



STANFORD

"FROM THE FOOT-HILLS
TO THE BAY"

STANFORD

*“From the Foothills to
the Bay”*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT IS GRATEFULLY
GIVEN
DR. O. L. ELLIOTT
AND
PROF. A. B. CLARK
FOR THEIR KIND ASSISTANCE

PUBLISHED BY
ROBINSON & CRANDALL
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA
1915

THE characteristic features of Stanford University, as they appear to the chance observer, are the architecture of the quadrangles and the setting of plain and foothill and mountain. In both these respects first impressions are apt to be disappointing. With splendid foothill sites everywhere seemingly available the buildings have been set down on the flat plain. They are low and unpretentious. There are no stately Doric columns, there is no Gothic luxuriance. In California intensive gardening is almost indispensable to fine effects. At Stanford there are merely broad patches of creditable landscape surrounded with great unkemptness.

These first impressions are not lasting. The newcomer at Stanford almost at once falls under the spell of romance, the illusion of eternal youth. This spell never lifts, no matter what hard knocks fall in the way cheek by jowl with purple enchantments, nor what vicissitudes may drive the Stanford dweller into far quarters of the globe. This witchery is partly in the "glorious climate of California," the near and distant effects of trees and foothills and mountains, the long vistas and quiet colonnades within the quadrangle groups, and partly in *Die Luft der Freiheit*, inward and spiritual, which has stirred into life the fashioned clay. Though the buildings are set upon the plain, the rising foothills begin at once, rolling over and over, dotted with the green of oak and shrub, in their season brilliant with wild flowers, and mounting up to the wooded crests of the Sierra Moreno. Over these heights the great fog banks rear themselves in massive battlements, at times to pour in silvery sheen over all the landscape below. Across plain and bay the Coast Range rises through deeper curves to more abrupt summits, and over the whole long stretch from Diablo to Hamilton lights and shades, tints and colors dance and frolic in forms and movements of exquisite beauty. And the quadrangles, if lacking the anticipated stateliness and

imposing masses, yet make their instant and direct appeal. It is the mission architecture of the padres carried out in the simplicity and dignity of the original, but extended and interwoven, the motif repeated again and again, the soft buff sandstone and the red-tiled roofing mingling and intermingling with charming effect. The long arcades bound the entire inner quadrangle, the buildings of the outer quadrangle, and connect and unite the two at every turn. There is a beauty, a repose, a warmth, a dignity, a sense of academic seclusion unescapable. There are thirteen separate buildings in the inner quadrangle, fourteen in the outer. Within the buildings are severely plain as comports with the traditional high thinking of the scholar. The one exception is Memorial Church. Here in the very center of the inner quadrangle group, wealth and artistic skill have lavished every ornament and elaboration that affection could suggest. Shorn by earthquake of its stately tower, its turrets, its flying buttresses, the church still retains the massive proportions of the original Richardson design. The church is Mrs. Stanford's special contribution to the University plan and is dedicated "to the Glory of God and the Memory of Leland Stanford." Its extreme length through vestry, nave, and apse is 190 feet. Its width, through transept wings, 155 feet. With organ gallery it will seat about 1700. The tool rock surface of the architect's plan has been replaced almost entirely by elaborate carved designs and fifteenth century mosaics of great beauty. The features of the apse are the three great windows, the marble altar, the replica of Cosimo Rosselli's "Last Supper" from the Sistine Chapel at Rome, the long panelled *gloria dei angeli*, and the mosaic reproduction of Michael Angelo's prophets. The nineteen large windows of nave, transept, and apse, in a series of striking designs, illustrate the life of Christ. The windows of the clerestory contain single figures of Old and New Testament characters. The great organ contains



STANFORD FROM THE FOOTHILLS

46 stops and nearly 3000 pipes. The front wall of the church facing the court has been ornamented with a strikingly beautiful portrayal in mosaic of the Sermon on the Mount.

Outside the quadrangles are fifteen or more detached buildings for various university uses, more or less in harmony with the quadrangle architecture. Among these are Encina and Roble Halls, the men's and women's dormitories respectively, at some distance to the east and west of the quadrangles. The Museum, a quarter of a mile to the north, over against the arboretum, the shops and engineering laboratories behind the quadrangles, and the gymnasiums near the dormitories. There is also a residence part of the campus beginning at the southeast corner of the quadrangles and now creeping up over the first foothills. Here the University has erected numerous cottages which are rented to members of the faculty and others, and here fraternities, sororities, faculty and friends have built and surrounded themselves with lawns and gardens and flowers in great profusion. East of the arboretum and north of Encina are the athletic grounds, beautifully ensconced among the oaks and eucalypts, providing especially for football, baseball, track, and tennis. Behind the shops and up a rise of ground is Lagunita, filled with water for half the year and adding not a little to the charm of landscape and the pleasure of student life.

