Yard, opened in 1927 and has wiring to prove it. President Lawrence H. Summers observes that the first report calling for the Fogg’s renovation was written when he was two years old. The conjoined Busch-Reisinger Museum, built onto the back of the Fogg in 1991, has interior walls that, for complex technical reasons, are buckling and need to be taken apart.

The Fogg/Busch building will close to the public in or near the summer of 2008, says Lentz. Then, in a 12- to 15-month process, all of the collections there will be taken away. (The Fogg features Western art from the Middle Ages to the present. The Busch-Reisinger emphasizes art from German-speaking countries. The Arthur M. Sackler Museum across the street on Broadway is home to ancient, Asian, Indian, and Islamic art. In all, the collections include 250,000 objects, making the museum the sixth largest in the country.)

All of the staff of the Fogg, the Busch, and the Straus Center for Conservation at the top of the Fogg/Busch building will clear out, too. The Fine Arts Library will go: books, slides, and people. Run by the Harvard College Library, it is located, mostly underground, in HUAM’s Quincy Street building.

Once emptied, the Quincy Street building will be renewed. The project architect is Renzo Piano of Genoa, Italy: designer of the Menil Collection in Houston, the Paul Klee Center in Bern, Switzerland, the expansion of the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the unfolding renovation of the Morgan Library in New York, and the current expansions of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York and of the Art Institute of Chicago. His design will not only remedy the building’s infrastructure problems, but will add modestly to its volume, mostly by digging down. The Renaissance-reminiscent courtyard of the Fogg will stay. The

Yesterday’s News
From the pages of the Harvard Alumni Bulletin and Harvard Magazine

1931 The Harvard Placement Service appeals for help as it tries to find work for graduating seniors and older alumni who have lost their jobs.

1936 A Cambridge city councilor has suggested that the University make the city a tercentenary gift of $300,000—“on the grounds that ‘Harvard receives many benefits from the city and gives little in return.’ ”

1946 The Faculty of Arts and Sciences has voted to establish two new departments, one in biochemistry, the other in social relations. The latter will incorporate the existing department of sociology and portions of the existing anthropology and psychology departments.

1951 President Conant appears before the House Armed Services Committee on behalf of the Committee on the Present Danger, a nonpartisan group urging “an adequate defense for the United States.” He recommends drafting 18-year-olds and deferring, after basic training, 75,000 young men for specialized training and education.

1956 Freshmen seek an extension of parietal rules, complaining that upperclassmen may entertain women in their rooms until 11 P.M., while the freshman deadline is 8. The request is refused because “freshmen entertain more secondary-school girls than do upperclassmen.”

1961 Nineteen faculty members are among 250 American professors protesting the House Un-American Activities Committee, citing a dedication to the “proposition that free enquiry and free expression nourish mental growth and are thus basic to our nation’s strength.”


1976 The Faculty of Arts and Sciences considers ways to make ROTC programs—terminated at Harvard in 1970 in the wake of protests—available again. One suggestion is to allow students to cross-register at MIT for noncredit courses in military science.