Watch for Linden Hall

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Watch for Linden Hall—styled for

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You can look forward to Linden Hall for the ultimate in college living: snack bar for relaxing, unique dining area, practical recreation room, and large study rooms. Here are modified blueprints of the coming dormitory styled to fit your needs.

Figuratively divided in half, the two sides of Linden will be as alike as possible having a total of 166 rooms. The basement is expected to be a favorite with its big, big recreation room 86 by 63 1/2 feet. A multi-purpose activity room, it will have television, ping-pong and other game areas and lounging space.

Air conditioning may be used since this room is underground. Laundry and storage facilities and 13 student rooms are included on this floor.

Ground floor will feature big news in the dining area, snack bar, kitchen, cafeteria lines and comfortable waiting rooms for those few minutes before meals are served. Custodian apartments and 15 student rooms will be here.

Linden’s main doors will open into one large lounge leading to two smaller lounges, a library, housemother’s suites, and 38 student rooms. One hundred student rooms will occupy second and third floors.

Kitchenettes in Linden are designed to be more convenient and usable. They’ll include electric ranges, sinks and cupboards with approximately one unit for every 50 girls.

Construction of Linden Hall begins this summer and the $1,900,000 project is hoped to be finished by fall 1957. This structure, a new effort toward modern living, will house 370 students. The H-shaped building will follow the styling of present dormitories and it will face Richardson court between Wallace Road and Birch Hall.

A note of gracious living is preserved in Linden’s large formal lounges. The adjoining kitchenette will service both formal rooms for teas and receptions. Space is generous with two smaller lounge supplements and the library. Because of its size Linden will have two housemothers, each directing one side of this large dormitory. Their living quarters are on either side of the lounges. Note too the large promenade tile roof at the south entrance.

Three-girl rooms with three built-in closets are corner room arrangements in Linden Hall. Triple rooms are connected with a center study room in two units on first floor, but other triples are scattered throughout the dormitory. You’ll find most of the rooms are double rooms.

Building officials concerned with the high cost of double rooms said the addition of these triples reduced the building cost per student by approximately $1000.

Room sizes average 12 by 13 feet for doubles and 13 by 14 feet for triples.

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The flexible dining area provides for a serving capacity of 525. Linden's new dining room may be partitioned into five separate areas. A huge bay window will dominate the center area. Food service units at Lyon and Freeman are to be closed and these residents will be served at Linden.

New to our dormitory system will be the Linden snack bar. One of the five dining rooms will be opened for this unit along with one cafeteria line. A portable grill will enable food to be prepared at the counter. Food? Sandwiches, coffee, and sweets, will be available. Evening hours for the use of this snack bar will be set to meet student demand.

Key to ground floor plan:
1. Kitchenette and adjoining closet
2. Office
3. Store room
4. Janitor's closet
5. Laundry storage

Linden's new kitchens will be equipped in stainless steel, dishwashers, glass washers, portable mixers, portable food cutters, and three large refrigerators. It is arranged to serve 525 students efficiently.

Work areas are localized around two cook's tables, vegetable tables and centralized unit for fryer, griddles, ovens, broilers, and steamers. Notice the dormitory's own bake shop.

Linden's joining the modern trend with two cafeteria lines, each serving one half of the dormitory. Cafeteria style will prevail at breakfast and lunch with family style service in the evening. Waiting in line will be no problem with plenty of space available in the two new waiting rooms at the entrance of the lines.

All this planning hasn't happened over night. According to Dr. J. C. Schilletter, Director of Residence, plans were first started in 1946. But when the rush of veterans began flooding the campus, housing for these students became of first concern to officials. Now, with this problem relieved by the addition to Friley Hall, plans for Westgate and Linden have again been brought to the fore. Westgate, Iowa State's newest dormitory, will be ready for occupancy next fall with a capacity of 164 women students. This should relieve the immediate housing shortage. But with enrollment predictions for 1960 approaching 9500, Linden is essential.

Beginning construction has been hindered because of the immense cost involved. Do you realize the construction cost of a dormitory? As estimated by Dr. Schilletter, the amount per student for construction alone, not including food service or equipment, will be $4300, the all-time high at Iowa State College. This figure ran even higher in the original plans. There were rooms for only 300 girls. To reduce cost this necessitated the addition of some triple rooms to increase capacity. Suspending food service at Lyon and Freeman Halls may help lower the cost by approximately $1000 per student.

Triple rooms have been kept to a minimum and Linden's dining hall is planned to comfortably serve the extra students. National average cost per bed for college residences is only $3400. As further comparison, Westgate is estimated at only $2400 per bed construction cost. However, room sizes at Westgate are 129 sq. ft. as compared with Linden's 165 sq. ft. average, and all waste space has been avoided in Westgate with the use of straight corridors and compact, square rooms.

Although construction costs for Linden Hall are high, the original plans are going to be used with the few variations mentioned because (1) $40,000 has already been paid for building plans, and (2) the two year delay cannot be afforded.

Editor's note: By 1960 you can look for a new men's dormitory for 600, a 150 capacity graduate hall, housing units for 200-300 married students, and a new home management house—total estimated cost, $5,000,000.