



From the Statler Inn to The Statler Hotel: How HEC Navigated Major Renovations

THE STATLER INN

While the Statler Inn was equipped with 36 rooms, three unique restaurants, banquet rooms, and a ballroom, the charming space needed renovation. In 1986, the inn was torn down to accommodate the industry's growth and the school's success.



Update: Winter 1987

During the winter of 1987, the Statler Inn underwent demolition and renovations began.



Without the Statler Inn, HEC 62's board had to get creative when planning and hosting events for the conference.

62nd Hotel Ezra Cornell A NEW ROAD TAKEN April 24-26, 1987

During HEC 62, organizers crafted events to utilize spaces around campus.

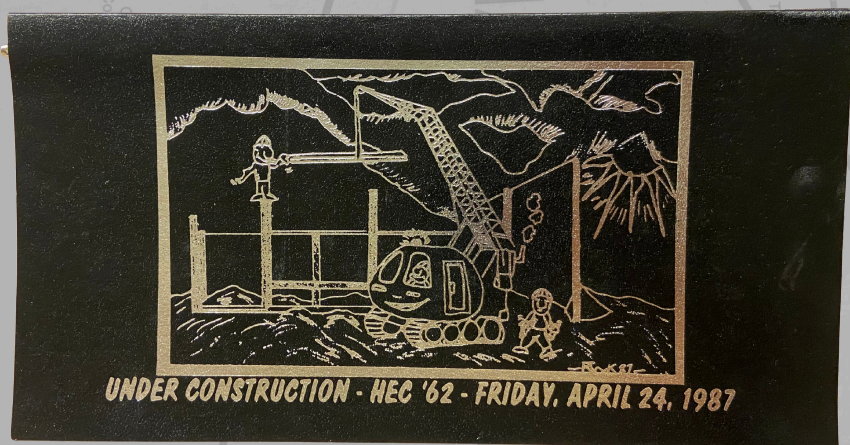
A Picnic in Central Park
Lynah Rink
Dine elegantly under the New York skyline.

“We had to coordinate events all over campus, so just serving the food hot and coordinating transportation for guests was a lot!”

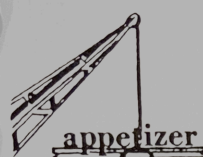
- Nancy Bergamini, Front Office Manager



Under Construction was “a dinner saluting the reconstruction of Statler.” function managers used the renovations to inspire their menu and other design elements.

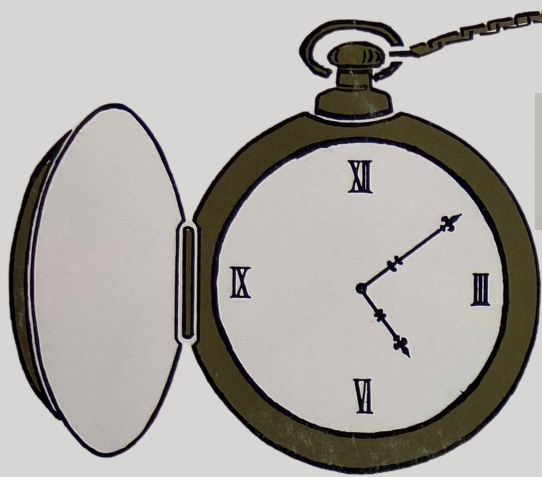


Under Construction Menu Cover



The menu included fun thematic designs for each course!





Recapture The Past

THE 63RD HOTEL EZRA CORNELL
APRIL 22, 23, 24, 1988



HEC 63: *Recapture The Past* faced similar challenges while Statler underwent its last year of renovations. The Board of Directors worked to preserve the spirit of HEC and create a memorable experience.

“Being on the board provided me the opportunity to have a creative outlet and hands-on-experience to solve problems and challenges outside of academics. I'm very grateful to have been a part of HEC, and for being a hotelier and a Cornellian.”

