### **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Inventory**—Nomination Form

received JUL 2 6 1984 date entered AUG 2 3 1984

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms Type all entries—complete applicable sections

#### 1. Name

University of Minnesota Old Campus Historic District historic

2. Loca	ation	And d	15th que.	
street & number	• <del>Vicinity of</del> Univer S.E., and Pillsbur	rsity Aven <del>ue S.E.,</del>	$17 \pm h$ Avenue	VAnot for publication
city, town	Minneapolis	$\underline{N/A}$ vicinity of		
state	Minnesota <b>code</b>	22 county	Hennepin	<b>code</b> 053
3. Clas	sification			
Category X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership X public private both Public Acquisition in process N/Abeing considered	Status         _X       occupied          unoccupied          work in progress         Accessible          yes: restricted         _X       yes: unrestricted          no	Present Use agriculture commercial X educational entertainment government industrial military	museum     park     private residence     religious     scientific     transportation     other:
4. Own	er of Proper	ty		
name Unive street & number	ersity of Minnesota - 220 Morrill Hall	Board of Regents		
city, town	Minneapolis	$\underline{N/A}$ vicinity of	state	Minnesota 55455
5. Loca	ntion of Lega	I Descriptio	n	
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street & number	5th :	Street South at 3rd	Avenue	
city, town	Minne	eapolis	state	Minnesota
6. Repr	resentation i	n Existing S	Surveys	
State itle	ewide Historic Sites Survey	has this prop	erty been determined elig	gible? yesX no
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lepository for su	rvey records Minnesota	Historical Society	Fort Snelling	History Center
city, town	St. Paul		state	Minnesota 55111

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# 7. Description

Condition	
<u>X</u> excellent	_
X_good	
fair	

Check one
deteriorated \_\_\_\_ unaltered
ruins \_\_X\_ altered
unexposed

### Check one

X original site

a date

N/A

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Of the institutions of higher learning in the State of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota is recognized as one of the earliest as well as the largest. From a small beginning in a single building in the 1850s, the University has grown to the immense physical proportions necessary to provide for an ever-increasing diversity of educational pursuits.

In general, the physical expansion of the University on the Minneapolis Campus can be chronologically divided into three periods (and geographical sections). The first of these is what is commonly referred to as the "Old Campus". The Old Campus had its tangible beginning in the landmark building Old Main, begun in 1856, finished in 1875, and destroyed by fire in 1904. This building served the University until the expanded building program of the 1880s, 1890s, and 1900s. This nomination focuses on the buildings constructed in these three decades.

The second period of development concerns the Mall and Medical complex, developed on a variant of a plan by Saint Paul architect Cass Gilbert. Expansion continued in this section through the 1950s. The third and contemporary period of development concerns the West Bank area, an area which was primarily conceived during the early 1960s and continues to expand.

In reflection, the Old Campus is a representation of the early years of the University. The thirteen buildings in the district, each rendered in an individual style and expression, comprise the entire remaining building stock of the campus that was constructed during the first important phase of the institution's physical development. The diversity in style and materials of these early structures distinguishes them from the more numerous buildings constructed during the second phase of building. The nineteenth century spatial relationship of buildings to landscape, although somewhat distrupted by adjacent recent structures, is also significantly in evidence.

A description of buildings within the Old Campus district follows (listing in chronological order by date of construction).

### Mechanic Arts Building (EDDY HALL), 192 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1886.

The Mechanic Arts Building is the oldest building within the district, as well as the oldest extant building on the Minneapolis Campus. It was constructed in 1886 according to designs by Minneapolis architect Leroy S. Buffington. Executed in the Queen Anne mode, the building is three stories in height on a high basement; a square tower at the northwest corner dominates the entry. The building is constructed of red brick with red sandstone trim. It is essentially rectangular in plan. Dominant features include the multi-gabled roof, high double-hung windows, panels of patterned brick, and iron cresting and a weathervane on the tower.

(see continuation sheets pages 1-8)

# 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications		science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific dates	1886-1907	Builder/Architect Multiple (see description	on)

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The University of Minnesota Old Campus Historic District is significant for its associations with an important early period in the development of a leading University. In addition, the individual buildings included in the district include several notable designs by prominent Minnesota architects.

