

The Salemite

March 4, 1993

Clewell: The Best of Two Worlds

The Old...

by Meredith Snellings and Deana Bass

A mural was discovered in Clewell's basement as the renovation workers peeled away the layers that had hidden it away for years. It has been discussed that the mural be torn down but Salem can not let that happen. The mural portrays several women of various personalities encompassing the Salem women of their day.

What is so intriguing about the mural? Although it is not a great masterpiece, the mural reflects a unique era in Salem's history. It has been estimated that it was painted between 1963 and 1967. History is like a river continually flowing. The mural cuts out a path of the river — a tributary in time when life was a little simpler, but similar to ours in several ways.

These similarities are what unite Salem women of today with the women on the wall. Today's Salem also includes stress balls, tomboys, fraternity sweethearts, primadonnas and religious students.

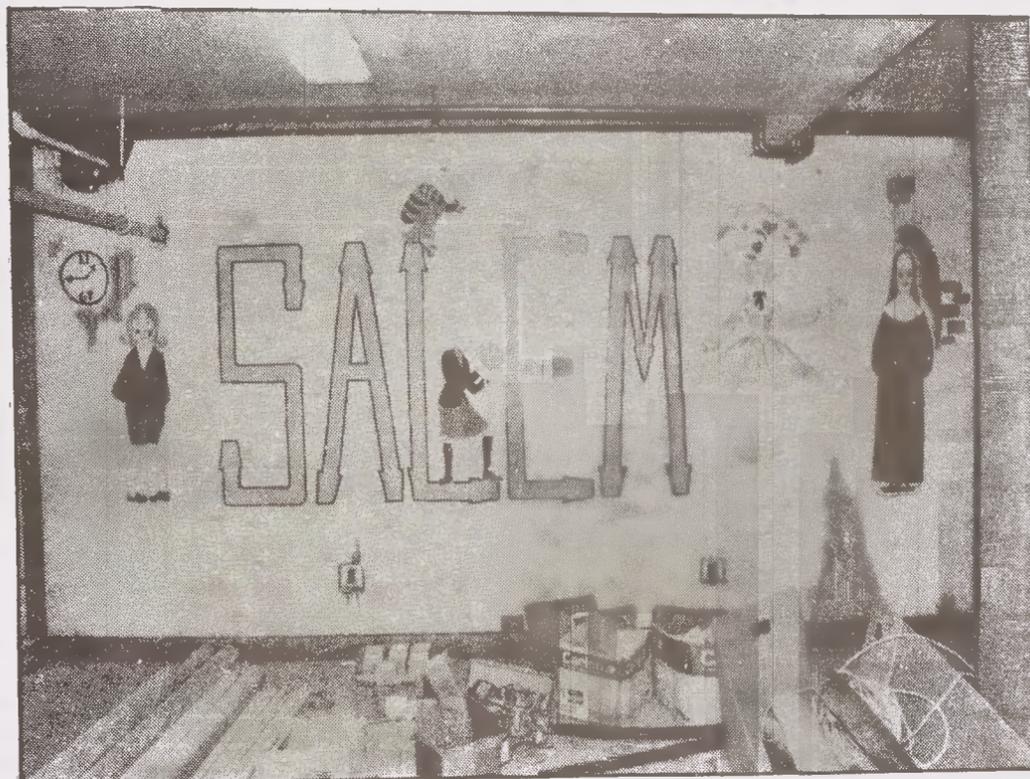
However, the differences between the mural women and Salem students of today is our world. They lived in a world of limited options. To become a doctor, lawyer, or politician were not unattainable goals, but they were not often sought after goals. To say that the Salem women of 30 years past were less academic than we are would be a gross untruth.

The feminist movement is a double-edged sword. Our foresisters sought equality in the work force and, to a degree, achieved this equality.

Today's woman... she has come a long way. Proof of this is the mural. Today, if students were to construct a mural of life at Salem, it would include a much more diverse group. There would be students of varied socioeconomic, and racial backgrounds. One would find students with a great range of academic interests. Perhaps Salem once was a place for wealthy white students, but today she is home to a student body growing in diversity.

Today's woman... she has come a long way, but she has a long road ahead of her. The battle for equality in the workforce is still not won. In the years to come, Salem students will learn to balance careers and families and to minimize stress as they do so. Today's woman must live actively in this world, but appreciate the world frozen by the five women in the mural.

