

after property was examined and many leads were tracked down. In most cases the amount of alteration required would have been extremely expensive. Then this June the Lord led in a wonderful way to the examination of the famous Widener Estate just north of Philadelphia. To our surprise it proved to be so perfectly adapted to the use of the Seminary that one would almost think that the architect who designed it half a century ago had had the needs of a theological seminary in mind. While not particularly well suited for the use of a liberal arts college, the main building is wonderfully suited to the needs of a theological seminary.

In the search for a property one feature that constantly gave pause to the minds of the faculty was the danger that such a property when found would prove to be inaccessible to big cities and universities. For a scholarly seminary, it is vital that the faculty be in easy reach of great universities where research courses and extensive library facilities can be utilized. It is also vital for the outreach of the Seminary and for the training of the students that it be not too difficult to reach large cities where Christian testimony can be given and Christian experience easily secured. In this regard the location in Wilmington has been excellent, being at a main stop on the main line of two railroads connecting Washington, Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, and New York. It seemed too much to hope that the new location would be equally desirable, but any great diminution of these advantages could easily prove a tremendous detriment to the scholarship, to the training, and to the outreach of the Seminary. In addition to its other grand advantages, the Widener Estate is admirably situated with convenient and frequent train and bus service so that in this regard its advantages are even superior to those enjoyed in Wilmington.

At first it seemed too much to hope that the Widener Estate could actually be secured. The building had cost over eight million dollars in the first place and could not be reproduced today for less than three times that amount.