

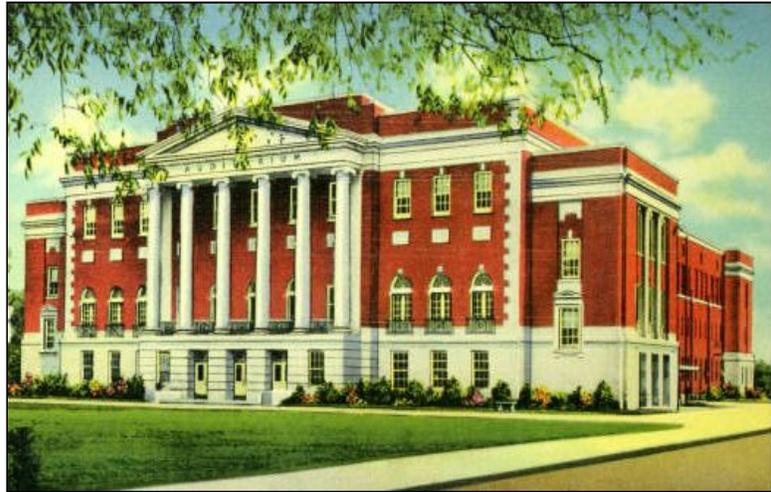
## Summary

In 1939, the University of Alabama constructed a multi-purpose facility that was used for Alabama basketball, women's sports, graduations, lectures, concerts, large gatherings and registrations.

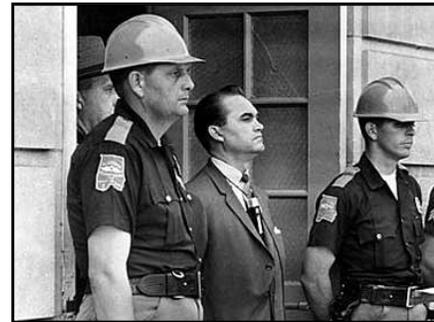


On January 4, 1955, Alabama Crimson Tide player George Linn made an 84'-11" shot at the end of the first half of a

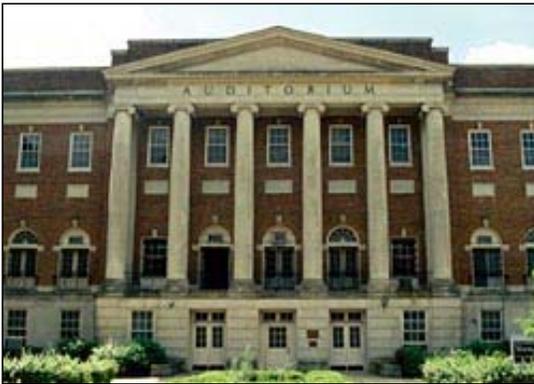
game against North Carolina. The shot was featured in Sports Illustrated and commemorated at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and the original brass marker is still there today.



On June 11, 1963, Foster Auditorium became known as the site of the "Stand in the Schoolhouse Door" incident. Governor George C. Wallace stepped aside to allow Vivian Malone and James Hood to register for classes at the University of Alabama. The incident is seen as one of the seminal events in the Civil Rights Movement in America.



On April 5, 2005, Foster Auditorium was declared a National Historic Landmark.



In April 2009, the University of Alabama, selected Davis Architects to start fast track design and construction of a 16 million dollar renovation and expansion to the historic building. WAR Construction, Inc. was selected as the General Contractor in October 2009. The project was completed in November 2010.

Foster Auditorium now houses the Crimson Tide women's sports, including basketball and volleyball. The new facility increased the seating capacity to 5,400.

This project merits a Build Alabama Award because it contains the following elements:

1. Staging multiple contractors with varying start and finish dates on an extremely congested site.
2. 12% of our contract was made up of allowances for a number of items that had yet to be designed (such as stage rigging); WAR contracted these items midway through the project and coordinated their work with the ongoing trades already under contract with work already in progress.
3. WAR led a team consisting of the Architect, Owner and select subcontractors who were required to maintain the historical consistency of all new items incorporated into the existing building.
4. Resolving unforeseen schedule situations and potential change orders without the possibility of any additional time to complete the project.

