

40 Introducing Ashmun Street

MAKING MOVES TO BRING BACK YLS HOUSING

Until this fall, Yale Law School was the only law school in the country to maintain its original footprint. Since 1929–1930, YLS has remained in a single building at 127 Wall Street. In September that changed when several administrative offices moved across Grove Street to occupy part of 40 Ashmun Street, known at Yale as the “Swing Space.” Eventually, the Law School will take over all of 40 Ashmun—a move that will allow YLS to bring back what was once a mainstay of Law School life: YLS housing.

“The Law School is in the fortunate position of enjoying a vibrant, growing community, but we are tight on space. With more than fifty student organizations, we need to accommodate the constant and lively activity that overflows the capacity of our building,” said Dean Robert Post ’77. “With the use of the fourth floor of 40 Ashmun Street, we will be better equipped to meet ongoing and pressing demands on our space. Those who once lived in dormitories at the Law School well understand the importance of a residential community. Once we acquire the entire Swing Space in 2018, we can look forward to having our students live in Law School housing once again.”

The move to 40 Ashmun has been planned for several years, but the downturn in the economy caused a delay in renovation efforts University-wide. Yale College has been using the Swing Space for the past thirteen years as temporary housing for undergraduates while residential colleges undergo major renovations. With construction of new undergraduate colleges scheduled to be complete by 2017, the Law School will then take up residence in the dormitory portion of the building.

For now, YLS is occupying the building’s fourth floor as well as a common area on the ground floor and a basement conference area. The Alumni Affairs Office, Development Office, and Information Society Project have all moved to 40 Ashmun. In the fall semester, the building was home to approximately twenty-five events—including classes and workshops—per week.

The office spaces have been completely renovated with four seminar rooms and two conference rooms equipped with state-of-the-art technology including motorized projection screens, ceiling mounted LCD projectors, and wall-mounted speakers. **Y**

