nmonastery



WHILE WORK WAS in progress, all ceilings and the entire interior was torn out except for weight supporting walls

heated in the brisk Piedmont winter, to be properly air ed in the brutal, humid summers of North Carolina, sufom lack of bathroom facilities, old plumbing and unsafe by and health regulations were the combined factors which led vation of the monastery at Belmont Abbey. year old structure was in bad physical condition so the

community's Building Committee, led by Fr. Bertrand Obl., S.B., looked into the possibilities of what could be

rray Architects and Planners of Charlotte were called in and d their recommendations last spring. The Dan Turner tion Co., also a Charlotte-based firm, began the renovation

terior walls were torn out," explained Fr. Peter Stragand, rior, "except the brick walls that were weight-bearing. The except for the beams, were also removed. The building was down as far as you could go.

loor plan was redesigned and the room sizes were changed now is a greater capacity for occupation." He estimated the used to hold 20 men plus an infirmary, but now could hold as 30, plus infirmary.

changes include the size of the chapel, which was cut almost ecause now only Mass is celebrated there with the sick. All votions are in the Abbey church. The infirmary area was 1; concrete and metal stairs were installed at both ends of astery from the third floor down to the basement for fire regulations; a library was built on the second floor isly, there was no library in the monastery); television nd reading rooms were separated; work rooms and a storage the third floor have been converted into bathrooms; ms have been added on the first two floors; a new ceiling and e floor were added to the basement.

onks, who began moving into the monastery in mid-January, e new thermal polarized windows, a new heating system and litioning.

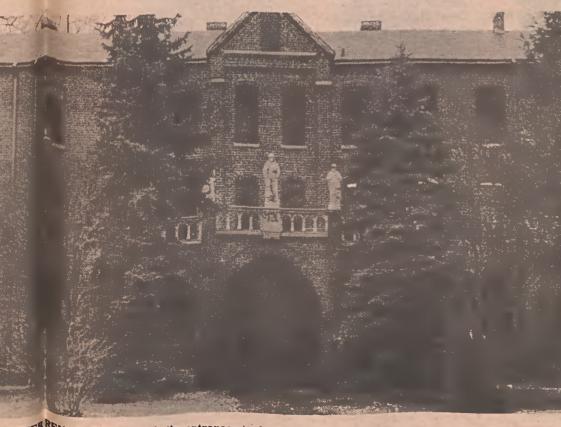
ally, February 2 was the completion date of the big work. All

nains is fetting some hardware items.
the renovations were taking place, many of the priests and s lived on the third floor of the administration building while ived in Kent Hall at Sacred Heart College, about ', mile Vithin the next week all monks who have taken solemn vows ve into the finished building. About a dozen who are in the on program will remain on the third floor of the Adation Building.

ictures of these pages were taken by McMurray Architects, ert Hages, O.S.B., and Anthony DeCristofaro.



TWO DIFFERENT WINDOWS - At left is the new pane and the right is one of the older windows that was later removed.



AFTERRENOVATION, here is the entrance at the front of the building.



ALL THE HAZARDOUS wooden stairs were replaced by concrete and metal, fire-proof stairs like these.