The University was officially established in 1851, and functioned as a preparatory school, initially at St. Anthony Falls and later at the current site, until 1859, when it closed due to financial difficulties. Encouraged by the Morrill Act of 1862 and the efforts of Minneapolis businessman John S. Pillsbury, the institution re-opened in 1867, and its status as a full state university was established under the direction of its first president, William Watts Folwell, from 1869 to 1884. During this time, the University was housed in two nowrazed structures; Old Main, built in 1856 and 1875 on the current site of Alice Shevlin Hall (and razed after a fire in 1904), and a Coliseum/Drill Hall, built in 1884 near the site of the present Armory (and destroyed by fire in 1894).

The second president of the University, Cyrus Northrop, held that office from 1884 through 1911. Under his leadership, the institution expanded and developed into what Folwell had envisioned as a "federation of schools" with colleges or schools in the arts, law, medicine, agriculture, engineering, mines, pharmacy, dentistry, education, and nursing. Northrop encouraged research, established a graduate school, assembled a distinguished faculty, and greatly expanded enrollment, which reached 3900 by 1905. The thirteen buildings in the Old Campus District, all constructed during Northrop's tenure as president, were built to house many of these varied programs.

Like many major campuses which experienced significant growth in the later nineteenth century, the University's expansion produced a proliferation of architectural styles, including Queen Anne (Mechanics Arts Building), Richardsonian Romanesque (Students Christian Association Building, Law Building, Science Hall, Chemical Laboratory Building), Neo-Classical Revival (Library Building), Renaissance Revival (Medical Hall, Medical Sciences Building, Physics Building, Alice Shevlin Hall), Medieval (Armory), and Jacobethan (Folwell Hall). The architects of these structures - Leroy S. Buffington (and his draftsman Harvey Ellis), J. Walter Stevens, Charles Sedgewick, Frederick Corser, Ernest Kennedy, Charles Aldrich, Allen Stem, and C.H. Johnston Sr. were all well known Minnesota architects. The academic nature of the original designs based upon historic prototypes and the well preserved exteriors of the buildings in the Old Campus District make this area a significant Minnesota collection representing late 19th and early 20th century architectural styles.

Today, the University has grown to 23 colleges and over 50,000 students, and its Minneapolis campus has expanded to the south and east and across the Mississippi River in two major phases of expansion. The buildings in the Old Campus District continue to form a distinctive grouping with links to the beginnings of many of the institution's present day programs.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet - page 9

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Erected at a cost of \$30,000, an addition was made to the building in 1903 for an additional \$10,000. The building originally housed the mathematics, drawing, civil-municipal-structural engineering departments, as well as testing laboratories. The Mechanic Arts Building has been re-named Eddy Hall in honor of Henry Turned Eddy, former professor of engineering and mathematics and later Dean of the Graduate School.

Students Christian Association Building (MUSIC EDUCATION), 147 Pillsbury Dr., S.E., 1888.

The Students Christian Association Building is the westernmost building in the district. It was constructed in 1888 in the Richardsonian Romanesque style; the design is attributed to Charles Sedgewick. Features of this style are noted in the low Syrian arch on the first floor, semi-circular windows in the northern gable, stone copings on gables, and rusticated stone facing on the western section of the building. The eastern section of the building is constructed of brick, as it was assumed at construction that a section would be added in a few years which would also utilize sandstone similar to that of the western section. The building is rectangular in plan with a circular apse on the western facade; it is two stories in height on a high basement.

The Students' Christian Association Building was rented by the Young Mens' Christian Association as its campus headquarters. The building was designed to provide reading rooms, assembly rooms, game rooms, and offices. The building was later re-named the Music Education Building.

Law Building (PATTEE HALL), 150 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1889, 1904.

Constructed in 1889 according to designs by Saint Paul architect J. Walter Stevens, the Law Building is a two story structure of red pressed brick with red sandstone trim. It is executed in the Richardsonian Romanesque mode. Dominant architectural/stylistic features are the centrally located low Syrian arch entry on the north facade, stone sills and lintels, a loggia with squat columns, and a low hipped roof. The north section of the building was erected at a cost of \$30,000; it has an eighty-foot frontage on Pillsbury Drive and a floor space of approximately 19,000 square feet. The south section was added in 1904 at a cost of \$28,000 and doubled the capacity of the building. The plan is in the form of an "I".

The Law Building was later re-named in honor of William S. Pattee, Dean of the College of Law. The building originally provided space for the law library, reading rooms, courtroom, clerks offices, jury room, office of the dean, and classrooms. On the first floor was a large auditorium, lecture rooms, and professors' offices.

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### Science Hall (PILLSBURY HALL), 310 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1889.