Stanford University is a memorial to an only child, a son, Leland Stanford, Junior, who met an untimely death, of Roman fever, in his 16th year. This was in 1884. Because his tastes were quiet and his interests turning to intellectual things, and because education seemed to the Stanfords to open the greatest possible opportunities to youth, the project of a university gradually took definite shape. In this way they would do for generations of young people what they had planned for their own son. A special act of the legislature was sought, they gathered what advice and help they could from visiting other universities

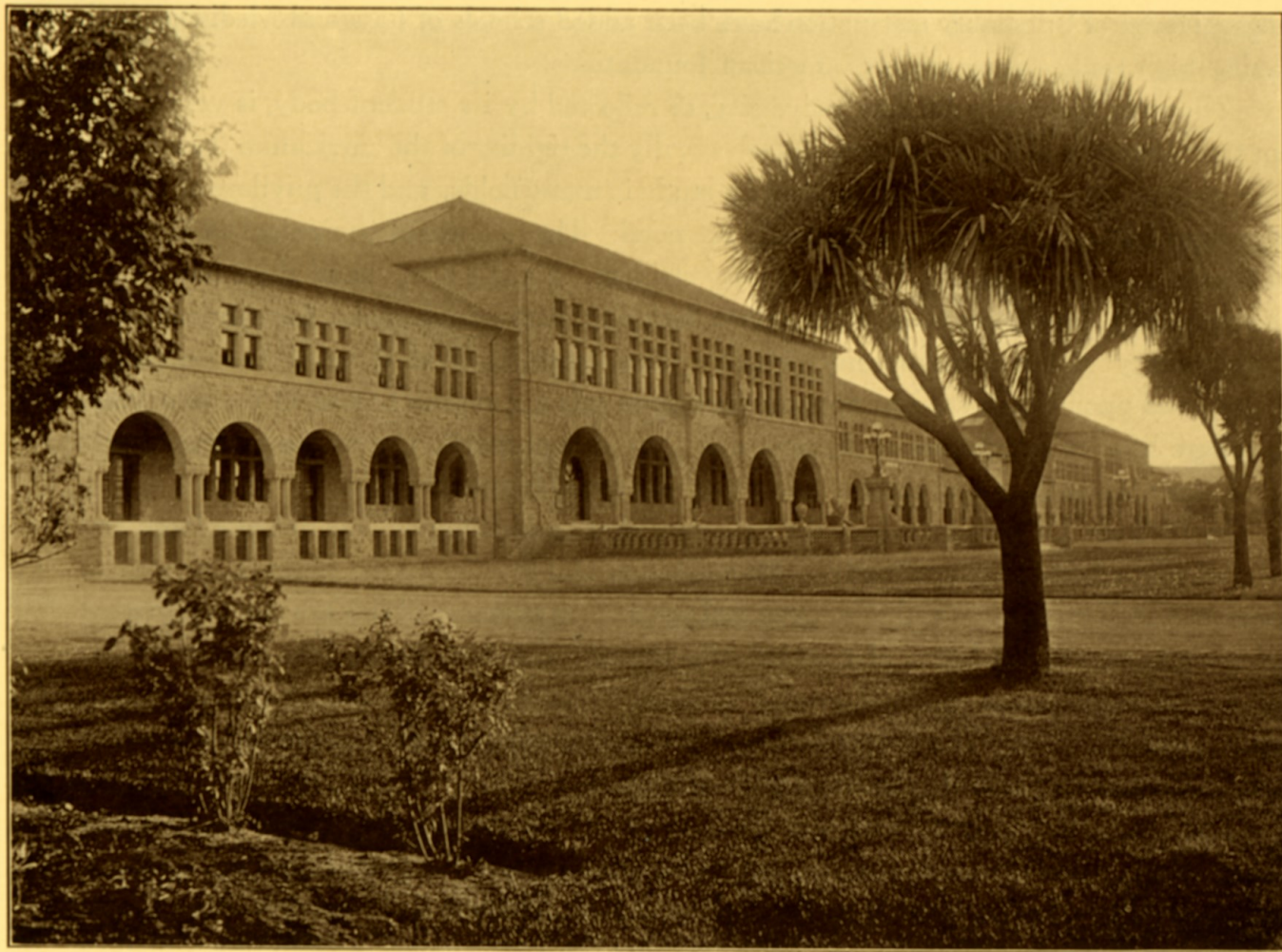
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MAIN QUADRANGLE, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

