

## = History of Georgetown University =

The history of Georgetown University spans nearly four hundred years , from the early settlement of America to the present day . Georgetown University has grown with both its city , Washington , D.C. , and the United States , each of which date their founding to the period from 1788 to 1790 . Georgetown 's origins are in the establishment of the Maryland colony in the seventeenth @-@ century . Bishop John Carroll established the school at its present location by the Potomac River after the American Revolution allowed for free religious practice .

The role of the Society of Jesus in the school 's operation has evolved from that of founders and financiers to faculty and advisers . Their focus on liberal studies and religious pluralism have helped to give the school its identity . Georgetown was also affected by its times , including the American Civil War , which disrupted the growing school and significantly changed its student body . University presidents like Patrick Francis Healy modernized the institution into an active research university with several graduate and undergraduate schools , and oversaw the expansion of educational opportunities on campus , around the city , and abroad .

## = = Founding = =

The history of Georgetown University traces back to two formative events , in 1634 and 1789 . Until 1851 , the school used 1788 , the start of construction on the Old South building , as its founding date . In that year a copy @-@ edit in the college catalog began mislabeling the construction as beginning in 1789 . This was discovered in preparation for the centennial celebration in 1889 , at which point rather than correct the annual , the date of Georgetown 's foundation was fixed to the date January 23 , 1789 .

## = = = First establishments = = =

On November 22 , 1633 Jesuits Andrew White , John Altham Gravenor , and Thomas Gervase set sail on The Ark for British North America under the leadership and financing of the Lord Baltimore , Leonard Calvert . Their landing on March 25 , 1634 on St. Clement 's Island marks the birth of the Maryland colony , this anniversary now celebrated as Maryland Day . These Jesuits were joined in 1637 by Thomas Copley and Ferdinand Poulton , together establishing near St. Mary 's City some means of Christian education for the native Yaocomico tribe .

Inquiring about patronage for their school , Poulton wrote to Vincenzo Carafa , the Superior General of the Society of Jesus in Rome under Pope Urban VIII , who on September 15 , 1640 approved the institution of a school in principle . That year they moved to a permanent building at Calverton Manor on in the Wicomico River . This early establishment was burnt in 1645 as part of the English Civil War , and the remaining Jesuits were brought to trial in England . The new Protestant administration had their school outlawed , though it was functioning by 1648 , when Thomas Copley managed to return there .

Newtown Manor , also known as " Bretton 's Neck " , near modern @-@ day Leonardtown , Maryland , become available to the Jesuits in 1677 . This house served as the Jesuit schoolhouse until 1704 when its existence was alerted to British authorities . The school afterward conducted itself periodically and in secrecy at the new Jesuit colony of Bohemia Manor . John Carroll attended this school from 1745 until 1748 . Carroll then left for studies in Europe . He joined the Jesuits in 1753 , and was ordained in 1769 , but in 1774 Pope Clement XIV ordered the suppression of the Jesuit order , forcing Carroll to return to Maryland . This put Carroll in the right place at the right time , when the American Revolution pushed out the English administration , opening up new possibilities for scholastic expansion .

## = = = Georgetown Heights = = =

After returning in 1774 to live on the Rock Creek in Maryland , Carroll established Saint John the

Evangelist Church , in Silver Spring , Maryland . In 1776 , his cousin , Charles Carroll , a signer of the Declaration of Independence , invited John to join him , Samuel Chase , and Benjamin Franklin in traveling to Quebec and attempt to persuade the French Canadian population to join the revolution . The mission was unsuccessful , but John Carroll 's association with Benjamin Franklin proved useful . In 1784 , Franklin , as ambassador to France , recommended Carroll to the papal nuncio in Paris as the head of the Catholic Church in America , and on June 9 , 1784 Carroll was anointed Superior of Missions in the United States of North America . On November 6 , 1789 Carroll 's authority was confirmed after being elected by the clergy as the first Bishop of Baltimore .

Beginning in 1783 , Carroll convened meetings of area clergy , mostly ex @-@ Jesuits , at Sacred Heart Church in White Marsh , outside Annapolis , Maryland . This body , known as the General Chapters , resolved on November 13 , 1786 , that " a school be erected for the education of youth " and that the location for the school would be in Georgetown . The site was influenced by Carroll 's experience with Jesuit colleges in Europe , which were located in urban centers . Port towns were used by Jesuits because of their missionary focus . By March 1787 , they formed a fund raising committee , and Carroll solicited formal proposals for an " academy , at George @-@ town , Patowmack @-@ River , Maryland . " The District of Columbia 's borders wouldn 't be defined until the passage and implementation of the Residence Act in 1790 .

