" under a lease to the Children's Transplant Association which ran the project (22). The Ronald McDonald House at 31st Street and Jones Street resides in a building leased from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. It serves as a home-away-from-home for the families of pediatric patients and can be used by any of the Omaha hospitals (43).
On July 8, 1991, the Sievers Facility for Interactive Instruction was dedicated on the eighth floor of the McGoogan Library. The facility was named in honor of Dr. Rudolph Sievers, a 1939 graduate of the College of Medicine. It was supported by a leadership pledge from the Sievers family and gifts from many Medical Center supporters and the Classes of '37, '38, '65, and '91. The facility includes 12 computers, software programs, and other equipment necessary for interactive learning (38).

An extensive renovation of the sixth and seventh floors of the McGoogan Library of Medicine was carried out between October of 1999 and January 2001. At the same time a generous gift from Drs. James and Wendy Linder, graduates of the College of Medicine, added a student lounge to the sixth floor of the Library adjacent to the entrance. It is named the Linder Library Lounge and contains vending machines for food and drink, an ice machine and a microwave. Students are able to use their lap top computers from network connections at wall mounted tables. Leisure seating is located throughout the 730 square foot area (81).

Figure 6. The Linder Library Lounge on the sixth floor of the McGoogan Library
The South Laboratory building was renamed Bennett Hall in honor of Dr. A. Lawrence Bennett, retired Professor of Physiology/Pharmacology, who died in 1995 (52).

A Student Fitness Center had originally been built as an addition to the Good Shepard Home on 40th Street in 1962. The University purchased the house, razed it, and updated the Fitness Center in 1974 (54). It was renovated again and two stories added in February 1995. The new facility was dedicated as the Student Life Center on June 22, 1996 (55). It contains the Thomas Heiser Strength and Fitness Facility. Dr. Heiser was a former Cornhusker football player and a graduate of the College of Medicine. He was paralyzed in an accident in 1990 but ultimately returned to his practice. Money donated by his family and friends financed the facility. In addition the Center contains a bookstore, student lounge, and centralized student services and offices.

Demolition of Conkling Hall began in March of 1996 to make way for the Lied Transplant Center. Conkling Hall was built in 1923 and served as a residence for student nurses. In 1950 the School of Nursing moved to a new building and Conkling Hall subsequently housed Student Services, the Physical Therapy Division, Physicians Assistant Program, Office of Academic Affairs, and a number of departmental offices (57).

Starting with a 15 million dollar donation from the Lied Foundation the transplant center was financed by private donations and no State tax dollars were used. Construction started in 1996 and the building was dedicated November 25, 1998 (88). The Center is a 14 story, 259,000 square feet complex. There are research laboratories in floors 9-12. The first 11 floors contains cooperative care suites, University House guest rooms, the Peggy D. Cowdry Patient Care Center, outpatient facilities for diagnosis and

![Figure 7. The Student Life Center](image)
treatment of cancer, blood disease, and solid organ transplant patients, plus a number of other facilities. The innovative program of the Center employs the cooperative care patient suites. The transplant procedures are carried out in the hospital. When the patients become ambulatory, they are moved to the transplant center. The patient has a care partner, usually a family member, who stays with the patient and learns the skills necessary to support the patient. The patient and the care partner learn what they need to do from admission to discharge to care at home.

A number of modifications not involving extensive physical changes occurred within the hospital and other parts of the Medical Center in the last 20 years and are not appropriately detailed here. The opening of a pediatric intensive care unit, neonatal intensive care unit, a separate oncology/bone
marrow unit for the care of patients undergoing transplantation and the Baby Place an independent area for labor, deliver, recovery and postpartum care to mention but a few.

The Board of Regents approved a program statement to erect a "Research Center for Excellence" designed primarily for research laboratories and some educational components. At this time it is under construction at 45 Street between Dewey Avenue and Emile Street at the previous site of the Geriatric Center which was demolished to make room for the new building. Outpatient geriatric services are provided at the Geriatric Medicine Service Clinic in the area previously occupied by the Clinical Cancer Center as noted earlier. The Inpatient Rehabilitation Program has been relocated to the sixth floor of NHS Clarkson Hospital. Pain Management and Eating Disorders programs have become outpatient programs.

A new parking structure on the east side of Emile Street opposite the Durham Outpatient Center’s parking structure and the east Central Utilities Plant are also under construction. As have been true of most of the physical changes that have occurred recently at the Medical Center, these projects are supported by donations and no State tax dollars will be used (83,85). The
Kiewit Foundation gave 17.5 million (78) and Charles Durham made the largest donation ever made to the University the amount of which was not disclosed. The Research Center for Excellence will cost 77 million dollars. It will contain 248,000 square feet with 116 research laboratories, a 225 seat auditorium, and 50 class rooms or conference rooms. The garage will have 750 spaces (75). Because of Mr. Durham's donation, the structure was renamed the Durham Research Center for Excellence (90).