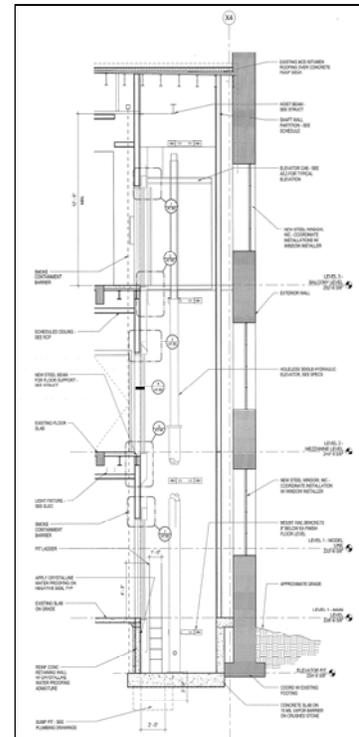
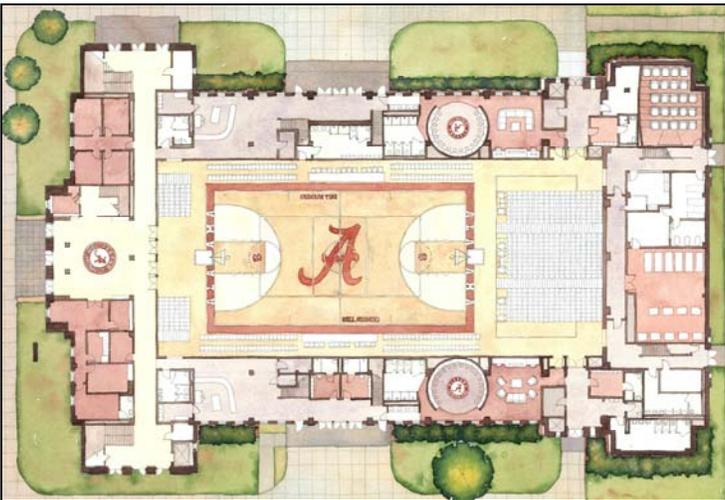
### Meeting the Challenge of a Difficult Job:

During renovation inside the arena, WAR utilized multiple excavators to dig out the existing asphalt layer and creosote wood sleepers to get to the existing concrete slab underneath. While the excavation was occurring, we had to completely shore the basement and all the existing tunnels that were previously used to store ductwork and piping. After the floor was removed, we pumped in 6 inches of fibrous lightweight concrete maintaining overall values of flatness of F(f) 35 and levelness of F(l) 25. This sub-floor received the new sports flooring surfaces.



Once the floor was complete, we installed 15,000 square feet of scaffolding ranging from 30' to 50' in height; this enabled installation of the overhead electrical, mechanical, stage rigging and AV systems. Concurrent with this work, we rehabilitated a 1939 era skylight system and installed a curvilinear ceiling of acoustical plaster. Prior to dismantling the scaffolding, all overhead fixtures were installed, trimmed out and dust wrapped in preparation for final use.

This project incorporated the first elevator in this buildings 70 year history. We structurally removed portions of each existing floor and dug the elevator pit by hand. The elevator piston had to be drilled using 5' auger joints to reach the 50' depth needed for the caisson and piston to serve all levels. Our scope gutted and retrofitted over 90% of the existing building interior to prepare the building for the new program.



Elevator Section



Concurrent with the interior retrofit, the exterior was receiving a complete update, including an addition to the south end of the building. The second floor addition was specifically designed to accommodate the mechanical and electrical equipment for the entire 50,000 square foot building. In order to maintain our completion date, once this part of the building was in the dry, 50 ton cranes were used to drop the mechanical units through 16' by 16' roof hatches.



