

ARE THERE ANY BUILDINGS OR PLACES NAMED AFTER THETAS?

BY NORALEEN DUVALL YOUNG, AX/PURDUE

YES! IN FACT, LAST FALL WE LEARNED ABOUT DEDICATIONS IN HONOR OF THETAS ON TWO DIFFERENT COLLEGE CAMPUSES. HERE ARE DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME OF THE EPONYMOUS THETA BUILDINGS AND LOCATIONS WE KNOW ABOUT.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Rawlings Hall is a university residence dedicated in 1958 in honor of Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings**, Ψ/Wisconsin. Rawlings had close ties to the University of Florida and donated her estate, library, and manuscripts to the university upon her death.

FRESNO STATE UNIVERSITY

Baker Hall is named after **Mary C. Baker**, ΦΔ/Stanford, dean of women at Fresno State from 1927 to 1948. During World War II, Baker also served on the National Student Relocation Council, West Coast, organized to assist Japanese-American college students in finding new schools in the Midwest after the 1942 internment orders had been issued.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Rabb Hall, part of the Teter Quadrangle, is named after **Kate Milner Rabb**, B/Indiana. Rabb was a noted author and journalist and was inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame in 2012. In the fall of 2016, the *Student Building* on the IU campus was renamed in honor of **Frances Morgan Swain**, B/Indiana. Swain was the first lady of IU from 1893 to 1902 and an ardent promoter of higher education for women.

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

Vaughn House, a residential facility on the Vanderbilt campus, is named after **Stella Scott Vaughn**, AH/Vanderbilt. She was the university's first director of physical education, as well as a charter member of the Alpha Eta Chapter.

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Mason/Simpson/Hamilton Complex is a residence hall named after **Lida Mason Hodge**, **Mary Jean Simpson**, and **Ellen Hamilton Woodruff**, all Λ/Vermont. Mason and Hamilton were the first two women graduates of Vermont and were also the first women to be inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. Simpson was the longtime dean of women at Vermont. The Wright and Christie sections of the *Christie/Patterson/Wright Complex*, a residence hall, are named after **Jessie Wright Whitcomb** and **Dr. Jean Christie Chandler Bull**, both Λ/Vermont. Whitcomb was an early woman lawyer and a noted author. Bull was a

physician and in 1929, she paid off the mortgage for the Lambda chapter house.

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Elmina White Honors Hall was dedicated in honor of **M. Elmina White**, ΑΣ/Washington State, in 1960. White was assistant director of home economics for the Washington State College Extension Service. She helped to develop the school lunch program and 4-H in Washington.

YAKIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Prior Hall is named after **Elizabeth A. Prior**, ΑΣ/Washington State, who from 1928 to 1948 served as the college's first president.

ITHACA, NEW YORK

Comstock Adventure Center is often referred to as Camp Comstock. The Girl Scout camp, located near Ithaca, New York, is named after naturalist **Anna Botsford Comstock**, I/Cornell.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The *Julia Morgan Ballroom* is located in the Merchants Exchange building in San Francisco. **Julia Morgan**, Ω/UC Berkeley, assisted in the refurbishment of the building after the 1906 earthquake, designing a new skylight, commissioning murals, and adding details to the building. She moved her offices to the building in 1907 and remained there until she retired.

CROSS CREEK, FLORIDA

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park, Cross Creek, Florida, preserves the homestead where **Rawlings**, Ψ/Wisconsin, lived and wrote from 1928 until the mid-1940s. ◇

Do you know of something named after a Theta? Help us add to the list. Send information about the building or location to archives@kappaalphatheta.org.



Mary C. Baker



M. Elmina White



Elizabeth A. Prior



Anna Botsford Comstock



Julia Morgan