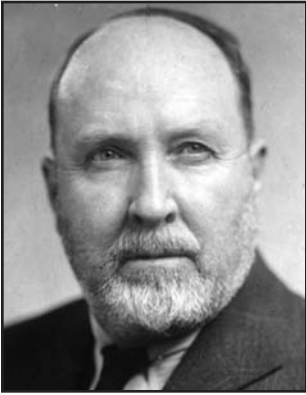


Rasche



Rasche Hall is named for **William Henry “Bosco” Rasche**. Rasche served as a professor of mechanism and descriptive geometry from 1895 to 1951. Rasche received his nickname from students after the visit of a traveling carnival featuring “Bosco the Wild Man from Borneo who eats snakes alive.” No one ever saw Rasche eating a snake, but sophomores were in danger of figuratively being eaten alive by him after they painted his riding horse with black-and-white zebra stripes around 1920, according to Ellison Smyth Jr. (electrical engineering, 1922) in his book, *Retrospect*.

Residence hall built: Rasche Hall is composed of Barracks No. 2 and a newer wing. The older section was completed in October 1894. The building was remodeled in 1957 to 1958 and the new section was completed in summer 1957.

Construction firm: Smithey & Boyton

Rasche Hall Today

Community: Corps of cadets/Upper Quad

Type: Co-ed, traditional-style

Number of residents: 286

Staff: Battalion Commander/Undergraduate hall director: 1

Company commanders/Resident advisors: 5



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.

Photo Credits:

“Rasche, William.” University Archives of Virginia Tech.

Residence Hall photograph courtesy Visual and Broadcast Communications.