On April 24 , 1787 , Georgetown landowner John Threlkeld donated a plot of land to Carroll , which was ultimately where he founded Holy Trinity Church . In April 1788 , construction began at a larger neighboring plot on Georgetown 's first building , later called " Old South " , leading Carroll to write " We shall begin the building of our Academy this summer . On this Academy are built all my hopes of permanency and success of our holy religion in the United States . " On January 23 , 1789 , John Carroll , Robert Molyneux and John Ashton completed the purchase from Threlkeld and William Deakins , Jr. for " seventy five pounds current money " of the acre and a half on which construction had already started . This land became the core of Georgetown 's campus . As a result , the University celebrates this date as its founding .

Carroll had difficulty filling the position of president of the university , with many candidates declining the job before Robert Plunkett first took the office in 1791 , though he only served 18 months . He oversaw the division of the academy into " college " , " preparatory " , and " elementary " , with the youngest starting at age eight . Jean @-@ Edouard de Mondésir became the first teacher in late October 1791 , and the first student , William Gaston , was enrolled on November 22 , 1791 . Classes commenced on January 2 , 1792 , with around 69 students attending in its first year . Georgetown 's second building , Old North , which survives to this day , began construction in 1794 . At three times the size of Old South , it greatly increased the number of classrooms and sleeping space on campus . Upon the building 's completion , George Washington visited and spoke from the porch , a position since reserved for U.S. Presidents .

= = Early growth = =

In its early years , Georgetown suffered from considerable financial strain , relying on private sources of funding and the limited profits from local farms that had been donated to the Jesuits by wealthy landowners . Some of these farms included African slaves . By September 1792 , tuition had to be increased for the first time . In 1796 , Louis William Valentine Dubourg arrived and became president . Dubourg brought with him a collection of books from his own collection and others from St. Mary 's Seminary , the Baltimore Society of Saint @-@ Sulpice , and these books formed the nucleus of Georgetown 's library . On January 1 , 1798 , Dubourg released the first prospectus to advertise the college abroad , but also drove the school into debt by hiring numerous new faculty , including fencing teachers , and by buying silver and a school piano . The first board of directors organized in 1797 , and quickly became antagonized with Dubourg because of his spending and preference for French faculty , particularly during the Quasi @-@ War . The board forced him to resign in December 1798 .

Beginning in 1798 , Leonard Neale and his brother Francis Neale oversaw the growth of the university as presidents for a combined eleven years . At Carroll 's request , Neale was also

appointed coadjutor bishop by Pope Pius VI in 1800 . In 1799 Neale invited three sisters of the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary to open a monastery at Georgetown . On June 24 , 1799 , the young Georgetown Visitation Monastery under Mother Teresa Lalor began a Saturday school for young women . This developed into an academy , now Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School , in 1802 . Leonard Neale remained as president of Georgetown until 1806 when he was succeeded by Robert Molyneux , who died in 1808 . Leonard Neale 's brother , Francis Neale , then became president of Georgetown College in 1809 .

When the suppression of the Society of Jesus in Maryland ended in 1805 , several former Jesuits rejoined , including Leonard Neale , and Carroll commenced a series of agreements to ensure Jesuit involvement in the school . Carroll however never rejoined the Society . In 1806 the school began a novitiate for Jesuit recruits moving from Russia , which had harbored the Society during the suppression .

Carroll didn 't seek civil recognition for Georgetown until after the suppression of the international Society ended in 1814 . Instead of a state charter , he went to the federal government , then in charge of the District of Columbia . William Gaston , now a Congressman , sponsored the legislation , and Georgetown received the first federal charter on March 1 , 1815 . This allowed Georgetown to grant academic degrees , and the college 's first two recipients , a pair of brothers from New York named Charles and George Dinnies , were awarded the degree of bachelor of arts in 1817 . Graduate degrees were first awarded in 1821 , and other Jesuit schools conferred degrees under Georgetown 's charter for many years afterward . In 1833 , the Holy See empowered Georgetown to confer degrees in philosophy and theology .

