COLLEGE HALL - 1873  
Completed in 1873, College Hall was the first building on the new campus. The cornerstone was laid on December 7, 1871 by the Honorable William E. Dodge, Senior, Treasurer of the Board of Trustees. At first known simply as "the main building," it housed the library, chapel, classrooms and a dormitory as well as geological and archaeological collections. The tower of College Hall soon became an important symbol of the new institute of learning, and citizens set their watches by its clock, which was installed on March 14, 1874.

After the landmark building was totally destroyed in a bomb blast on November 8, 1991, the University immediately committed itself to rebuild. A fundraising campaign was launched and the new cornerstone was laid in November 1992. The building, being officially completed in 1999, preserves the original design, although it is 25 percent larger and moved slightly to the west.

OLD MEDICAL BUILDING - 1873  
The Old Medical Building (1873) became the oldest building on campus after the loss of College Hall in 1991. Originally occupied by the School of Medicine, it later became known as the Social Science building. In 1962 its interior was remodeled and in 1980 it was given a new facade and a remodeled interior. The Old Medical Building is now home to the Graduate School of Business and Management.

ADA DODGE MEMORIAL HALL - 1873  
Originally constructed in 1873, the hall was rebuilt and enlarged in 1883 with a grant from Dr. D. Stuart Dodge who named it in memory of his daughter, Ada. The hall was used by the Preparatory Department, now International College, until 1898. It was the original home of the School of Commerce and since 1900 it has served as an administration building. In 1962-63 Dodge Hall was remodeled to house the main cafeteria, a milk bar, a faculty dining room lounge, and the post office.

LEO OBSERVATORY - 1874  
The original "Leo Astro-Physical Observatory" was built in 1874 through the initiative of Dr. Cornelius Van Dyck, first Professor of Internal Medicine and Astronomy. An enthusiastic astronomer, he obtained a donation of 150 English gold pounds from Henry Lee, a British merchant. Two decades later, the building was entirely reconstructed under the supervision of Professor Robert West. In 1978, the Observatory was closed and made into an Art and Sciences conference center.

MARQUAND HOUSE - 1879  
The residence of AUB presidents since its completion in 1879, Marquand House was built with a $5,000 gift from Frederick Marquand, a merchant from New York City. In 1902, a Faculty Room, now known as the Senate Room was added and in 1955 the building was renovated to provide a larger main hall with adjoining terrace and garden. In November 1991, when an explosion destroyed College Hall, the house was converted into offices for the Deputy President, Vice Presidents and their staff. In 1998 it became the residence of AUB President John Waterbury.

JESUS HALL - 1883  
Completed in 1883, this building was used as a Theological Seminary by the Presbyterian Board of Missions. When the mission decided to discontinue its work in 1897 the building was sold to AUB for $8,000. Morris K. Jesups, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and President of the New York Chamber of Commerce, donated $5,000 towards the purchase. It was used as a residence hall for men students and in 1958 it was remodeled to house departments of the School of Arts and Sciences, including the Dean's Office.

FISK HALL - 1900  
Completed in 1900 - 02 this building was named after Pliny Fisk, an American missionary who arrived in AUB in 1823. It served for a time as the headquarters of the School of Commerce, and was later used as a men's dormitory. The Hall was remodeled in 1960 and now is used for classrooms and offices for the School of Arts and Sciences.

BLISS HALL - 1900  
This building was named in honor of AUB founder Reverend Daniel Bliss and completed in 1900. In the early days of the College the upper two floors of the hall served as a dormitory, while the first two floors were used for classrooms. Completely restored and refurbished in the early 1990's, it now houses the Department of Mathematics.

POST HALL - 1902  
Completed in 1902 and named after George E. Post, professor of Botany and Surgery, the building was a gift from Dr. Morris Jesup. In 1962 the interior of the hall was remodeled and its lower floor occupied by the Archaeological Museum which contains artifacts from all parts of the Near East. The Geology Department on the top floor also has a Museum.

WEST HALL - 1914  
Completed in 1914, West Hall was named after Robert Haldane West, who taught mathematics and astronomy starting in 1884. This student activity building is equipped with an auditorium, rooms for student clubs, a lecture hall, and a Common Room.

VAN DYCK HALL - 1931  
Completed in 1931 and funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, this building is named after Dr. Cornelius Van Dyck, who founded AUB Academy in Lebanon in 1843. Van Dyck Hall was completely renovated in the mid-1970's and now houses the Faculty of Health Sciences.

For further information, contact the Office of Information & Public Relations
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AUB (originally the Syrian Protestant College) was founded in 1866 by the Reverend Daniel Bliss, who chose the location of the new campus himself. Bliss's journals describe his many horseback rides through the cactus and sand of undeveloped Ras Beirut. "We rode everywhere through the city, looking as we rode. Finally we saw the site where the College now stands ... and immediately decided that we had found the finest site in all Beirut if not in all Syria."

Today AUB occupies 73 acres (about 28 hectares) overlooking the Mediterranean. Its 81 buildings are set amid gardens planted with many species of flowering trees and shrubs, some as old as the University itself. The campus also incorporates two museums, four libraries, a herbarium, tennis courts and an athletic field. Most of the University's older buildings are on the Upper Campus, which takes in the nearby Medical Center, Saab Medical Library, and Issam Fares Hall. The Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the Division of Education Programs, the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Faculty of Medicine and the School of Nursing are all found here. The Lower Campus is the site of faculty and women students' housing as well as the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences, and the Departments of Physics, Biology and Chemistry.