Science Hall was constructed in 1889 according to designs by Minneapolis architect Leroy S. Buffington (the actual design is attributed to Harvey Ellis, a draftsman/designer in Buffington's office). The building was the gift of John S. Pillsbury in the amount of \$131,000 for the erection of a Science Hall when state appropriations were insufficient. The building was named in Pillsbury's honor.

The building is a two story polychromatic sandstone structure in the Richardsonian Romanesque mode. It rests on a high basement. (The prototype for this design can be traced to works of Henry Hobson Richardson for similar buildings on the Harvard campus.) The plan is essentially that of a central square with off-set tower flanked by rectangular wings. In appearance, the facades are essentially symmetrical with the exception of the tower placement. The entire building is crowned by a steeply pitched hipped roof sheathed in red tile. The central section boasts an eyebrow dormer.

Entry to the structure is provided on the basement level through a low Syrian arched loggia set on squat, polished granite columns with foliate capitals. The first (main) level is entered through low receding arches placed in porticoes at either end of the central section. Each is decorated by carved pilasters and water spouts; the west entry boasts the carved head of an allegorical figure at the intersection of the portico with the tower. Stonework throughout is rusticated with the exception of the polished columns at the basement level and grouped pilasters between paired windows at the second level. Windows are divided into two sections by stone muntons and capped by massive stone lintels. A decorative polychromatic checkerboard pattern fills the frieze area about the second story windows in the central section.

Chemical Laboratory Building (NICHOLSON HALL), 216 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1890, 1927.

The Chemical Laboratory Building was constructed at the southeast corner of the intersection of Pillsbury Drive and Pleasant Street in 1890 according to designs by Minneapolis architect Leroy S. Buffington. (The actual design has been attributed to Harvey Ellis, a draftsman/designer in Buffington's office.) The building initially cost \$81,500, although remodeling in 1902 brought the overall cost to \$90,000. Stylistically, the building is Richardsonian in character. The building is two stories in height on a high basement and is crowned by a low, hipped roof with projecting eaves. The material is predominantly a Roman brick of yellow/orange color. Rusticated red sandstone, however, is employed for the basement story and for window and door surrounds. The principal facade (Pillsbury Drive) is symmetrical in arrangement with a central, multi-windowed section flanked by corner bays, the windows of which are incorporated within a large Syrian arch at the second story. Windows at the second story level of the central portion are divided by squat columns of The principal entry is through a low Syrian arch with massive rusticated stone. voussiours.

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The Chemical Laboratory Building originally housed various lecture rooms, offices, laboratories, and an auditorium. In 1927, a large auditorium structure was added to the rear of the building; this addition is also of brick. The building was re-named in honor of Edward E. Nicholson, professor of Chemistry and later first Dean of Student affiars.

Medical Hall (WULLING HALL), 86 Pleasant St. S.E., 1892.

Medical Hall was erected during the years of 1891 and 1892 according to designs by architect Allen H. Stem at a cost of approximately \$65,000. The building is rectangular in plan, and consists of three stories on a high basement. Architecturally, the building represents the Renaissance Revival style, the characteristic features of which are the prominent rusticated stone first and basement levels, the attenuated second level enframed by decorative masonry bands, and the low third or attic story sheltered by a modillioned hip roof. Facades are symmetrical in design with the central bays accentuated by variations on the Palladian motif. The building formerly contained medical laboratories, offices, and classrooms.

The exterior of the building remains in an essentially unaltered state with the exception of the removal of the former principal entry, a Palladian portico of yellow brick and brownstone, embellished with columns and roundels. The present existing entrance is a simplified granite portal. The building was re-named Wulling Hall.

Library Building (BURTON HALL), 178 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1894.

The Library Building was erected in 1894 at the cost of \$175,000. The design is the result of the work of two prominent Minneapolis architects, Leroy S. Buffington and Charles Sedgwick. Buffington is credited with the exterior and Sedgwick with the interior. The building is executed in the Neo-Classic mode popularized by the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893; the dominant design element is the octa-style doric portico reminiscent of the Parthenon. Other features include the triglyph/metope arrangement in the frieze of the portico, acroteria, carved panels with allegorical figures, full pediment, and names of philosophers carved into the frieze area of the main facade. The plan is essentially rectangular with an apse in the rear; the building measures 135 feet in frontage and 194 feet in depth. It is constructed of a light gray Ohio sandstone.