There is great significance in the mural wall. It reflects past perceptions of Salem. There is a strong sense of connection between the sisters on the wall and the onlookers of

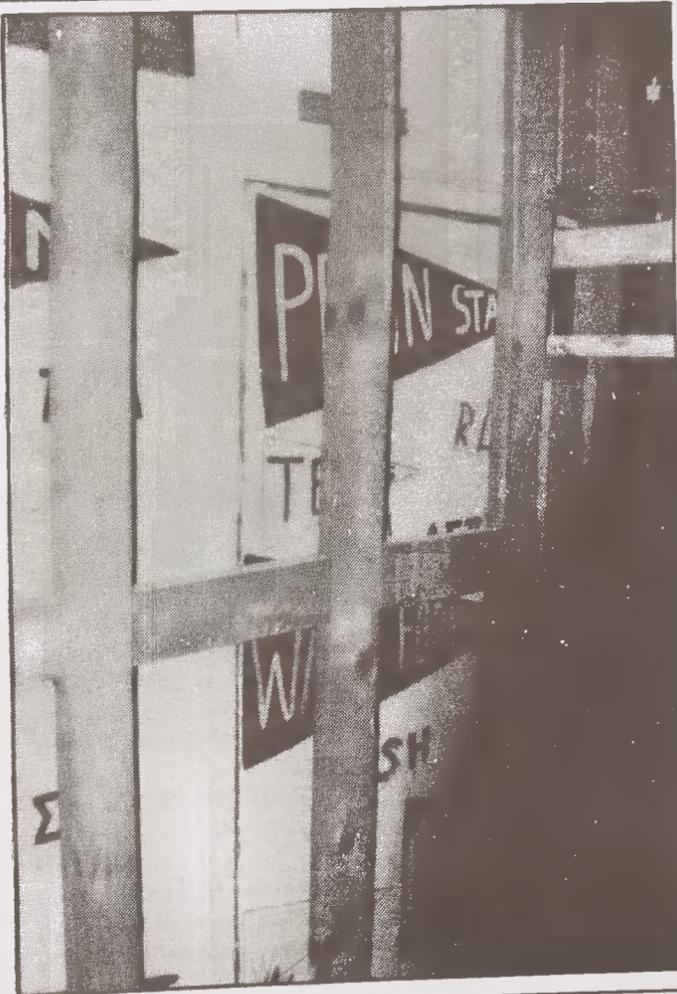


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Above: The main section of the mural, found by construction workers on a basement wall.

Right: Partially hidden by wall support, another mural panel contains school pennants.

All photographs by Meredith Snellings.



this mural. It erases time, bringing Salem students of all generations closer together as they feel the sisterhood Salem provides.

Even though the mural is not significant to the construction workers, Salem women can be confident that their past sisters captured their feelings on a wall to share them with future sisters. Because of this, the mural should be saved and illustrations of present life at Salem should be added to the mural.

The wall will be a living time capsule demonstrating that even though times are changing, the sisterhood of Salem keeps her students united.

Presidential and Rondthaler Awards To be Given in Spring of 1993

submitted by Mary Ann Davs, Chairman of Salem Alumnae Association Scholarship and Awards Committee

Five Katherine B. Rondthaler awards will be given again this spring by the Salem Alumnae Association during the annual Honors Convocation.

The awards are given for "creative expression" in the areas of art, choreography, music composition, poetry, and prose. All degree candidates at

Salem may enter. The Alumnae Association urges all students, regardless of major, to enter any category. The deadline for entries in all fields will be Friday, April 16, 1993.

The Rondthaler awards were established in 1951 and were named for the wife of Salem's 12th president. Off campus judges will select the winning entries.

The President's Prizes, also pro-

vided by the Alumnae Association, were established in 1958 to honor Dr. Dale Gramley, the 13th president of Salem. These awards recognize high academic achievement for work in freshman English and the academic majors. An award is also given at Opening Convocation in the fall to the freshmen and the junior with the highest quality grade point average, provided she returns for the academic year immediately following.

...And the New...

by Kristan Majors

For those on campus who are dying with curiosity, here is the Clewell update!

The dorm will feature the latest in modern "necessities": cable hook-up, anti-scald hardware for the showers (the end of the infamous surprise attacks), new vanities and mirrors, and laundry rooms on each floor. The color scheme selected for the lobbies and hallways will be varying shades of mauve.

The layout for the rooms will be either suites, two double occupancy rooms on each side of a common room, or singles. Approximately ten rooms will be singles and thirty suites. All of the rooms have lavatories, two closets, cable hook-up, and computer hook-ups that tap into the main frame of the library.

The three stories of Clewell will serve as a dormitory while the basement will house several student government offices and a large community room. Completion of Clewell is set for the first week in June. So, until then, be patient because it will be worth the wait!

Thanks to Mr. Howard Spry, Plant Director, for the scoop on Clewell!

NEWS FLASH: Beginning the 22nd of February, the street between Sisters and South will be blocked off. A transformer vault for Clewell must be installed to compensate for the extra power that Clewell will need to operate. Watch out for heavy machinery and make plans to re-route for at least two weeks.