Construction Waits

MIT To Petition City

MIT presents its petition for a zoning variance to the Cambridge Board of Appeals, on September 27, to allow construction of the Earth Science Building. The building code now forbids structures larger than 80 feet high on the river front. Approval of this petition will give MIT a green light for the construction of the 19-story building which is to be the city's tallest structure.

The Cambridge statute dates from a very old Massachusetts law forbidding building over 125 feet anywhere in the state, with the exception of Boston and Newton. When this law was passed, it was designed to protect property from fires in communities with fire equipment capable of reaching 125 feet. Last spring, the City of Cambridge was added by the state legislature to the list of exempted cities in the state law.

The Cambridge city statute remains, however, and until revised zoning laws are enacted, only a granted variance will allow a violation of the 80 foot limit. If the MIT petition is accepted on the 27th, construction will begin as soon as possible with the driving of 60-ton anchoring piles. Boreings have shown that bedrock lies 250 below ground level, but an acceptable glacial rock stratum has been discovered at the 180-foot level and the piles will rest.

Institute Completing Summer Renovation

Physical Plant crews are working at top speed to complete the conversion of excess drawing, laboratory, and lecture facilities to much-needed classroom and office space. The change is most noticeable to undergraduates in this half million dollar program which is the partition of the undergraduate exam room, 3-440, into offices and classroom labs. Exams will now be given in the recently refurbished Walker Memorial gym.

The eight floor house on the Dormance building has been removed to meet the demand for additional biology department labs and offices.

Building 39's main lecture hall has been remodeled to provide more comfortable seating facilities. Several new microscopy labs were recently completed in this building.

West Campus residents will quickly notice the alterations in the Materials Testing Lab on the ground floor of Building One. Several multi-story rooms in Buildings Eight and Twelve have been split by ground level concrete floors.

One of the two active Wood wind tunnels in Building Thirty-three was dismantled and replaced by office facilities.

Professor Walter G. Whitman, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, was appointed science adviser to the United States Secretary of State last month.

Whitman Adviser

Institute Average Now 3-5

Pi Lambda Phi moved to the top of the scholastic standings with the Freshman Women's Dorm holding second in the tabulation on last spring's ratings. Dover Club dropped to third.

The all men's average rose to its customary position of 3.5, with non-fraternity men leading the Greek-letter men by one-tenth of a point.

The standings are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Pi Lambda Phi</td>
<td>3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Women's Dorm</td>
<td>3.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Dover Club</td>
<td>3.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Sigma Chi</td>
<td>3.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Women's Dorm</td>
<td>3.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Theta Delta Chi</td>
<td>3.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Baker House</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Alpha Epsilon P</td>
<td>3.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. MIT Student House</td>
<td>3.57</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Sigma Nu</td>
<td>3.57</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Phi Delta Theta</td>
<td>3.58</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Delta Tau Delta</td>
<td>3.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Beta Theta Pi</td>
<td>3.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Delta Kappa Epsilon</td>
<td>3.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Sigma Phi Epsilon</td>
<td>3.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Burton House</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Non-Resident</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Student Assoc.</td>
<td>3.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Alpha Tau Omega</td>
<td>3.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Lamba Chi Alpha</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Senior House</td>
<td>3.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Sigma Alpha Mu</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. Phi Beta Epsilon 3.43
24. Delta Upsilon     3.42
25. Theta Xi         3.40
26. Kappa Sigma      3.39
27. Delta Phi        3.38
28. Phi Chi          3.37
29. Tau Epsilon Phi  3.36
30. Phi Kappa Sigma  3.36
31. Sigma Alpha Epsilon 3.35
32. Phi Mu Delta     3.35
33. Theta Chi        3.35
34. Phi Kappa Theta  3.35
35. Phi Sigma Kappa  3.35
36. Phi Gamma Delta  3.35
37. General Average - Fraternity Groups 3.4
38. General Average - Non-Fraternity Groups 3.5
39. All Men's Average 3.5

The MIT Choral Society will hold its first audition of the new season on Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium. Prospective members are invited to try out.

The opening number of this year's program will include Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Haydn's Creation.

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