The Library Building was designed to serve as the library for the University in addition to providing offices for the Administration. As one enters the building from the portico, a grand staircase provides access into a central skylighted cortile embellished by fluted pilasters, arched doorways, and sculptural frieze. The rear portion of the building was originally devoted to an assembly hall and second floor reading room (which measured forty-four by one hundred feet, and thirty-two feet in height). The reading room provided space for 150 students; seminar rooms were incorporated in the perimeter. The assembly room provided seating for 800 people. The building was renamed Burton Hall in honor of the fourth president of the University, Marion LeRoy Burton (1917-1920).

### Armory, 15 Church St. S.E., 1896.

The Armory is the easternmost of the buildings in the district, being situated on the southeast corner of the intersection of University Avenue S.E. and Church Street. The building was erected in 1896 at a cost of \$75,000 according to designs by Charles R. Aldrich, a member of the University faculty. The building is three stories in height and is constructed of yellow brick with yellow sandstone trim. The plan is essentially rectangular and measures 220 by 135 feet. Stylistically, the Armory is reminiscent of a Medieval castle or fortification. Each corner of the building is embellished by a crenelated turret. The main entry on the west facade is through a low semi-circular arch flanked on the right by a low turret and on the left by a four story tower with conical roof. The roofline is decorated by a corbelled cornice.

Originally, the Armory served as an assembly hall for large University gatherings and as a drill hall and gymnasium. The drill hall occupies the central portion and runs through the second and third stories. The northern and southern sections are divided into classrooms and offices for the Military Sciences department.

Medical Science Building (WESBROOK HALL), 77 Pleasant St. S.E., 1898.

The Medical Sicence Building was constructed according to designs by Minneapolis architect Frederick Corser during the years 1896 through 1898 and represented an expenditure of approximately \$65,000. It is a large three story creme brick structure on a high basement. The plan is essentially an "I" measuring seventy-five by 150 feet. Stylistically the building is representative of the Renaissance Revival mode; facades are symmetrical and clearly defined both horizontally by string courses and vertically into bays although with little embellishment such as pilaster strips or applied ornamentation. The principal facade faces onto Pleasant Street; the entry is centrally located on the facade. The entry has been altered in recent years with the addition of an enclosed vestibule of brick. A second and more major alteration to the original design intention had been made earlier with the elimination of the broad-overhanging eaves of the hipped roof; formerly, the eaves had provided a strong horizontal element in the overall visual character of the design.

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The Medical Science Building was renamed Wesbrook Hall in honor of Frank Fairchild Wesbrook, professor of Pathology and Bacteriology and later Dean of the College of Medicine and Surgery.

Physics Building (JONES HALL), 27 Pleasant St. S.E., 1901.

The Physics Building was constructed in 1901 according to designs by Charles R. Aldrich at the cost of \$55,600. It is two stories in height on a high basement and is constructed of a yellow/orange brick. The design is executed in the Renaissance Revival mode with each of the four facades being symmetrical in arrangement. The principal facade faces onto Pleasant Street; it is divided into nine bays, the central of which comprises an entrance portico surmounted by a tall multipaned window. Bays are defined by pilaster strips and the top story is separated from the two below by a projecting architrave. Basement windows are incorporated within semi-circular arches. The entire building is capped by a modillioned cornice and brick parapet. The overall plan is rectangular and measures sixty-eight by 115 feet.

The Physics Building was renamed Jones Hall in honor of Frederick Sheetz Jones, professor of physics who later became Dean of the College of Engineering.

School of Mines Building (CHILD DEVELOPMENT), 51 E. River Road, 1903, c.1913.

The School of Mines Building is situated at the southwest edge of the district. Constructed in 1903, the rectangular building is three stories in height and is of red brick. Initial cost was \$61,000. A fire damaged the structure in 1913; it was rebuilt shortly afterwards. In recent years a modern addition has been added to the west end of the structure.

The building was designed to accommodate the technical work of the School of Mines. After the 1913 fire, the rebuilt structure housed the University High School. More recently, the building has been known as the Child Development Building.

#### Alice Shevlin Hall. 164 Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1906.

Alice Shevlin Hall was constructed in 1906 on the site of Old Main (which was totally destroyed by fire on 24 September 1904). The construction was made possible by a donation of \$60,000 by Thomas Shevlin in honor of his wife. The building was executed in the Renaissance Revival mode according to designs by Minneapolis architect Ernest Kennedy. It is two stories in height with a full basement, and is constructed of red sand-mold brick with terra cotta trim and ornamentation. Shevlin Hall was essentially rectangular in plan and measures fifty-five by 114 feet; a large addition to the rear was constructed at a later date to provide for additional dining facilities.

