

Old Space — New Face

Our Journey to Jubilee 2012 has officially begun! Plans are underway to make the celebration of Loretto's 200th anniversary an historic event. A capital campaign is under way to raise the necessary funds to renovate our underused auditorium at Loretto Motherhouse into the new Loretto Archives/Heritage Center to be up and running for our 200th anniversary!

All our historical documents, files, annals, publications and treasured artifacts will have a new home. The current archives are contained in a classroom and the former library space of Loretto Junior College which closed in 1970.

The auditorium, built in 1886, was once the hub of academy and novitiate life. This building has not been used for the past two decades. Of sound construction, this historic edifice will sustain the weight of the archival contents and a unique two-story "building within a building."

The high ceilings of the Auditorium will allow a two-story structure for display areas on level one with office/research/restoration areas on level two. There will be a welcome center and facilities for visitors developed around the periphery of level one. This space will be climate-controlled, a most important feature given the humidity of the Kentucky atmosphere.

We dream of interactive learning centers depicting pioneer life in Kentucky and tracing Loretto's trail-blazing adventures along the western frontier. Our sisters carved out their place in history as educators and members of one of the first all-American orders of women religious.