and conferring with their wise men, they sought the best architectural skill that America had produced, and in 1891, under October skies, the University in its first stage of completion was opened to the public. From that point the history of the University as a university centers in the personality of its first President, David Starr Jordan, and in the creative work launched by its first faculty. The faculty were all young. Trained to sound scholarship they yet stood ready to break with tradition, and under the inspiring leadership of the President and the radical impulse of a new beginning, in a new land, both entrance and curriculum requirements were freed to a large extent from the heavy hand of tradition. In these respects Stanford has occupied a position of leadership in the whole educational movement of the last quarter of a century. Some inevitable conservative reaction within and notable financial checks without have had their effect, but the spirit of the new freedom, the loyalty to educational ideals, has suffered no diminution. In 1893, upon the death of Senator Stanford, and the financial panic of that year, the Stanford funds were tied up for five years. When the stress had been removed and a period of expansion had just gotten under way the earthquake of 1906 with its destruction of University property, furnished another check which has not yet been fully overcome. Without tuition fees (except in Law and Medicine) the reliance of the University is upon its endowment. This totals almost \$25,000,000, but even under the most favorable interest returns income falls far short of that of the half dozen or more great universities of the country.

The University opened its doors in October 1891 to approximately 500 students. The number is now just above 2000. By amendment to the charter, brought about by Mrs. Stanford in 1898, the number of women students is limited to 500. Present income makes any increase in the present totals a matter of concern to the trustees. Meanwhile to the



THE FRONT FACADE

original range of University instruction have been added schools of Law and Medicine, both taking high rank among similar American foundations.

The inner life of any modern University, as reflected by its student body, is very different from that of a half century ago. Scholastically the rigidity of the curriculum has everywhere broken down. The opportunities for study in many fields, and the privilege of following congenial lines, have been enormously extended. The richness of equipment in libraries, in laboratories, in helps of all kinds, is very striking. On the other hand there has been a corresponding development of extra curriculum activities which make the student body a community within a community, whose special interests rival those of the university proper, and upon which student opinion sometimes sets the supreme value of the four years of college life. These interests, legitimate in their due proportion, embrace athletic sports of all kinds, dramatics, and intense and absorbing social functions.

In 1915 the University celebrates its twenty-fourth birthday. This means a large and increasingly influential alumni body, whose affection and loyalty to the University tends to become backed up in more and more practical ways. An evidence of this are the two present alumni members of the board of trustees, and the new Stanford Union just erected on the campus, through alumni effort, as a center of student activity and a meeting place for alumni, faculty, and students. The Women's Club House, similarly planned and erected, fills out to completion this new phase of university development.

The University is located on the 8000-acre estate of its founders in the Santa Clara Valley, thirty miles from San Francisco, a valley which yields the palm in beauty, fertility, and climate, to no other section of the Golden State. There is little fog or cloud. There are few harsh winds. There is abundant sunshine the year around, a crisp ocean quality



THE FRONT OF THE UNIVERSITY

is always in the air, and the seasons are one succession of springtime and autumn. Beyond the foothills are the mountains, easily accessible, ten miles perhaps by road and trail to the nearest summits. The farther slopes extend over great tumbled stretches of field and forest to the broad Pacific. Here are many miles of untouched redwoods and winding mountain streams. The State Redwood Park in the Big Basin is only forty miles distant by the new State highway, thirty by trail through the picturesque Chris Iverson region. Mount Hamilton, the highest of the Coast Range, stands over to the east, Lick Observatory, crowning its summit, gleaming white in the sunshine.

Stanford University is a community all by itself. It has a postoffice and all the most elementary necessary industries of college life—the candy store, the barber shop, the boot-black, the hair-dresser, and also the book store. For luxuries the University has Palo Alto, a progressive city of 6000 people which has grown up at the University gateway. Here is the railway and express station, the city and interurban street car line with branch to the campus, the trade emporiums, the moving picture theaters, and all the civic activities of a thriving town.

The brief past of the University has been one of solid growth and substantial accomplishment. It is still young. It looks toward the future with hope and courage.

