

# CHAPMAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**BULLETIN**

MILWAUKEE-DOWNER COLLEGE





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## “The most important building on any campus”

A century ago the library of Milwaukee-Downer College was a small classroom housed in the main college hall. Today it is a towering, vine-covered structure known as Chapman Memorial Library. It was built by the bequest of Miss Alice Greenwood Chapman, daughter of the pioneer importer and merchant, T. A. Chapman.

The library contains 70,000 volumes, including over 10,000 bound periodicals. In addition to modern and recent works, it has acquired, through the generosity of donors, many rare books with hand-done illuminations and fine bindings. They are among the finest examples of rare book collecting.

The library has room to expand to a capacity of 125,000 volumes. Its books are arranged in open shelves on five floors. Open carrels line the windows on each level, and in addition closed carrels are available to students who want long hours of uninterrupted solitude for a term paper or special research project. They can leave their study for class or luncheon, lock the door on their spread-out papers, and return to pick up just where they left off. Even in the open carrels they may leave their material assured that it will not be disturbed.

The library serves every department and phase of study in this liberal arts college for women.



The Browsing Room looks out on hawthorn trees and great oaks. Here, with shoes on or off, students relax to read a magazine, newspaper, or a work of current fiction.



At the circulation desk three students are checking out books while another examines the "closed reserve" card index. Working behind the desk are student aides. Among the various campus jobs available in the library are typing, filing, shelving returned books, creating displays, and assisting at the circulation desk.



The Reference Room provides a vast area of knowledge in compact space.



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The head librarian shows a freshman how to use an index to periodical literature. Sliding bins hold current issues which are later bound and kept in the stacks. The library receives 315 current periodicals.

A microfilm reader has been installed in one of the carrels. Microfilm editions of the New York Times represent the beginning of this new research medium.

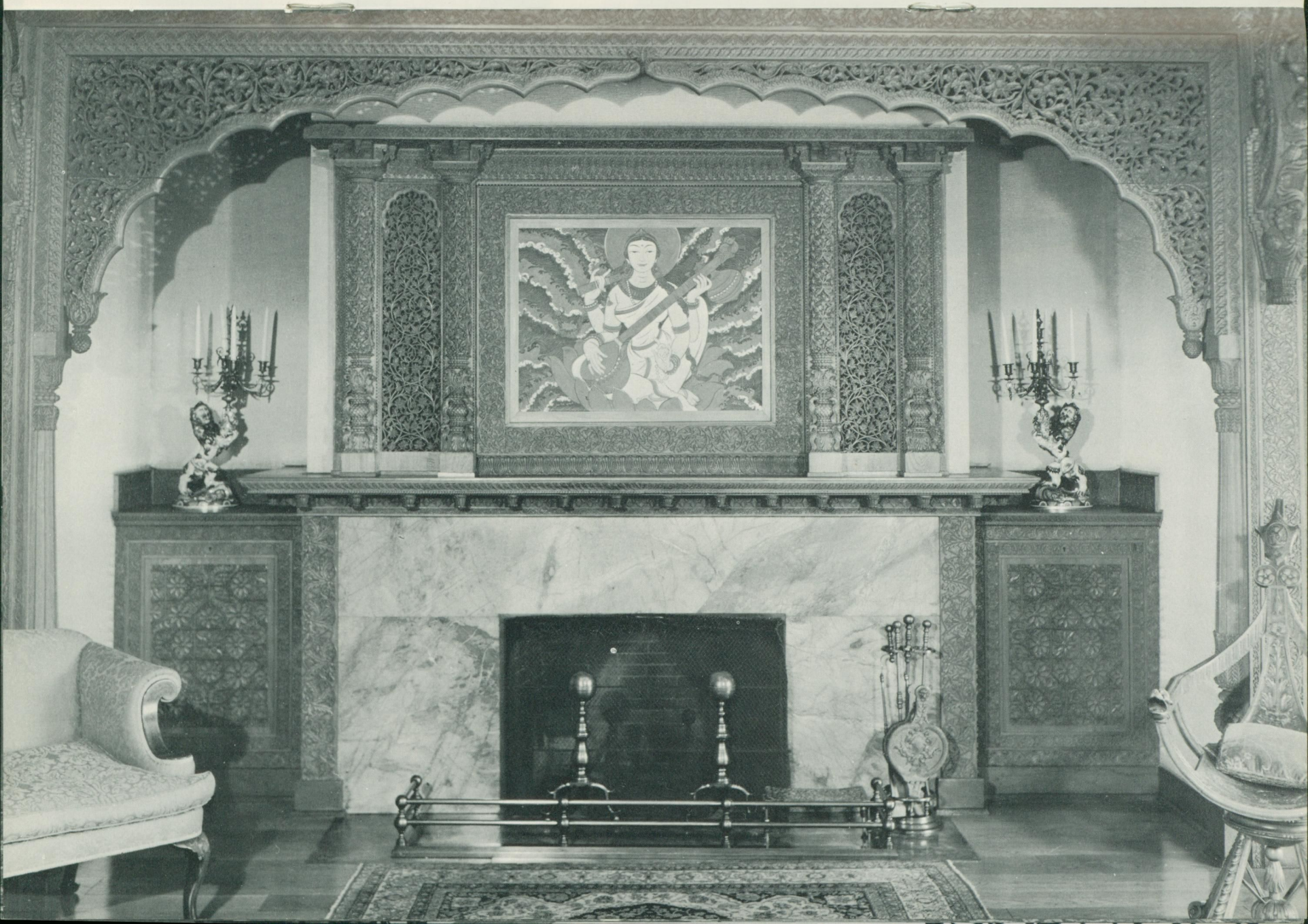
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The Gallery, opening in 1938 with a loan exhibition of Renoirs, has shown works of Van Gogh, Marin, Kandinsky, Klee, Picasso, and many other famous artists. Exhibitions have been assembled for the College from major museums and collections.