Once the entire building was in the dry, we used cranes on both corners of the addition to install the limestone and brick veneer. We were able to systematically restore thousands of square feet of existing limestone and brick to blend the existing and new portions of the building together.

Our biggest obstacle was to work around 30,000 students and faculty during normal business hours. This included shipping materials to a site that had virtually no lay down space. The materials had to be strategically brought in daily between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. We had to create multiple pedestrian walkways to allow safe student and faculty access to other buildings on campus. Our work day schedule changed, sometimes daily, based on events on campus. During home football games, no work or deliveries were permitted and this time had to be made up during the following week.





### **Excellence in Project Management**

WAR Construction assisted the University in acting as an agent to purchase materials directly. The tax exempt status ultimately saved the University \$374,000.00 on construction materials during the project.

Foster Auditorium was the second largest University renovation in the past 30 years; it is second only to the stadium expansion projects.

WAR Construction and Davis Architects were able to limit the change orders on this project to less than 2 percent of the final contract amount.

### **Innovation in Construction Techniques and or Materials**

The building had enormous aesthetic challenges in trying to match the new limestone and brick veneer to the existing, built in 1939. The limestone had to be hand-picked from a quarry in Indiana. The brick vendor had to create a custom blend of brick that was stacked in a specific manner for each brick pallet. The stacking enabled the masonry contractor to become twice as efficient in laying the materials. The hardest color to match was the mortar used for the brick.

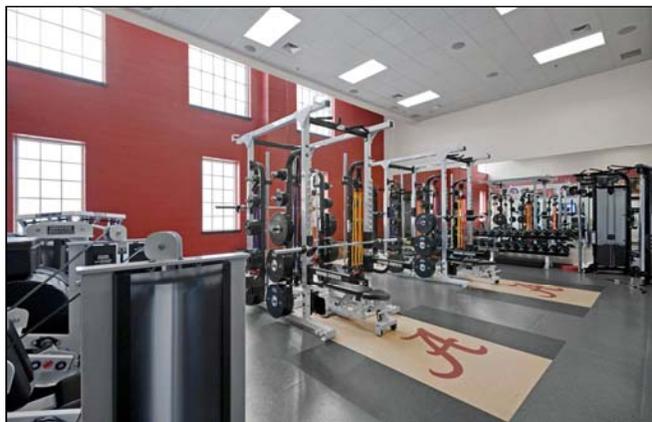


It took weeks of watching as the sun rose and viewing the mock-ups and then watching the sun set to achieve the exact match of the mortar. This required all parties, including those from out of town, to view the masonry mock-ups on short notice.



## State-of-the-Art Advancement

When basketball and volleyball recruits walk into Foster Auditorium and step on that gymnasium floor, they know they have seen the latest in sports advancement. From the weight room to the training facility, from the locker rooms to concessions, from the bathrooms to custom terrazzo floors, there are no other facilities in the country that are as state-of-the-art as Foster Auditorium.



### **Sensitivity to Environment and Surroundings**

Because of its historical significance and location on campus, this facility had to be renovated in a manner consistent with its original construction. The addition had to appear as if it were a part of the original building. The entire block (site) had to be redesigned to work with the flow of all current adjacent buildings, most of which were constructed after 1939. On November 3, 2010, the Malone-Hood Plaza and Foster Auditorium were rededicated to commemorate the end of segregation at the University and to reaffirm the University's commit to women's athletics.



### **Contractor's Contribution to the Community**

WAR Construction, Inc. is involved at every level in our community. Our officers serve on local civic, industry and governmental boards. We are a "sustainer" level supporter for both city and county school systems. We also donate our services to the Hospice of West Alabama in Tuscaloosa, as well as the YMCA. We are corporate sponsor for the American Heart Association, Boys and Girls Scouts, YMCA Men's Club and numerous other agencies. Our employees are active in church, little league and other community based organizations.