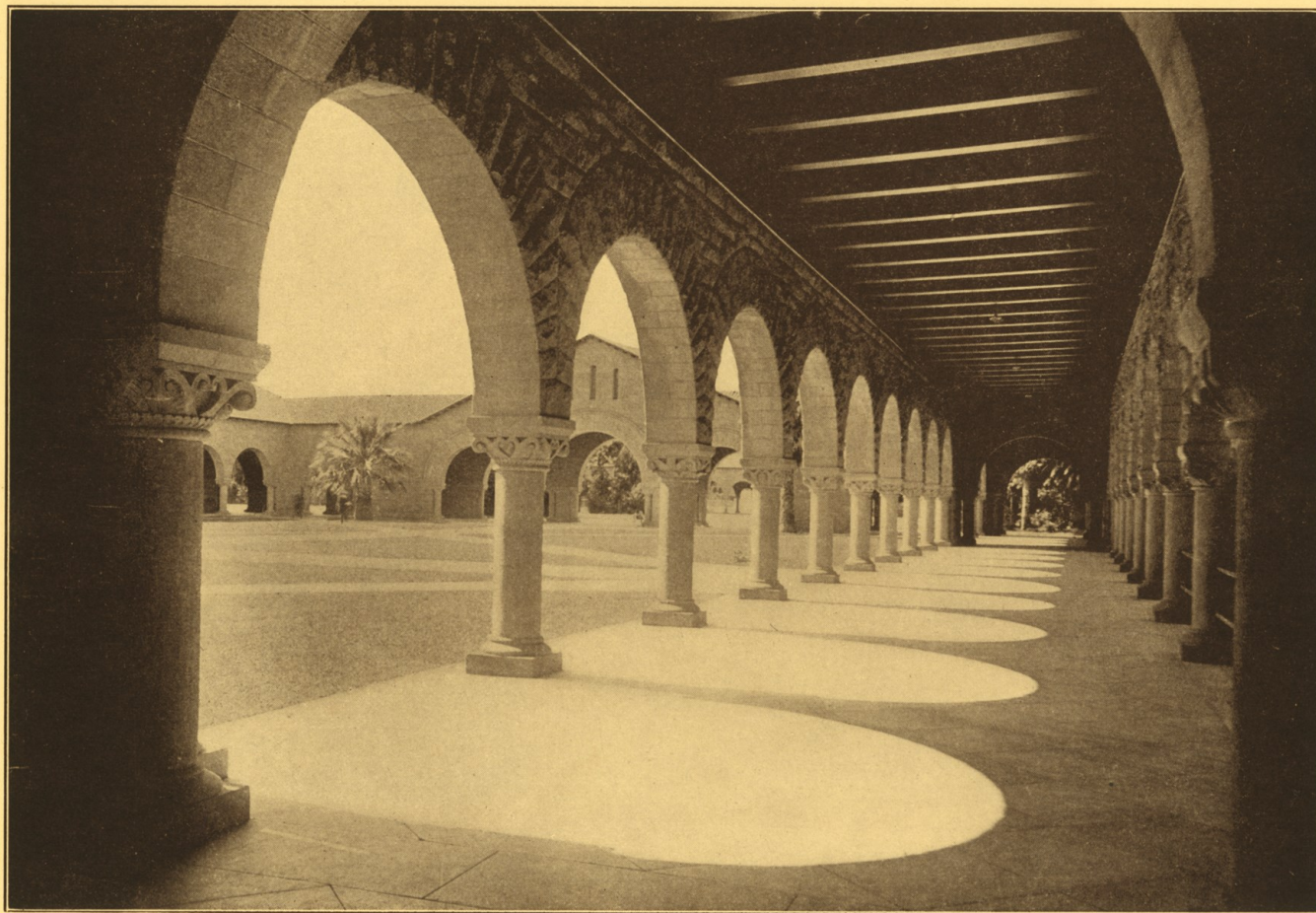


THE UNIVERSITY FROM THE MAIN DRIVE

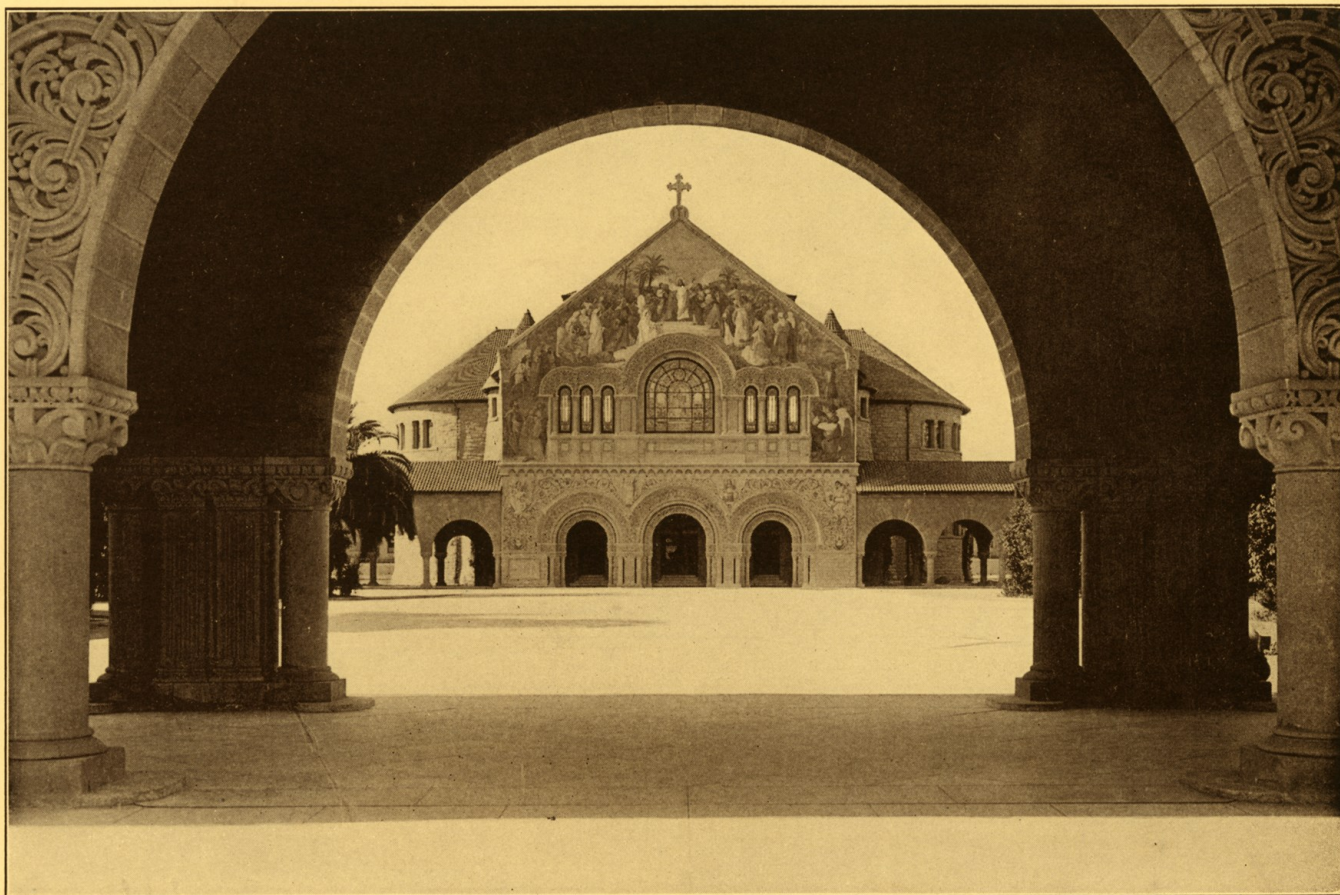
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MEMORIAL COURT FROM THE ARCADE