Visitors from the city as well as the campus come to view exhibitions in the Art Gallery. Above, guests are examining Medieval and Renaissance objets d'art. Left, students inspect contemporary tapestries.

Adjoining the Gallery are two memorial rooms, the Oak and the Teakwood Rooms, removed from Miss Chapman's home and rebuilt into the library in their original form. The fame of the delicately wrought teakwood has reached back to India where it was originally carved. So deeply impressed was a visitor from the Orient that she commissioned the eminent Bendre of Bombay to do a painting of the Hindu goddess of wisdom to fit above the fireplace. The golden goddess now looks very much at home in her lace-like frame. The Teakwood room is the setting for varied social events and for the regular receptions which mark the opening of art exhibitions.





In addition to books and high leaded windows a 17th century Flemish tapestry, recently acquired, adorns the Reserve Reading Room.



For the personal pleasure of the music lover as well as for class assignments, high fidelity recordings are a large part of the library's appeal. The record collection also includes plays and poetry readings for the student of literature and drama. Foreign language records, music manuscripts and scores are further resources of the library.

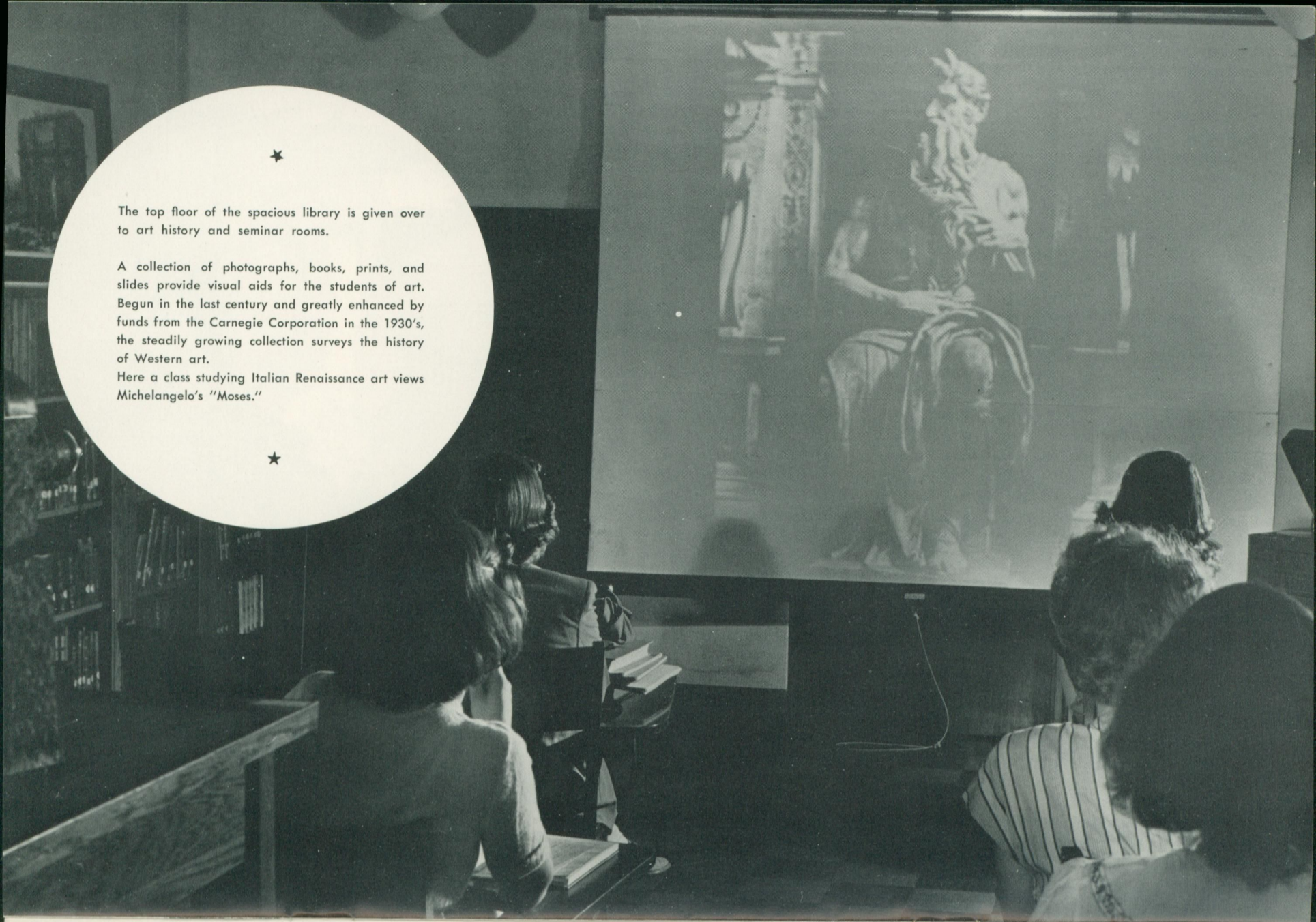
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The top floor of the spacious library is given over to art history and seminar rooms.

A collection of photographs, books, prints, and slides provide visual aids for the students of art. Begun in the last century and greatly enhanced by funds from the Carnegie Corporation in the 1930's, the steadily growing collection surveys the history of Western art.

Here a class studying Italian Renaissance art views Michelangelo's "Moses."

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In seminar rooms, (shown below) gathered about the table for group discussion, advanced classes have the source material of the library conveniently available.





The Stacks are open not only to the librarians but to the questing student herself. Circulation of books per student has tripled in the past ten years.



Past the wrought iron grill of the lower lobby, a senior carries an armful of books back to her room in Holton Hall.

