

## LOCAL HISTORY



**SU School of Journalism students in front of Yates Castle in 1953, the year before it was demolished.**  
*Onondaga Historical Association photo*

**63 Years Ago:** On April 12, 1954, Yates Castle, at the intersection of Irving Avenue and University Place, was demolished. The castle was originally completed in 1855 for Cornelius T. Longstreet. He named it Renwick Castle after the architect, James Renwick, who also designed Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York City and the Smithsonian Institution Building in Washington, D.C. However, because it was so far away from the city, Longstreet decided to trade it in 1867 for the James Street mansion of Alonzo

Yates and \$40,000. It was renamed Yates Castle after the family who would occupy it until 1898. The castle was used briefly as a prep school until Syracuse University acquired it in 1905. It housed the Teacher's College until 1934 and the School of Journalism until it was demolished to make way for the expansion of the state university medical college.

— Dan Connors for the Onondaga Historical Association