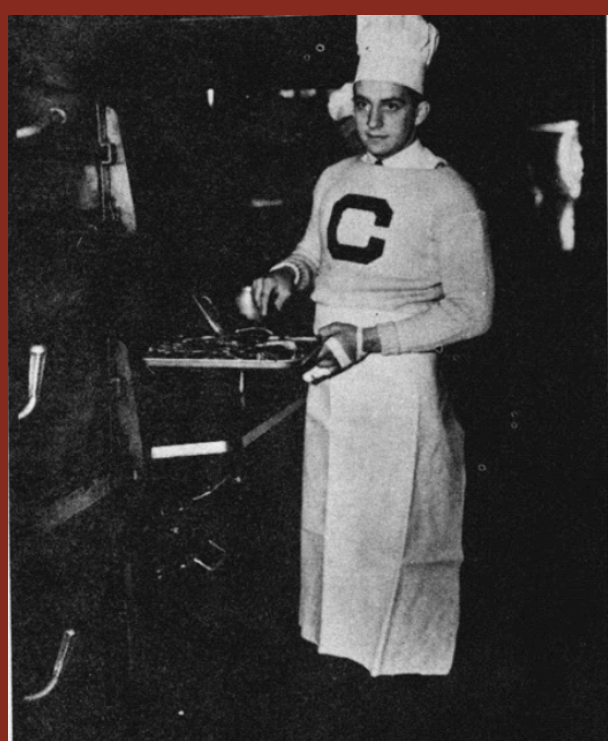
- Margaret Piantone, *Design Director*



Le Dernier Cri Dinner Menu and Cover

“We built display pieces at the old Polo Barns, and stored products in large metal storage containers. We held events at 9 different venues on and off campus. We had to shuttle guests from event to event and to and from the host hotels ...We all knew we were in a difficult "in between year" and that HEC 64 would be a huge unveiling for the new and improved Hotel School. But all those involved in HEC 63 embraced the idea that each HEC should be "The Best Ever" regardless of the circumstances, and I think we did just that.”

- Michael Duffy, *Managing Director*

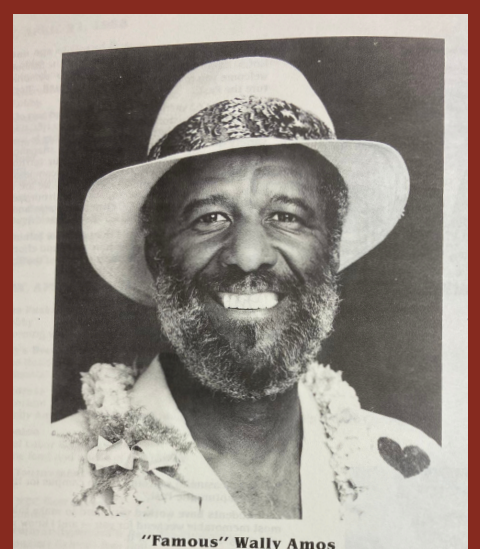


“Rare, medium, or well done?
...Well done, of course!”

HOTEL EZRA CORNELL

“As ‘Guest Services Director,’ it was my responsibility to arrange transportation for both guests and staff to/from every event and every location where guests were staying...all well before cell phones existed!”

- Matt Berta, *Guest Services Director*



“Famous” Wally Amos

HEC 63 Keynote Speaker



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 1989



IN GREAT COMPANY
HOTEL EZRA CORNELL 64
APRIL 14-16, 1989

HEC 64 was also the reopening of Statler after years of renovation. During the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the building was renamed, “the Statler Hotel and J. Willard Marriott Executive Education Center.” During the weekend, 300 guests were served with “lavish dining and luxurious accommodations.” In addition to serving the guests, there was a focus on giving back, “HEC donated tremendous amounts of remaining food to the Weekend Meal Program” (Ithaca Journal 1989). With the *In Great Company* theme, the weekend was a great success setting the tone for future HEC events in the newly renovated space!



“But my fondest memory is how proud I was of our Board, our Function Managers, and all those who participated in making that very challenging HEC such a success.”

- Michael Duffy, Managing Director



Dean Jack Clark and Charles Feeney, '56 at Hotel Ezra Cornell 64