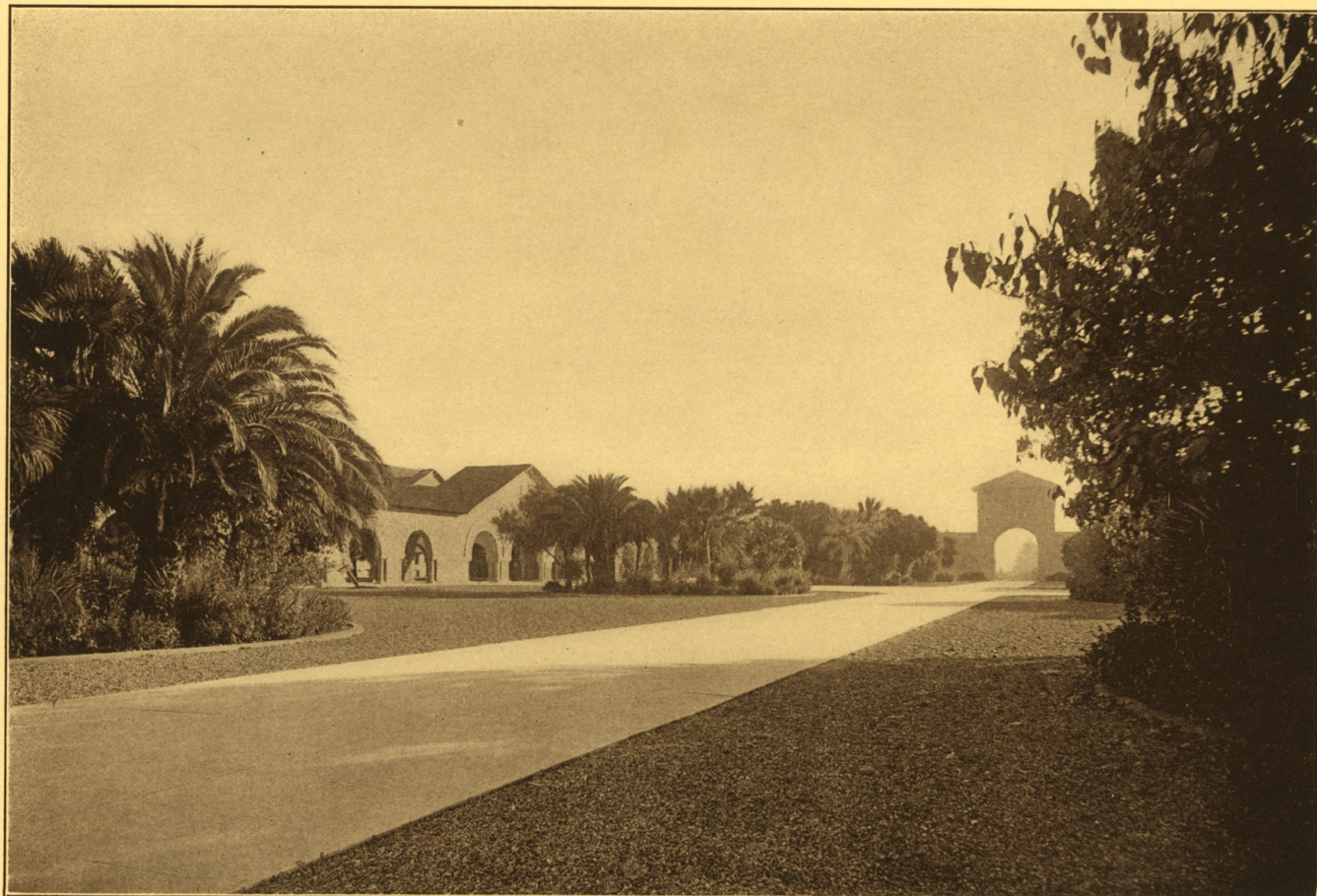
MEMORIAL COURT



THE MEMORIAL CHURCH



LOOKING THROUGH THE ARCHES TO MEMORIAL COURT



THE INNER QUADRANGLE



THE ARCADE AROUND THE QUAD



"WHERE THE RED ROOFS RIM THE BLUE"



THE CHURCH FROM THE QUAD



STANFORD ARCHES



INTERIOR OF MEMORIAL CHURCH



