**Barnard Develops Plans to Restore and Preserve Historic Buildings**

By Suzanne Trimel

A preservation and restoration plan is being developed for four historic buildings on the Barnard College campus that were recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of their architectural distinction and significance for women’s progress in higher education.

The historic designation by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Bureaus was made in December for Barnard, Brooks, Hewitt and Milbank halls, which form the historic heart of the Barnard campus. These buildings, designed by renowned architects Charles Rich, Arnold Brunner and McKim, Mead and White, are the focus of an historic preservation plan being developed by Barnard with a $220,000 grant from the Getsy Grant Program. The plan is the first step in a process that will allow Barnard to preserve the earliest buildings on its campus: Milbank Hall, built in 1897, followed by Brooks Hall in 1906, Barnard Hall in 1917 and Hewitt Hall in 1924. Properties on the National Register are provided a measure of protection because of their architectural importance and are eligible for state historic preservation matching grants.

Commenting on the historic designation, Barnard President Judith Shapiro said: “This is a wonderful honor that highlights the beautiful and distinctive architecture of our campus. Most important, it recognizes the creative thinkers and visionary leaders among Barnard alumnae whose achievements have been nurtured on our campus over the generations. As a community of scholars, we take great pride in the knowledge that the Barnard gates on Broadway opened more than a century ago as the first secular college for women in New York City. We are honored to have our campus designated as a place that has helped to shape so many remarkable women.”

The preservation plan is being prepared for four historic buildings on the Barnard campus. These buildings are Milbank Hall, built in 1897, followed by Brooks Hall in 1906, Barnard Hall in 1917 and Hewitt Hall in 1924.

**Barnard’s campus complements that of Columbus across Broadway and contributes to the impressive institutional structures on Morningside Heights. By preserving these historic buildings, we can provide a venue for the study of historic issues, including the college’s growth and identity from its modest beginnings to a distinct, preserved campus,” Shapiro said.**

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The preservation plan will augment Barnard’s newly created Campus Master Plan, which was finalized in 2003 and will generate 100,000 square feet of new or renovated space on the campus. A new seven-story building designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architects will be the centerpiece of the plan, bringing together under one roof academic, social and research activities, including the library, a dining area, an event space and seminar, meeting and study areas. Work is to begin in 2005.

Individual preservation and restoration plans will be developed for each of the four buildings. Over the years, the buildings’ original designs have been compromised by the college’s need for space, and by heavy usage of the impact from weather and pollution, poor maintenance, functional alterations and other campus developments.

Barnard was established in 1889 with a few classes given in a former row house on Madison Avenue, close to Columbia’s Midtown campus. When Columbia announced its move to Morningside Heights, Barnard purchased a small block of land, on which Milbank Hall was built in 1897. Designed by Charles A. Rich, one of the best-known New York architects in the late 19th and early 20th century, Milbank was a sophisticated, four-story, U-shaped complex with strong symmetry.

To keep with Columbia’s architectural theme, Rich adapted its plan, design and materials from Charles McKim’s Columbia design. Built in 1906, Brooks Hall, also designed by Rich, was the first part of Rich’s master plan to expand the College’s campus to 116th Street. Brooks features elegant public rooms on the first floor. Hewitt Hall was the next addition, built in 1924. It was designed by McKim, Mead & White, and also included beauti-

**McShane Appointed Assistant VP of Public Safety**

Jim McShane recently joined Columbia University as the assistant vice president of Public Safety. McShane joins the University from the New York City Police Department, where he attained the rank of deputy chief and held a variety of positions for 24 years. His most recent assignment was as the executive officer of the Narcotics Division.

McShane is also a Fulbright Scholar, with a master’s degree in public administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a juris doctor from the St. John’s University School of Law.

The mantra that has stuck with McShane throughout the years and one that he is bringing to Columbia is “pride, professionalism and service.” He elaborated: “Pride, in the work that we do; professionalism, the way we do what we do; and service, what we provide to the Columbia community.

“I am looking to meet with lots of people and to do a great deal of listening,” said McShane. “I bring a certain set of skills from my experiences in the past, but in many ways I am a novice, and I want to learn from the experts around here across the campus. If we involve people on campus in the concept of being safe by taking some responsibility for their own safety as well, it will help us all be safe. The more eyes and ears we have, the better off we are.”