V. THE SCHOOL OF LAW MOVES TO GAREY HALL

In January 1957, the School of Law departed its temporary quarters in the University Library and moved into its attractive new home, Garey Hall. The new building proved to be not only attractive but commodious, and well adapted to the School’s needs.

The building was designed to accommodate three hundred students. The classrooms, in 1957, proved to be a bit over generous in size for a student body of 134. Those classrooms were reflective of the then current philosophy of legal education, i.e., generous admissions policies but demanding requirements for survival. Of the three major classrooms, the one for the first year students could comfortably accommodate 170, that for the second year about 90, while the third year students were assigned to an attractive courtroom with jury box and the usual trappings of a courtroom, which seated 60 students.

The law library boasted stack space for 160,000 volumes, for the then current collection of 65,000 volumes. The reading room then had a seating capacity of 160 and its shelves accommodated a readily accessible collection of 15,000 books. In the stacks were carrels for law review and other research activities. Two offices on the faculty level plus the conference-size room (the present faculty lounge and library) served as headquarters for the *Villanova Law Review.*

Offices for the full-time faculty members numbered 12, which proved more than adequate for the full-time faculty of six (excluding deans) that made the trip to Garey Hall.

Another feature of the building was a beautiful spacious well-appointed student lounge replete with a great stone fireplace and an adjoining outdoor flagstone terrace overlooking the campus. In addition, a number of meeting rooms were assigned to law clubs, organizations designed to bring the student body together in small groups for study and social purposes.

During three memorable days, April 25, 26, and 27, 1957, Garey Hall was dedicated. Events of the dedication were remarkable, beginning with a solemn Pontifical Mass, celebrated in the Nevin Field House by Bishop J. Carroll McCormick in the presence of Archbishop (later Cardinal) O’Hara with Bishop Fulton J. Sheen as the preacher. The theme of the Dedication was “Law — the Foundation of an Ordered Peace,” inspired by Saint Augustine’s aphorism: “Peace is the tranquility of order.” Symposia dealing with International Peace, Industrial Peace and Interracial Peace followed, the discussions being led by panels of distinguished law teachers,
The Villanova University School of Law

public administrators and interested citizens of note. On the evening of April 26, a delightful banquet was held at the Warwick Hotel, graced by Chief Justice Jones of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, members of the federal and state judiciary, officers of the University, lawyers and students. The dinner speakers were Dr. John G. Hervey, Advisor to the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association and Chief Justice Jones.

On the final day, Saturday, April 27th, an academic convocation was held with an address by the Chief Justice of the United States, Earl Warren, the recipient of an honorary degree along with Senator (later President) John F. Kennedy, Chief Justice Charles Alvin Jones of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and Milton I. Hauser, a law partner and confidant of Eugene Garey. Not surprisingly, the Villanova Singers, founded by Dean Reuschlein, sang several Bach chorales. Following the convocation, guests, faculty and students proceeded to Garey Hall, where Father Provincial blessed the building and Chief Justice Warren sealed the cornerstone. A final luncheon at recently dedicated Dougherty Hall brought to a close a memorable dedication weekend. Portraits of Eugene and Margaret Garey have graced the main corridor of Garey Hall since the building opened.

It should be noted that while the Garey bequest was not the source of the funds employed in the construction of the Law School building, the Garey funds proved to be a godsend during the early years of the School of Law when tuition income was insufficient to support its operation. Villanova and especially the School of Law were indeed blessed by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Garey.

As the School of Law moved to Garey Hall, the occasion also celebrated the issuance of the second volume of the Villanova Law Review which during the year had grown from a semi-annual to a quarterly publication, which it continued to be until 1970 when it was expanded to a six-issue publication.

The Association of American Law Schools examining team inspecting the School in November 1957, consisting of Dean Gray Thoran of the Cornell Law School and Dean Anthony Papale of the Law School of Loyola University (New Orleans), unhesitatingly recommended that Villanova be forthwith admitted to membership in the Association of American Law Schools. And so at the Association
meeting in San Francisco in December 1957, Villanova joined the club. (See Accreditation of a Law School)

Professor John Stephenson conducting a class in the first-year classroom in Garey Hall.

Left to right are Arthur Pulling; sculptor Edward Fenn Hoffman III with his bas-reliefs of Sts. Ives and More; and Dean Reuschlein.

At left is Father Donnellon, Villanova University President. To his left are Bishop Fulton J. Sheen and Dean Reuschlein.