

The "journal" reveals our beginning

History of Glynn Academy

On February 1, 1788, one hundred sixty four years ago, Glynn Academy, one of the oldest high schools in Georgia, was created by an act of the general assembly of the state.

The first recorded building was built in 1819 on the southeast corner of Reynolds and L Streets at a cost of \$10,000. This was a two story wooden building with a large brick chimney. Some years later a new academy was completed in 1840.

This school was erected on Hillsborough Square, the present location of Glynn Academy, but it faced Egmont Street. For more than fifty years it served as the only public school building in the city, and it may be seen today in Sterling, where it was rebuilt around 1915. When they rebuilt it there, very little new material was needed, since the original timbers were found to be in excellent condition.

The next location of our Alma Mater was the present High School Annex, which was erected in 1889, and after a while it was transferred to what is now the "Old Prep High."

The present Glynn Academy was designed after the library at Louvain, Belgium. This structure, one of the most beautiful school buildings in the state, began her years of faithful service in 1923. The auditorium was dedicated as a memorial to the men in Glynn County who lost their lives in World War I.

In 1946, Wolf Street School was added to the high school system.

Thus we have traced the growth and development of our high school. The record number of graduates this year, approximately 220, will be a far cry from the graduating class of four girls and two boys in 1888, the hundredth anniversary of the school.

Several years ago, ideas were being submitted for the Class Night program and Miss Bernice Tracy drew a design for the coat of arms. This has been accepted and used ever since by the school. The objects in the design have the following significance: The tree is Lanier's Oak, sacred to Glynn County; the ship is the Constitution ("Old Ironsides" to you) which was made from timber secured in Glynn County; and the old fort is Fort Frederica, on St. Simons, a National Monument.

"Remembering Our Past"

From the 1987-88 Glynn County Schools Activity Calendar
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* Plus some miscellaneous notes of unknown origin

Education in Glynn County has a strong educational heritage. It began in colonial days at Frederica town (Ft. Frederica) with John Urlich Dreizler - a member of General Oglethorpe's regiment.

The present campus (of Glynn Academy) is a mixture of the old. . . . the Annex Building(1889), the Prep Building (1901), the Glynn Academy Building(1922) and The Wood Gym (built in late 20s, named for Alfred Vincent Wood who served as Board of Education president from 1900 -1929) and the new. . . . the Science Building (? during the 1960 's) and the new gymnasium , built in 1985. Some other landmark dates:

1920 - The Board went on record as favoring the enforcement of the compulsory attendance laws in the city and employed an attendance officer to take up the work of improving attendance in the county schools. The "Truant officer is born !!

1951 - The most famous class **ever** enters Prep High. Jim Warren arrives at the same time to be principal.

1953 - Glynn Academy will never be the same again. The Class of 57 arrives on the scene. Principal Warren likes these outstanding students so much that he "graduates" on over to Glynn Academy with them. It seems he felt they still needed his special touch. By now he has been named "Big Jim." By 1957 he knows he has **earned** this name.

1950 's Sometime - Malcom & Eugenia meet and ultimately marry. Likewise, G.A. "GleeClub" assists in courtship and marriage of Miss Thompson and Jim Meadows. We must have done a very good job as both couples are still married.

1957 - The last "Class Night" is held. It was more memorable than any ever held before. The unusually talented class presented a fabulously entertaining performance. There are conflicting stories about just exactly why this longstanding and revered tradition was discontinued. **One rumor** states that following classes, humiliated by the fact that they would never be able to match such a stellar event, simply decided to not have it. **Then** there is the faculty version. . . .

1957 - The first graduating class to have 200 plus students.

1957 - First class to ever hold graduation ceremonies at Football Field. This break from tradition(highly upsetting at the time) seems not to have left any permanent damage on the class.

1967 - First Reunion BY CLASS OF '57 is held

1992 - Glynn Academy's Class of '57 celebrates first 7 day long reunion. This is what you call stamina. Need we say more ? Yes, we missed you all who could not be with us and hope to see you in 1997.