Founder John Carroll died December 3 , 1815 , at age eighty , and in his will he left Georgetown four @-@ hundred pounds sterling , which marked the beginning of Georgetown 's endowment . In 1830 , construction of an infirmary in the new Gervase Building brought the first hospital beds to Georgetown . In 1838 , school presidents Thomas F. Mulledy and William McSherry organized the sale of 272 slaves from a Jesuit owned tobacco plantation in Maryland to a Louisiana plantation , and funds from that sale were used to repay debts from recent school expansion . Mulledy was later disciplined in Rome by the Jesuit Society for ignoring their order to keep families of slaves intact . The slaves were shipped to the Deep South in the domestic slave trade , sold primarily to two sugar cane plantations . Some of the money was also used to found two Catholic high schools in New York City and Philadelphia , as the Jesuits saw a demand for urban ministry to serve the increasing number of immigrants from Europe , including Catholics from Ireland .

On June 10 , 1844 , the growing school was reincorporated by Congress under the name The President and Directors of Georgetown College . Georgetown 's Observatory , completed in 1844 , was used in 1846 to determine the latitude and longitude of Washington , D.C. , which was the first such calculation for the nation 's capital . In 1849 , four Catholic doctors frustrated with what they felt were discriminatory practices at neighboring Columbian College petitioned Georgetown President James Ryder to found a medical program . A building for this purpose was purchased at 12th and F Streets , and the School of Medicine was founded in 1850 , holding its first classes the following year .

= = = Early student life = = =

From its beginning , Georgetown was not intended to be exclusively Catholic , and over its first ten years , nearly one @-@ fifth of students were Protestant . A fifth of students were also from the Caribbean . By 1830 , Jewish students were known to be attending . European immigrants and Napoleonic War refugees also made up significant parts of the early student body . School rules were harshly enforced . Leonard Neale , a strict moralist , regulated students ' movements such that founder John Carrol accused him of running Georgetown " on the principles of a convent . " There were three student organized rebellions against the Georgetown administration in the antebellum period . The most notable of these occurred in January 1850 , against the administration of James A. Ryder over the school food . Students damaged the dormitories and took charge of a local hotel .

The first student society , the Sodality of Our Lady , was founded in 1810 as a religious devotional

group . A strict revision of school rules in 1829 forbade personal conversations or particular associations . Despite this the Philodemic Society was founded in 1830 as the school 's debating and literary society , the oldest of its kind in America and the oldest secular group at Georgetown . Other debating societies were founded in its model , or in opposition to it in later years , such as the short lived Philisorian Society and the Philonomosian Society , which lasted from 1839 until 1935 . The College Cadets were officially organized in 1836 , becoming the oldest military unit native to the District of Columbia . The Dramatic Association of Georgetown College , renamed the Mask and Bauble Dramatic Society after World War I , was founded in 1852 , and is itself the oldest surviving student dramatic society in America .

= = The Civil War = =

The Civil War was an important and tragic time for the University . Beginning on December 11 , 1859 the Philodemic Society debated whether or not the southern states should secede . The debate lasted weeks , and after the Society affirmed secession , a brawl ensued , and debates were canceled for the rest of 1860 . Fist fights on campus between northern and southern students soon became common . Beginning in 1861 , many students left their studies to join the war . 925 students ultimately enlisted with the Confederate Army and 216 with the Union Army ; between them 106 died in the war . Enrollment dropped from 313 students in 1859 to only 17 late in 1861 . By 1862 , Georgetown only had 120 total students , about ten percent of what it was just a few years earlier . Only seven students graduated in 1869 , down from over 300 a decade prior .

Responding to lack of adequate hospital beds and housing for soldiers needed to protect the District , the Union commandeered University buildings , and by the time of President Abraham Lincoln 's May 1861 visit to campus , 1 @, @ 400 Union Army troops were stationed in temporary quarters there . Of these 1 @, @ 300 were from the 69th Infantry Regiment , which established itself in Maguire Hall from May 4 , 1841 to June when the unit was replaced by the 79th New York Volunteer Infantry . The occupation ended in July when the unit left to fight in the First Battle of Bull Run , but the university remained home to soldiers as an infirmary for the remainder of the war .

