"The last moving van pulled away from Townsend Hall in late January. Education facility and staff housed there seemed to reshape the campus. Construction fencing went up, and work crews moved in to begin a roughly $7.5 million renovation of the historic building.

In May of 2000, when faculty, staff and students moved back into historic Townsend, they'll find that the 86-year-old campus icon has been transformed into a showplace of teacher training for the next century."

"When the dust settles, facilities around the college will not flaunt facilities that offer the most advanced learning opportunities we can imagine," said Richard Sorensen, dean of the College of Education. The plan that prepares them to teach the children of tomorrow's classroom will be the best we can possibly devise. Faculty members will be equipped with work spaces and technology that will sustain their own instruction in practice."

"The ultimate beneficiaries of these changes, Sorensen says, are the future generations of children who will be taught by educators trained in the new Townsend Hall.

"So many classroom areas are designed to be good environments to teach in. We wanted to create a good environment to learn in," said John Wedman, director of Facilities Planning and Development. Wedman and other faculty member played a major role in making sure the renovation met the needs of faculty, staff and students. The new plan was to design a plan "where this building works for you rather than against you."

For instance, classrooms in the old Townsend Hall were crowded and outdated. The plans for the new building are designed so the they can be reconfigured as needed for research and creative projects as they are needed."

"One of the biggest problems, though, was a lack of wiring and other infrastructure that made it difficult or impossible to use the latest technology in the classrooms. In the old schoolhouse, there might be an electric outlet on one side of the room, a data port on the other, and little else.

"That won't be the case when the new Townsend Hall opens. The original building is shaped like a giant capital "H." It has elements of the renovation to it, but retains much of that shape. In the old classroom, there might be an electric outlet on one side of the room, a data port on the other, and little else.

"That won't be the case when the new Townsend Hall opens. The original building is shaped like a giant capital "H." It has elements of the renovation to it, but retains much of that shape."
Ellis Fischel Campus
Ellis Fischel campus is a five-minute drive north of the main campus, just off Providence Road and bordering Interstate 70.

Buildings Recently Completed
1. Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building
2. Chemistry Addition
3. Black Culture Resource Center
4. Audrey J. Walton Track Soccer Field-Stadium
5. Hitt Street Parking Garage

New Buildings in Design or Construction
6. Townsend Hall Addition/Renovation
7. Bike Trail
8. Critical Care Addition
9. Cornell Hall (B&PA)
10. Eickes Hall Addition
11. White Campus Greenhouse
12. Simmons Field Spectator Facilities
13. Memorial Stadium Press Box Expansion
14. Health Science North Tower
15. Emergency Room Expansion

University Land, largely pedestrian but including service drives and small parking areas

New Buildings in the Planning Stage
16. Hitt/Virginia Avenue Parking Garage
17. McBride Addition/Renovation
18. Ellis Library Addition/Renovation
19. Life Science Building
20. Research Reactor Addition
21. Basketball Arena
22. Student Recreation Center Expansion
23. Performing Arts Center
24. Power Plant Addition

Possible Future Patient Care or Research Buildings
1. Ellis Fischel Cancer Center
2. Greene Building
3. Atton Building
4. Health South–Rusk Rehabilitation Center
5. Ellis Fischel Guest House
6. Ellis Fischel Hospital Expansion/Replacement
7. Outpatient Clinic Expansion
8. Possible future Patient Care or Research Buildings

Existing MU buildings
A. Jesse Hall
B. Hearnes Center
C. Ellis Library
D. Memorial Union
E. Brady Commons
F. Research Reactor
G. Heinkel Building
H. Agriculture Building
I. Reynolds Alumni Center
J. Clydesdale Hall
K. Student Recreation Center

Existing Buildings
A. Jesse Hall
B. Hearnes Center
C. Ellis Library
D. Memorial Union
E. Brady Commons
F. Research Reactor
G. Heinkel Building
H. Agriculture Building
I. Reynolds Alumni Center
J. Clydesdale Hall
K. Student Recreation Center

Parking Garages
Major walks
Major bikeways
Possible future streets

Note: Major walks and bikeways are shown straight for diagnostic clarity; in reality, they are curved and shaped to topography, planting, and buildings.