

Newman



Newman Hall is named for **Walter Stephenson Newman**. Born in 1895, he served as the tenth president at Virginia Polytechnic Institute from 1947 to 1962. He received his master of science degree from Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute in 1919. He served as an associate professor of vocational education from 1922 to 1925. He was one of the founders of the Future Farmers of Virginia, which, in 1926, evolved into the Future Farmers of America.

Newman was elected as the first University vice-president in 1946. He served in that role until he was named acting president, a position he held from May to August 1947. He was officially named president in September of 1947. He retired in 1962 after recovering from a heart attack. VPI conferred more degrees during his tenure than under all of his predecessors combined and experienced huge growth, with over \$20 million in campus construction projects.

After retirement from the University, he remained active within the Blacksburg community. He became president of the National Bank of Blacksburg in 1967. In 1977, he became the first recipient of the Virginia Tech William H. Ruffner Medal. He lived in Blacksburg until his death in 1978.

Residence hall built: Newman Hall was completed in May 1964.

Construction firm: Carneal & Johnston

Dedication Date: May 16, 1966

Newman Hall Today

Community: Presidents

Type: Co-ed, traditional-style

Theme Housing Program: The World

Other: Presidents/Upper Quad Area Office and mailroom in basement

Number of residents: 273

Staff: Undergraduate hall director: 1
Resident advisors: 7



References:

"Heroes and Heroines Set in Stone," by Su Clauson-Wickerand Netta Smith, in the fall 1995 issue of *Virginia Tech Magazine*.

University Archives of Virginia Tech, *Historical Data Book*, Section 6.5.

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