The Long Island College of Medicine took title to a six-acre tract of land opposite the Kings County Hospital on Clarkson Avenue for its projected new campus. Seen here, from left to right, are Harold C. Parsons, managing agent for the former owners; Atty. John H. Livingston; Dr. Frank L. Babbott, chairman of the board of trustees of the medical school; and Dr. Jean A. Curran, college president. All but two small parcels of the three-block area were conveyed to the college for $287,500.
This aerial view shows the new campus of the Long Island College of Medicine. The medical school's property is outlined in white. Shown in the background, from left to right, are the Kings County Hospital, the Kingston Avenue Hospital, and the Brooklyn State Hospital.

This building, formerly a luncheonette, housed the first offices of the medical school at its new site.
Signatory to the Articles of Merger between the State University of New York and the Long Island College of Medicine on April 5, 1950 were, from left to right, as follows: (seated) Lawson Stone, chairman of the Long Island College of Medicine Board of Trustees; Gov. Thomas E. Dewey; and Dr. Oliver C. Carmichael, chairman of the State University of New York Board of Trustees; (standing) Dr. Jean A. Curran, president of the Long Island College of Medicine; Atty. Gen. Nathaniel L. Goldstein; and Carl Leff, secretary to the Long Island College of Medicine Board of Trustees.

Dr. Duncan W. Clark, dean (at left), and Dr. Jean A. Curran, the president of the College of Medicine at the time of the merger, make plans to accommodate the enlarged faculty and student body.
Dr. Jean A. Curran (right) and Dr. Frank Babbott (center) explain plans for the development of the Long Island College of Medicine to the president of the Brooklyn Borough, John Cashmore.

This billboard on the site of the new campus of the medical school solicits contributions from the public to the Long Island College of Medicine at the Brooklyn Medical Center.
Lt. Gov. Frank C. Moore addresses the spectators at groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Basic Sciences Building of the State University of New York College of Medicine on April 9, 1953. The building would be completed in 1956 and house one of the nation's largest colleges of medicine.

Lieutenant Governor Moore tries his hand at shoveling dirt at the groundbreaking ceremonies. Looking on with amusement, from left to right, are Dr. Carlyle Jacobsen, executive dean for medical education of the State University of New York; Rabbi Sidney S. Tedesche, the Union Temple (Brooklyn); Dr. Oliver C. Carmichael, chairman of the State University of New York Board of Trustees; Mayor Vincent Impellitteri; and Brooklyn Borough President John Cashmore.
Construction began on the Basic Sciences Building in 1953.

The Basic Sciences Building would be the most modern college facility built at the time. It included modern laboratories, auditoriums, a library, and classrooms. On the top floor would be one of the largest animal laboratories on the eastern seaboard.
Representatives from the city and state governments are seated on the stage to hear President Eisenhower's introductory remarks.

President Eisenhower poses as the cornerstone is unveiled.
President Eisenhower concludes his address at the cornerstone-laying ceremonies for the Basic Sciences Building on October 21, 1954. Others in the front row include, from left to right, Dr. Howard W. Potter, dean of the College of Medicine, State University of New York; Frank C. Moore, the lieutenant governor of the State of New York; and Thomas E. Dewey, the governor of the State of New York.

Shown is the cornerstone in full view.
This view of the Basic Sciences Building was taken from the Kings County Hospital across Clarkson Avenue. The Class of 1953 would enter under the Long Island College of Medicine, but complete their studies under the State University of New York College of Medicine at New York City. The Class of 1957 would be the first graduating class to have seen the new building in operation.

Robert McCall painted this original oil work of the Basic Sciences Building of the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center. E.R. Squibb & Sons Inc., a pharmaceutical firm, commissioned the well-known artist to do the painting as part of a long-range plan to create a collection of original oil paintings representative of the medical schools in America. The painting was presented to the school by Squibb at a luncheon held at the Towers Hotel in Brooklyn on February 25, 1966.
The Polhemus Memorial Building stands majestically in light and shadows, where men and women were taught the medical arts for more than 50 years. Vacating the building allowed the Long Island College Hospital space for its own growth and expansion in the ensuing years.
At last, the marble paneling was placed to finish off the main entranceway. Skilled hands moved blocks of finely polished wood to cover the walls of the library. Books, beakers, oscilloscopes, cannulas, and a thousand pieces of equipment made the journey from Henry Street to the "new building."
On June 8, 1957, the ceremonies dedicating the Basic Sciences Building took place before a large gathering. Gov. Averell Harriman gave the dedicatory address. The address by Dr. Jean A. Curran entitled “A Centennial Day of Appreciation and Anticipation” was in behalf of the administration. Dr. Chandler McCuskey Brooks gave the response for the faculty.

Academic processionals would become a familiar sight around the newly constructed campus. Processionals such as this one would be held to inaugurate new presidents as well as to open commencement ceremonies.