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NEW FACE ON THE CENTER SCENE



THE MAIN ENTRANCE BUILDING

The new \$5 million Main Entrance Building is now a reality and with its completion, the Medical Center can boast of a beautifully designed and elaborately equipped structure. Let's take a brief look at what one can find on each of the five floors of the new building.

The fifth floor houses the new Labor and Delivery Suite with four delivery rooms and six labor rooms. Staff lounges and sleeping quarters are provided in the area immediately adjacent to the delivery suites. Pediatric and Ob-Gyn laboratories are also located on the Fifth floor.

The first child born in the new delivery suite was delivered by Dr. Bayard Carter, first professor and Chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Duke. Chosen by his colleagues to deliver the first baby in the new facility, Dr. Carter officially opened the new delivery suite. This was a well-earned honor climaxing years of hard work which was started largely through his insight and leadership as Chairman of the Department.

From the fifth floor, new mothers are taken by elevator to the fourth floor where the obstetrical wards are located. Williams Ward, in the east wing, represents the new OB ward with 22 beds and the newborn nursery area. Sims Ward, on the west wing, has 22 beds for gynecological patients. The new Premature Nursery with a capacity for 18 infants, is located on the center corridor on the fourth floor. Here infants will be given intensive care with monitoring equipment soon to be installed.

The third floor has two new psychiatric wards, now referred to as Third East and Third West. A therapeutic garden is located on a patio on this level where patients can work with plants and relax in the sunshine.

The second floor of the new building is the new home for the Department of Radiology, with departmental offices, a labyrinth of passageways, and secondary corridors in the areas containing sixteen new radiographic rooms utilizing fluoroscopy and image intensification. Also there is The Robert J. Reeves Library, to be dedicated soon and named in his honor as being the first Chairman of the Department, housing volumes of both historical and current literature on radiology.

Moving down to the first floor, you cannot miss the cheerful lobby area, the Pink Smock Gift Shop, the snack bar and patio area, the new Business Office area, and the new office of the Administrative Director. One of the new features soon to open will be the Family Waiting Room, located opposite the patio on the first floor. Here, for the first time at Duke Hospital there is a central assembling area for relatives of patients who are undergoing surgery or on the critical list. Comfortably furnished with lounge chairs, it is staffed by a member of the Duke Women's Auxiliary who serves complimentary coffee and cookies. The room serves as a place for the family to rest and await any news of their loved one, as a central contact point for the physician to report the up-to-date condition of the patient, and as a quiet place for the chaplains and hostesses who are readily available to offer support when needed.

To the health care team, the room is a blessing. It has moved the anxious relatives from the busy ward area and permits them to care for the patient, or prepare the patient's room for his return. The names of these patients will be maintained both by the main lobby information desk receptionist and the volunteer assigned as the FWR hostess. The family members of these patients will be referred to the main lobby desk and then directed to the waiting room.

The ground floor contains the Employee Health office, the Student Health office, with registration offices, examining and treatment rooms, a Medical Records Department extension, and the ultra modern Emergency area. The E.R. has four operating rooms, a special fracture room, eight holding rooms for keeping patients for overnight observation. Also, special facilities for emergency cardiac cases, a decontamination shower, X-ray facilities, are available. For the comfort of family and friends there is a large waiting room, vending machines and a snack bar. The first "emergency" patient to arrive on the scene was not to take advantage of these advanced facilities, however. His only request was for a tetanus vaccination.