ST. CLOUD, Minn., Dec. — St. Cloud State College will begin the new year with a new science and mathematics building, first structure on the campus with extensive facilities for science teaching and research.

Covering half a city block, the three-story building will be put into full-time operation at the opening of the winter quarter Jan. 4.

Built at a total cost of $1,412,000, the structure contains 29 laboratories and classrooms, nine research rooms and 29 offices. Attached at one side is a bell-shaped lecture-demonstration hall with a seating capacity of 250 persons. A modernistic greenhouse resting on concrete pedestals also adjoins the building.

Total floor space is 78,965 square feet, about two-thirds the size of Stewart Hall, the college's largest classroom building.

Housed in the building will be the departments of chemistry, biology, physics and mathematics and the botany and geology sections.

Features of the building include an aviation workshop, a ramp entrance for handicapped students, fluorescent lighting throughout and a ventilation system of the latest design.

Traynor and Hermanson of St. Cloud were project architects and the Minneapolis firm of Gunnar Johnson and Son was the general contractor. The structure was approved by the Legislature in 1957 and construction began in 1958.

An institute for high school science teachers financed by a $50,900 grant from the National Science Foundation will be conducted in the building next summer.