

Welcome to Rensselaer!

We are happy to provide you with a self-guided walking tour, which will allow you to see our beautiful campus at your own pace. Feel free to enter any buildings that may be open. The numbered buildings on the map (separate download) will help you follow our suggested route.

Walk down the main steps of the **Admissions Building (#34)**, cross over Sage Avenue, and follow the road up the hill to your left. The **Student Union (#35)** is on your right. We'll tell you more about that later. Go up the wooden stairway on your left. This area of campus houses many of our first-year students. The residence halls on campus can only be accessed through a special card, so you will not be able to enter them at this time.

There are six residence halls reserved exclusively for freshmen in this area we call "Freshman Hill." Resident Assistants and Learning Assistants live in all freshman residence halls, and internet is available in all residence halls through both wired and wireless connectivity. Students are required to live on campus and participate in a meal plan for both their freshman and sophomore years. In the center of Freshman Hill is the **Commons Dining Hall (#39)**, the largest dining facility on campus. There are many options for dining at the Commons and several other dining halls on campus. Students also pick up their mail and packages in the Commons.

Now head toward the **Alumni Sports and Recreation Center (#37)**. Rensselaer's ROTC offices and a few athletic offices are located here. The features include a 1/8 mile track, the **Mueller Fitness Center (#72)**, and indoor tennis courts. The adjacent **Robison Pool (#38)** is home to our varsity swimming and diving program and several community groups. Doris Robinson Field (softball) and the Sharp Tennis Courts are located just beyond the pool.

The Department of Public Safety (#36) is located next to the Alumni Sports and Recreation Center, which provides 24-hour campus patrols (by car, foot, and bicycle), escort services for students walking alone at night, emergency call boxes throughout campus, and safety education and training. Next, cross the pedestrian footbridge that spans 15th Street. To the left of the footbridge is the **RPI Playhouse (#15)**, which is the home of the RPI Players, the student theater group which puts on several productions a year.

Located behind the Playhouse is the **Center for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies (#74)**. Ranked among the world's most advanced research facilities, this building is dedicated solely to research. Students can begin research as early as the second semester of their freshman year for credit, pay, or experience as part of one of our interdisciplinary research constellations. Nearly 70 percent of students, across all disciplines, participate in research as undergraduates at Rensselaer.

Academy Hall (#67) is located behind the CBIS. This building houses the Office of Financial Aid, the Bursar's Office, the Registrar, and the Dean of Student's Office, which oversees several student resources, including the Office of the Student Experience, International Student Services and Disability Services for Students. The building also houses the Student Experience Office, which runs several programs including our Clustered Learning, Advocacy, and Support for Students (CLASS) program, and our First-Year Experience program, which helps students acclimate to college life here at Rensselaer. The Student Health Center, which provides

student health care on campus, is also located here. Appointments are necessary for regular visits, but emergency care is available and ambulance transportation to local hospitals is free to students. Other services offered include a counseling center, health education and wellness programs, prescription services, and outpatient services.

Ahead of you is the **George M. Low '48 Center for Industrial Innovation (#14)**, named after the 14th president of the Institute and deputy administrator of NASA who played a key role in the Apollo space missions. This building houses three general computing labs available for student use, a manufacturing center, and clean rooms for designing computer chips. If you go inside, the George M. Low Lounge on the fourth floor contains a permanent exhibit of NASA memorabilia and other materials that honor his life. You may also view the clean room from windows in rooms 4146 to 4166.

The **Darrin Communications Center (#17)**, the next building on your left, is connected to the Low Center. Technologically sophisticated classrooms and lecture halls are used for some classes, visiting speakers, campus ceremonies, and for the showing of movies. The Center for Career and Professional Development is housed here and offers a variety of programs, services and special events to meet the career development and employment search needs of Rensselaer students. Co-op and internship opportunities are popular with students in all disciplines, and can be facilitated through the CCPD. The DCC also houses the campus radio station (WRPI 91.5).

The **Jonsson Engineering Center (#18)** is past the DCC and is the next stop on the tour. The building is named for J. Erik Jonsson '22, co-founder of Texas Instruments and former four-term mayor of Dallas. Each floor of the building is dedicated to a different discipline of engineering and contains many major research facilities and a large number of academic classrooms, including the O.T. Swanson Multidisciplinary Design Laboratory and the CORE Engineering Studio Lab.

The **Jonsson-Rowland Science Center (#19)** is located adjacent to the JEC. This building is home to the School of Science and houses classrooms and labs for the biology and physics departments. Other interesting features include the Hirsch Observatory and 'Air Traffic Control Tower' graduate student lounge.

As you exit the JEC, follow the cement walkway until you see the Gothic building to the left that resembles a church. This building is the **Voorhees Computing Center (#22)**. Open 24/7, this building was originally the chapel of St. John's Seminary and was purchased by Rensselaer in 1958. It was originally renovated for use as the main campus library. It now houses Rensselaer's computer store, IBM-compatible PCs and UNIX workstations, and the software help desk.

Next to the VCC is the **Folsom Library (#23)**, which was dedicated in 1976 by former Rensselaer President Richard G. Folsom. With state-of-the-art electronic retrieval services and study space for more than 900 students, the Folsom Library serves as Rensselaer's central library. In addition to providing access to more than half a million volumes, library services include an electronic class reserves system, photocopy facilities, borrowing privileges at most academic libraries in the area, individual consulting on research projects, and group study rooms. Students may take a break in the Library Café or borrow the latest best-seller from the Class of 1996 Reading Room — or a feature film DVD from the collection in the North Lounge.