AT THE CHURCH ENTRANCE



MEMORIAL CHURCH TOWARD ORGAN LOFT



THROUGH THE ARCHES



REPLICA IN MOSAIC OF "THE LAST SUPPER" BACK OF THE ALTAR



THE ENGINEERING CORNER



THE WALK AROUND THE CHURCH



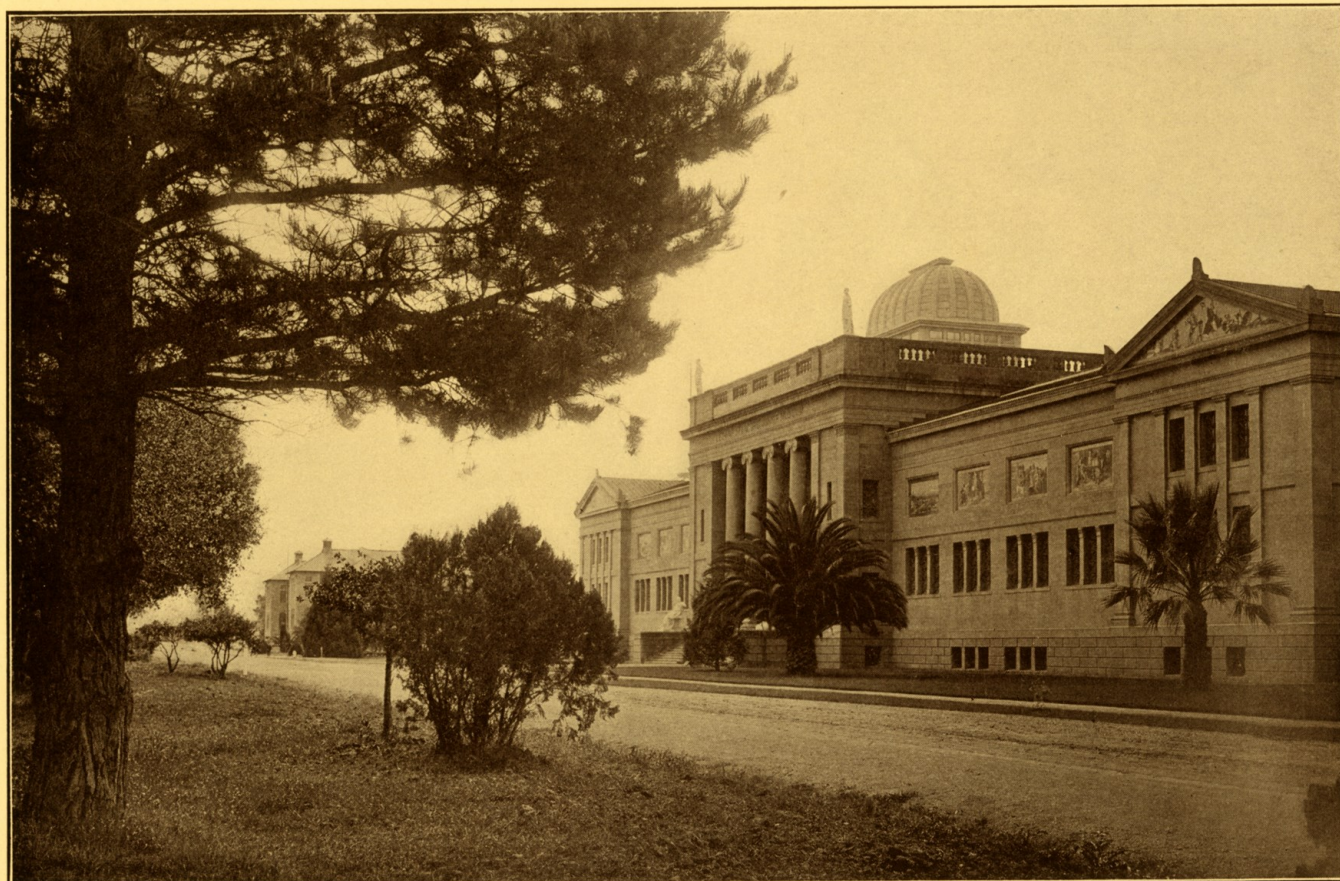
THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT BUILDING



