Compiled in October 2010 from resources in the SJU Archives by Peggy Landwehr Roske, CSB/SJU Archivist
The Science Hall (no. 10 on the 1915 map below) was the first building for academics that was separate from the Quadrangle.

1 to 7 Main Building (Quad)
9. Library (1901)
10. Science Hall (1910)
11. Gymnasium (1901)
But, back to the beginnings of what we know now as Simons Hall – when it was conceived as a badly-needed Science Hall. Even one hundred years ago, donations from the alumni were financing construction projects on the campus.
2nd quote is from The Record, July 1910, p. 331.
A painful accident befell Mr. Sebastian Meyer, a member of the Collegeville parish, and a workman on the new Science Hall. An empty wheelbarrow tumbled from the second floor and struck his head, causing a bad wound; He is on the way of recovery.

The Record Nov. 1910 p. 425

1910.Ground was broken May 8, 1910: http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?CSBArchNews,15043
Accident report: The Record Nov. 1910 p. 425
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?CSBArchNews,14495
Announcement

The Alumni Meeting, June 21 1911

Program

TUESDAY, JUNE 20.
10:00 p.m. Delegation from the East arrives.
Dutch Lunch.
11:30 p.m. Time to get to bed.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21
7:00 a.m. Breakfast.
8:00 a.m. Solemn Requiem Mass for Deceased Alumni.
9:00 a.m. Dedication of the new Science Hall.
9:30 a.m. Visit to Old Haunts, Fishing, Boating, Swimming, Etc.
10:30 a.m. Concert by the U. Orchestra and social session.
11:30 a.m. Preliminary Business Meeting.
12:00 m. Banquet.
1:30 p.m. Base Ball. Faculty vs. Alumni.
3:00 p.m. Concert and Social Session.
4:30 p.m. Business Session.
5:00 p.m. Farewell.

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?/CSBArchNews,15817 The Record 1911 June 1 p. 273-5
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?/CSBArchNews,15818
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?/CSBArchNews,15819
St. Ben’s was still just a high school (Academy)—the College wasn’t founded until 1913—but the St. Ben’s students were impressed:

The Junior girls of St. Benedict’s Academy made a visiting-tour to St. John’s on the 3rd. The Science Hall proved to be the chief attraction for them and they think that “the place is just lovely.”

The Record Dec. 1, 1911, p. 474
http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?/CSBArchNews,16073

http://cdm.csbsju.edu/u/?/CSBArchNews,16073 The Record Dec. 1 1911 p. 474
Ads for St. John’s bragged about the new science building—but the illustration didn’t include it!

From *The Record* July 1, 1915, p. 428 of the suppl.


NOTE that the Science Hall isn’t even in the picture!
No date – from a scrapbook
You can understand why they moved the Old Gym to the west!
The meteorological station with its complete apparatus was recently transferred from the tower on the east front of the main building to the Science Hall.

Quote from The Record July 1, 1913, p. 339
1st radio station - 1915
Ca. 1910s-early 20s. Radio tower – “Colored by Fr. Alban Gertken” (1899-1923)
“Chemistry Lab about 1918”
“Science Hall – Lecture Hall on 3rd floor – East End of Bldg. About 1918”
Nd – the Science building also came to house the Art Department; architectural drawing was also offered at St. John’s.
nd – Ceramics classroom; did Richard have classes here?
Art Gallery, ca. 1970s, 3rd floor(?)

nd – art gallery – 3rd floor?
1982 landscaping project

“7/20/82”
1989 renovation adds staircases and an elevator
Engel nears completion

By Steve Perry

The Engel Hall renovation and the utility upgrade project are near completion, and SJU’s new tennis courts now meet national tennis standards. Planning continues for the proposed campus center and art center, according to Gordon Tavis, OSB, SJU treasurer.

Renovations on Engel Hall will not be finished until the end of October, but the amount of work completed to date is a “minor miracle,” said Tavis. Brickwork on the elevator/stair tower behind Engel will be completed in early October. The late arrival of certain roofing, lighting, and mechanical materials have caused only minor delays. By the end of October, installation of the elevator in the tower will mark the conclusion of the project.

“We knew from day one that we were asking the impossible. (The Engel Project) was more than anybody should have tried to do in a summer-time,” Tavis recently stated. SJU’s high expectations included remodeling ten classrooms and over three dozen faculty and departmental offices. The new Engel will also feature the elevator/stair addition, more restrooms, air conditioning and other utility improvements.
In 1999, in recognition of a deferred gift by Bob and Anne Simons, Engel Hall was renamed Simons Hall.

October 5, 2010 photo
Simons Hall, south entrance

October 5, 2010 photo

Compiled in October 2010 by Peggy Landwehr Roske, CSB/SJU Archivist, from resources in the St. John’s Abbey and University Archives

Friday, 10/8/2010