Georgetown would later be connected to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln . Several of John Wilkes Booth 's conspirators had associations to Georgetown : David Herold , who accompanied Booth in his escape , attended the school between 1855 and 1858 and received a certificate in pharmacology in 1860 , while Samuel Arnold , who conspired with Booth to kidnap Lincoln , attended in the mid @-@ 1840s , and Dr. Samuel Mudd , who set Booth 's broken ankle following the assassination , studied medicine between 1851 and 1854 . Charles H. Liebermann , one of the founders of the medical school , was among the doctors who treated Lincoln the night he died .

The war drastically changed Georgetown , making it both more northern and more Catholic . Increasingly larger percentages of the student body came from northern cities , more populated with Catholic immigrants , while the student body had been primarily southern before the war . This dynamic is expressed in Georgetown 's official school colors . In 1876 , Georgetown College Boat Club , the school 's rowing team , adopted blue , from the uniform of the Union Army , and gray , from the uniforms of the Confederate States military forces , as their team colors in order to signify the peaceful unity between students from the North and those from the South . Students at Georgetown Visitation wove the first blue and gray uniforms for the team . Georgetown 's motto Utraque Unum , " both into one , " though used before the war , helped capture the unity spirit .

= = Expansion = =

In 1874 , Patrick Francis Healy became president of Georgetown University , becoming the first African American president of a predominantly white university . Healy 's influence on Georgetown was so far @-@ reaching that he is often referred to as the school 's " second founder . " He modernized the curriculum by requiring courses in the sciences , particularly chemistry and physics . Healy and his successors sought to bind the professional schools into a university , and concentrate on higher education . The most visible result of Healy 's presidency was the construction of a large

building begun in 1877 and first used in 1881 , later named Healy Hall in his honor .

A school of law was approved by the Board of Directors in March 1870 , and graduated its first students in 1872 . In 1884 the " Law Department " moved to 6th and F Streets , N.W. , not far from the Medical School , and then again in 1891 to 506 E Street , N.W. In 1870 , Georgetown raised the raise the minimum age of enrollment at Georgetown Preparatory School from eight to twelve . This was raised again in 1894 to thirteen . As part of the focus on higher education , Georgetown Preparatory School relocated from campus in 1919 to nearby North Bethesda , Maryland , and fully separated from the University in 1927 . Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School has remained attached to the university campus , and while independently run , the two occasionally share facilities .

Numerous new schools were founded during twentieth @-@ century . The School of Foreign Service ( SFS ) was founded in 1919 by Edmund A. Walsh to prepare students for leadership in foreign commerce and diplomacy . The School of Languages and Linguistics was organized in 1949 and the School of Business was created out of the SFS in 1957 . New developments also came to School of Medicine . In 1898 , Georgetown University Hospital was first established on campus . Georgetown obtained the Washington Dental College in 1901 , and integrated it with the medical school . In 1903 , Georgetown University began an undergraduate medical program with the School of Nursing . A new Medical @-@ Dental Building on Reservoir Road was completed in 1930 and classes then moved to the main campus . In 1951 the School of Dentistry separated from the School of Medicine as an independent unit of Georgetown University .

On October 4 , 1966 , Congress passed a bill that recognized the school 's name as " Georgetown University " for the first time . The 1844 bill in effect until then had referred only to " Georgetown College " , which at that point was known as the College of Arts and Sciences and was just one branch of the university . In 1970 Lauinger Library was also completed , bringing space for a rapidly growing library collection . In 1971 , following the completion of the Bernard P. McDonough Hall , the law school moved to its present location at 1st and F Streets at 600 New Jersey Avenue .

= = Across borders = =

The 1960s saw major changes in administration as well as in the student body . Female students have been admitted to the School of Medicine since 1880 , to the School of Nursing since its founding , to the Graduate School since 1943 , and to the School of Foreign Service since 1944 . While most of the university was made available to women on a limited basis by 1952 , it wasn 't until the College of Arts and Sciences welcomed its first female students in the 1969 ? 1970 academic year that Georgetown became fully coeducational .

Freshmen hazing rituals , long tolerated by the administration , were banned in 1962 after one student brought suit against the school for injuries he sustained . President Lawrence C. Gorman phased out restrictions on attendance by African Americans , and Samuel Halsey Jr. became the first black undergraduate in 1950 . The Black Student Alliance was formed in 1968 , and in 1969 Georgetown named the first black member of the Board of Directors since Patrick Francis Healy .