ROBLE—WOMEN'S DORMITORY



THE MUSEUM ENTRANCE



THE STANFORD MUSEUM



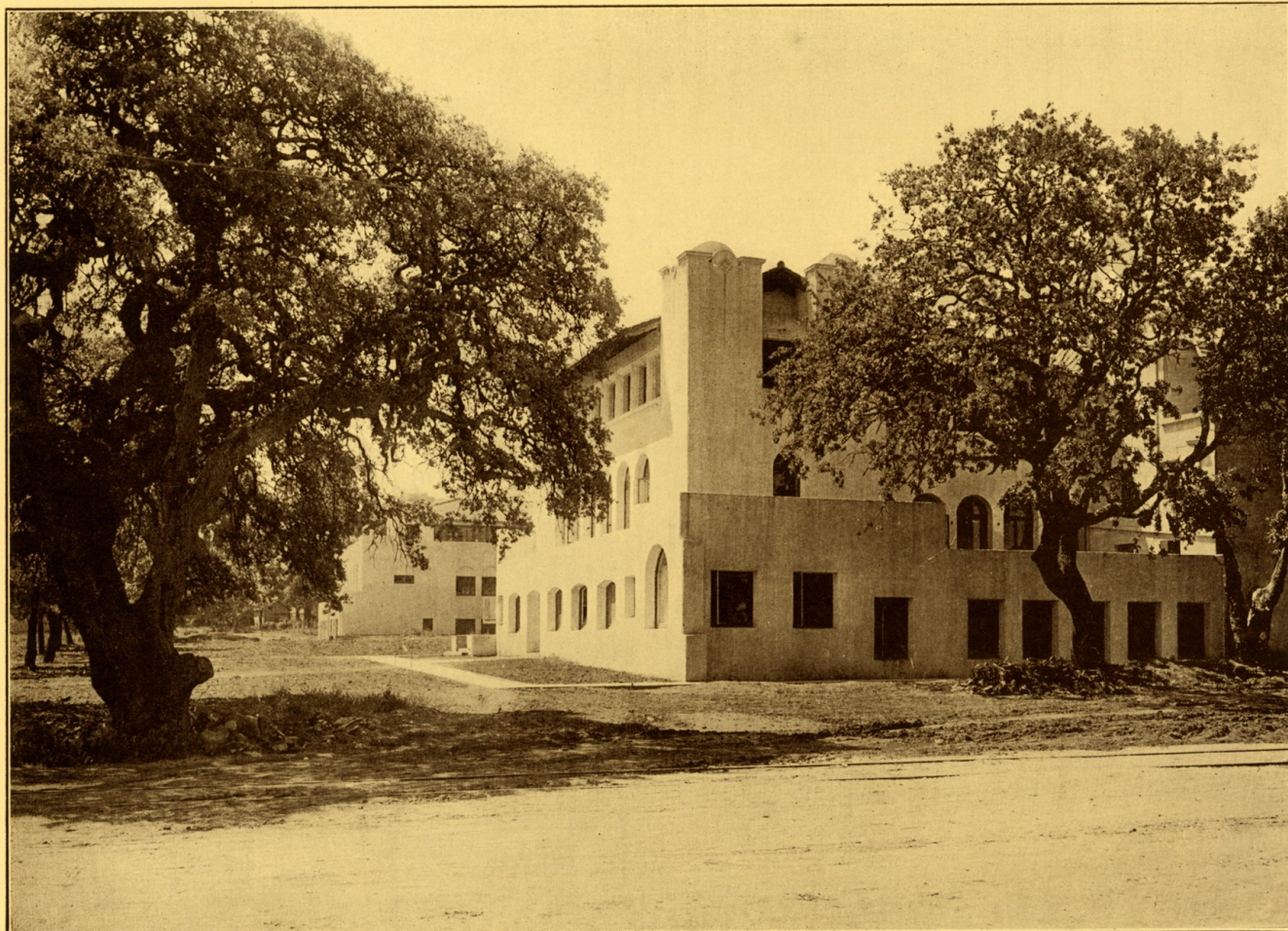
THE MEN'S GYMNASIUM



ENCINA—MEN'S DORMITORY



THE PALO ALTO TREE



STANFORD UNION AND WOMEN'S CLUB HOUSE



THE STANFORD MAUSOLEUM