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The building directly behind the library is the **Curtis R. Priem Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (#76)**. EMPAC hosts one of the world's most acoustically perfect concert halls (1200 seats) as well as a 500 seat theatre, a 3-D holographic projection room, research areas for lighting and acoustics, and many artistic outlets that allow for the exhibition of the nexus between technology and the arts, all connected to the capabilities of our supercomputer, the Computational Center for Nanotechnology Innovations.

The **Lally Building (#25)** is to your left, and previously housed the Lally School of Management and Technology. The Lally Building is home to the Departments of Computer Science and Information Technology and Web Science, an interdisciplinary offering at Rensselaer which allows students to explore the World Wide Web and other IT technologies from the algorithmic, engineering, and social perspective.

To your right is the **Greene Building (#24)**, home to the School of Architecture. The building is named for Benjamin Franklin Greene, who became Rensselaer's Director in 1847. Open 24/7, the Greene Building houses the architecture school's library; an architecture woodshop; a gallery for student work and traveling exhibitions; individual studios for students to work in; as well as a new computer lab, classrooms and faculty offices. The Bachelor of Architecture degree requires five years to complete, and many architecture students choose to spend a semester abroad studying in India, Italy, or China, or at the NYC-based global architecture firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) to work in a collaborative interdisciplinary research environment focused on the development of advances in sustainable technologies.

In front of you is the **Russell Sage Laboratory (#6)**, home to the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. The school offers a variety of degrees, including several interdisciplinary programs that combine the arts and humanities with science and technology. The humanities core, which requires all students to take twenty-four credits of HASS courses, is an essential part of the Rensselaer education. Sage Lab contains computer classrooms, lecture halls, conference rooms, faculty offices, and student lounges. Two student services are also located here—the Advising & Learning Assistance Center, which offers academic support to all students, and the Writing Center, which provides students with assistance on writing assignments and projects.

Amos Eaton Hall (#26), next to the Lally Building, houses the Departments of Mathematics and Computer Science, both of which are part of the School of Science at Rensselaer. The **Carnegie Building (#3)**, located down the hill from Amos Eaton Hall, houses the Department of Cognitive Science.

Walker Laboratory (#4), which is located across from Amos Eaton Hall, is home to most of the chemistry classes and labs. Housing state-of-the-art wet labs along with the most advanced computer and people friendly studio classrooms, this building has been transformed into a facility for interactive learning in chemistry and related fields.

The **Pittsburgh Building (#1)** is home to the Lally School of Management and Technology. Rensselaer's business school is nationally ranked because of its programs in entrepreneurship and its emphasis on management and technology being the key to a

company's success in the 21st century. The Lally School offers a solid education in the fundamentals of business, while allowing for specialization through eight optional concentrations. Many students take advantage of our business school by combining science and engineering with business through a dual major or a minor in the Lally School.

West Hall (#2), located to the right of the Pittsburgh Building, is the oldest building on campus. Originally a hospital, it is now home to the art and music departments at Rensselaer. Many labs for classes in the humanities are housed here as well as the student-run Rensselaer Music Association. The RMA maintains the third-floor annex also known as the Music Suite, which offers four partially sound-proof practice rooms in addition to other instrument and music storage and performance facilities.

As you walk through the Hassan Quad (home of Alby, the albino squirrel—an unofficial campus mascot), follow the pathway to the left of the quad. This area used to be **'86 Field**, given as a gift by the Class of 1886, where Rensselaer's football team played their games up until 2009. The East Campus Athletic Village, located near the Houston Field House, houses a new 5200-seat football stadium and turf fields for the use of many of our varsity teams. ECAV also houses a 1200-seat basketball arena, state-of-the-art athletic training and strength and conditioning facilities, and most of the athletic department offices.

To your left you will see the **Troy Building (#7)**. Housed in this building are classrooms and computer laboratories, in addition to the Office of the President and most of her administration. Our 18th president, Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, has held senior leadership positions in government, industry, research, and academe. Next to the Troy Building is the **Ricketts Building (#10)**, home to the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. In addition to classrooms, Ricketts features the Coonley Lounge, where you will find students studying in between classes, or meeting with faculty and teaching assistants for course and lab discussions.

The **'87 Gymnasium (#11)** is ahead and to the left. A gift of the Class of 1887, it contains two small gyms, an indoor track, racquetball courts, and a swimming pool. Next, walk up the steps to the right of the '87 Gym. This area is known as the **Quadrangle Dormitory Complex (#12)**, and contains housing for both first-year and upper-class students.

Pass through the tunnel in front of you onto 15th Street. The **Student Union (#35)** is in front of you. This is one of the few student unions in the nation that is truly run by students. There is a \$4 million budget that is controlled by the President of the Union and the Executive Board, student leaders elected each spring by the student body. Student government offices, the school newspaper, and literary magazine offices are located on the 3rd floor. The Union also contains a SEFCU Bank, the campus bookstore, several different dining options, a games room, a convenience store, a post office, the Clubhouse Pub, and a Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop.

We hope that you have enjoyed your tour of campus. If you have any additional comments or questions, feel free to contact us:

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