Modern Georgetown is largely a product of substantial changes during the 1980s . In 1982 , the School of Foreign Service moved into its new home in the Edward B. Bunn S.J. Intercultural Center . The 1984 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament championship by Georgetown 's men 's basketball team helped make Georgetown University a household name with stars such as Patrick Ewing and Dikembe Mutombo under Coach John Thompson . Georgetown ended its bicentennial year of 1989 by electing Leo J. O 'Donovan as president . He subsequently launched the Third Century Campaign to build the school 's endowment . In December 2003 , Georgetown completed the campaign , joining twenty other universities worldwide to raise at least \$ 1 billion in a single fund drive . The campaign supported financial aid , academic chair endowment , and new capital projects .

In 1987 , the University decided to close the School of Dentistry following the class of 1990 for financial reasons , as the number of dental students dropped nationwide . Supplies and equipment from the school were sent to Pontifical Xavierian University in Bogotá , Colombia . In 1994 , the

School of Languages and Linguistics was folded into the College , and is now the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics . On October 7 , 1998 , the School of Business was renamed the McDonough School of Business in honor of alumnus Robert Emmett McDonough and in 2009 , it moved into the newly constructed Rafik B. Hariri Building . In 1999 the School of Nursing added three other health related majors and appended its name to become the School of Nursing and Health Studies .

John J. DeGioia , Georgetown 's first lay president , has led the school since 2001 . DeGioia has continued its financial modernization and has sought to " expand opportunities for intercultural and interreligious dialogue . " In October 2002 , Georgetown University began studying the feasibility of opening a campus of the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service in Qatar , when the non @-@ profit Qatar Foundation first proposed the idea . The School of Foreign Service in Qatar opened in 2005 along with four other U.S. universities in the Education City development . That same year , Georgetown began hosting a two @-@ week workshop at Fudan University 's School of International Relations and Public Affairs in Shanghai , China . This later developed into a more formal connection when Georgetown opened a liaison office at Fudan on January 12 , 2008 to further collaboration .

DeGioia also founded the annual Building Bridges Seminar in 2001 , which brings global religious leaders together , and is part Georgetown 's effort to promote religious pluralism . In 1974 , Woodstock College was refounded as the Woodstock Theological Center on Georgetown 's campus . The Center for Contemporary Arab Studies was opened on September 3 , 1975 with grants from Oman , the United Arab Emirates , Egypt , and Mobil Oil . In 1993 the Center for Muslim @-@ Christian Understanding was opened and after a \$ 20 million grant from Saudi Prince Al @-@ Waleed bin Talal in 2005 , the center was renamed the " Prince Alwaleed Center for Muslim ? Christian Understanding " . The Berkley Center for Religion , Peace , and World Affairs was begun as an initiative in 2004 , and after a grant from William R. Berkley , was launched as an independent organization in 2006 . Additionally , The Center for International and Regional Studies opened in 2005 at the new Qatar campus .

= = Fictional depictions = =

Georgetown , as a major world university , has been featured in many media over the years . The most prominent example is the 1971 horror novel , *The Exorcist* , written by William Peter Blatty , who received an English degree from Georgetown in 1950 . The novel is loosely based on a series of 1949 exorcisms conducted on a fourteen @-@ year @-@ old boy at Georgetown University Hospital , nearby Maryland , and in St. Louis , Missouri . In 1973 , Blatty 's bestselling novel was made into a film , also titled *The Exorcist* . Like the novel , the film was set at Georgetown and filmed on campus during the fall semester in 1972 . The climatic scene uses a steep staircase between Prospect Street and Canal Road , previously know popularly as the " Hitchcock Steps " for their spooky appeal . However , since the film 's release they have been called the " Exorcist steps . "

The 1985 " Brat Pack " film *St. Elmo 's Fire* also revolved around a group of students who had just graduated from Georgetown . The bar that much of the film takes place in is based on *The Tombs* , a bar and restaurant known for its large student clientele and rowing decòr , located one block from Georgetown 's front gates in a historic university owned house . Georgetown denied the producers the rights to film on campus , so parts of the film were shot at the nearby University of Maryland , College Park . Additionally , Georgetown University has been a destination for characters in films such as *Above the Rim* , *Save the Last Dance* , *Election* , and *The Girl Next Door* , as well as television shows such as *The Sopranos* and *The West Wing* , which also filmed scenes on campus . The film *Memento* was written by Jonathan Nolan , a Georgetown alumnus , and the main character 's nemesis , John G. , is said to be named after John Glavin , a full professor of Victorian literature and screenwriting in Georgetown 's Department of English .