THE ANGEL OF GRIEF IN THE ARBORETUM



THE PATH BY THE LAKE



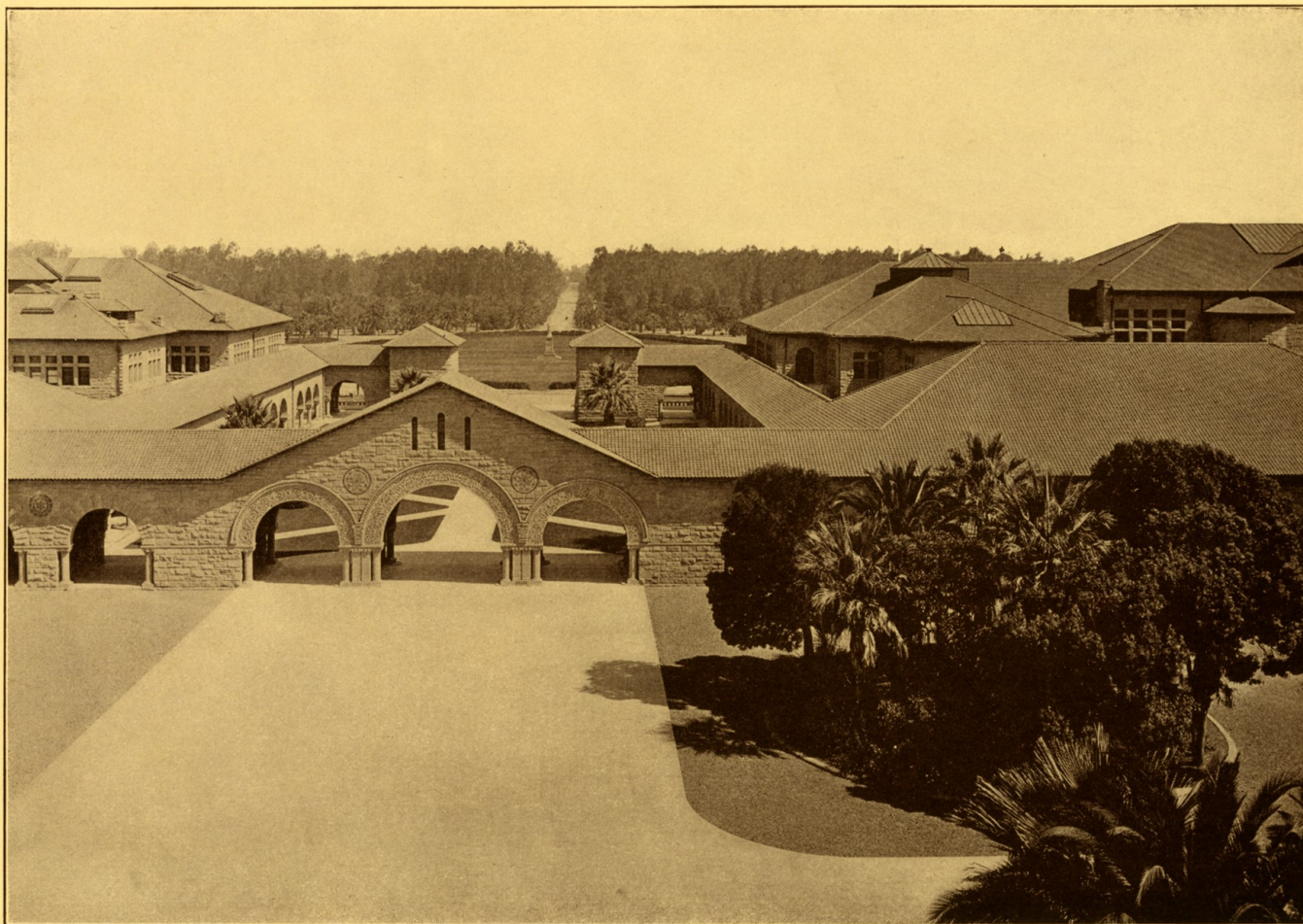
THE STANFORD FOOTHILLS



A CAMPUS ROAD TO THE MOUNTAINS



REDWOOD TREES NEAR THE CAMPUS



TOWARD PALO ALTO FROM MEMORIAL CHURCH



THE BUSINESS STREET OF PALO ALTO

