

Moller House Opens to the Mercy Community





Residence of William Moller
Irvington, N.Y. 1860
Photo by A.A. Turner
Rare Book Division,
The New York Public Library

The Moller House is a soaring, stone-clad mansion rich in history and brimming with warmth and beauty. Well-preserved and towering three stories over Mercy's Tarrytown, New York location, the mansion's tiled roof, brick chimneys, and iron scrollwork gates represent the very best of the region's architecture.

And after more than a century, first as a grand home and later as a place of business for a series of innovative and successful corporate ventures, the Moller House now belongs to Mercy College. Purchased in 2019, the storied mansion has been refurbished and transformed into a vibrant new gathering and working space for the Mercy Community. While the Moller House will be used primarily as office space it will also be used as a center for college events, with dedicated alumni rooms for Mercy and College of New Rochelle (CNR) alumni archives and programming.

"The Moller House is a significant acquisition for Mercy College, and we are looking forward to hosting events and welcoming students, faculty and staff as well as members of the surrounding community to join us," said Bernadette Wade CNR SAS '80, Mercy's Chief Advancement Officer. "Within the House, there are dedicated rooms that showcase the legacy of Mercy and CNR Alumni and provide a place for alumni to gather and create meaningful engagement."

Built in the mid-1800s, the Moller House sits on ten acres of wooded grounds on the border between Tarrytown and Irvington. Named for its first owner, William Moller, the stone mansion is a prime example of the decorative arts and architecture of the Romantic Movement once prevalent throughout the historic Hudson River



Entry Foyer of Moller House 2021

Valley. Moller and his family once hosted a birthday party at the mansion for his friend, neighbor and Tarrytown legend, the fabled author Washington Irving.

By the 1950s, the house had become a place of business for a series of enterprises that included a newspaper publisher; a textbook company later known as Harcourt, Brace & World; the P.R. Mallory Company, manufacturer of Duracell batteries; and Kraft General Foods.

Several rooms off the elegant and spacious great hall include spaces dedicated to honoring the legacy of Mercy and CNR alumni. Each has its own display of yearbooks, portraits, historical photographs, ceremonial maces and other memorabilia sure to spark nostalgia and college pride. A Mercy College Alumni Hall of Fame in the great hall will soon portray the images and success stories of alumni.

New ways to engage the community are already underway. Last fall, the Moller House provided the setting



Joyce Sharrock
Cole '19

for a talk by Mercy alumna Joyce Sharrock Cole '19, the Ossining Village historian. Cole held her audience spellbound as she described

the history of the house and its connections with notable figures and events.

"For more than a hundred years, this grand home has housed great minds—innovators and inventors, philanthropists and entrepreneurs, trailblazers and firebrands, lawyers and bankers, immigrants and veterans—Americans," Cole asserted. Urging her audience to imagine the Moller House teeming with activity and possibility, the historian ended her talk by declaring, "It's our turn to add to the memories in these walls. Welcome home."

To take a tour of the Moller House or to visit the alumni rooms contact alumni@mercy.edu.