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The Pillsbury Drive facade (north) is the principal facade with symmetrical arrangement. The center section is comprised of three bays of double windows; those on the second story are of blue and white stained glass and are set within semi-circular arches. The central area is defined by single bay pavilions which project slightly; the corner bays are recessed and contain the entries. The entire building is capped by a low hipped roof with projecting eaves.

Originally Shevlin Hall was intended for use by the women students of the University as a sort of "women's union". The interior arrangement consisted of dining facilities, parlors, large study and living room, society and meeting rooms, offices, and an assembly room.

### Folwell Hall, 9 Pleasant St. S.E., 1907.

Constructed between the years 1905 through 1907, according to designs by Saint Paul architect C.H. Johnston Sr., Folwell Hall was the result of a legislative appropriation of \$350,000 plus insurance payments received from the destruction of Old Main. The building faces University Avenue S.E. between Fifteenth Avenue and Sixteenth Avenue. Jacobean in mode, it is three stories in height on a high basement. Materials for construction are a yellow/orange brick with cut granite foundation and basement. Decorative elements such as strapwork, sculptural figures, and ornamental panels are of gray terra cotta made in the imitation of granite. Concrete is used for floors and some walls with tile for other walls, making the building virtually fireproof.

Folwell Hall is essentially rectangular in plan and measures 322 feet by eight feet. Dominant design features are the projecting pavilions at east and west ends and central entries, strapwork, tri-part windows with "stone" surrounds, sculptural panels and figures at the cornice line, high hipped roof springing from the parapet, and a multitude of "mock" chimneys.

On the interior, the woodwork is of dark oak throughout and the main floor corridor is lined in matched-grain marble panels. The space is divided between classrooms and offices used by the Languages and Humanities.

Folwell Hall was named in honor of Dr. William Watts Folwell, first president of the University (1869-84).



Eddy Hall Annex, Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1966

Eddy Hall Annex is a low-profile, one story metal structure on a concrete foundation. It is situated immediately to the west of Eddy Hall and occupies the former open space between Eddy and Burton Halls. It was designed in 1966 by Caron Carlberg of the Physical Planning Department. Although the building is incompatible in use of materials, proportions, and period to the buildings in the immediate vicinity, it is of a "temporary" nature and may be replaced in the future by a more compatible design if spatial needs so demand. The metal has been painted a rust-red in an attempt to blend with the red brick of Eddy Hall.

#### Other elements included in the district:

Pillsbury Statue, Pillsbury Dr. S.E., 1900

The Pillsbury Statue, dedicated September 12, 1900, was erected by the alumni and friends of the University as a token of honor and appreciation for the services of Governor John S. Pillsbury to the University. Situated directly across Pillsbury Drive from Burton Hall, the statue consists of a heroic size bronze figure mounted on a pedestal of granite. Flanking the pedestal are granite benches and urns on a dias. The statue is the work of sculptor Daniel Chester French.

#### Pillsbury Memorial Fence and Gate, 14th Ave. & University Ave. S.E., 1902.

The Pillsbury Memorial Fence extends along University Avenue S.E. from Fourteenth Avenue to Seventeenth Avenue. It was erected in 1902 as a gift from Mrs. Sarah Pillsbury Gale in memory of her father John S. Pillsbury. The fence is of wrought iron interspaced between stone pillars and set on a stone foundation. The main gateway, located at the intersection of Fourteenth Avenue and University Avenue S.E., has been largely removed in recent years. The gate and fence were designed by Ernest Kennedy, Minneapolis architect.

Dorr Fountain, Pillsbury Dr. S.E. and Pleasant St. S.E., 1902.

The Dorr Fountain was erected in 1902 as a gift of Caleb D. Dorr of Minneapolis. It is a columnar granite shaft crowned by a granite globe. Four granite cups on the shaft were formerly filled by bronze spigots. The entire structure rests on a square granite pad.



Located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Pillsbury Drive and Pleasant Street and equidistant between Jones Hall and Nicholson Hall, the Dorr Fountain is the design of Minneapolis architect Ernest Kennedy.

Student Soldier Memorial Monument, Church St. S.E., 1906

The idea of erecting a memorial for the former students of the University who served during the war with Spain was conceived by Arthur Edwin Haynes, professor of engineering and mathematics. The monument was unveiled and dedicated on Memorial Day, 1906. The sculptor was Theo. Alice Ruggles-Kitson, one of the prominent women sculptors in the United States at the turn of the century. The figure depicting a soldier in the Spanish-American War is of bronze and stands nine feet in height. The fugure stands on a pedestal of Vermont green granite six feet in height. On the pedestal is a bronze tablet bearing the words: "Erected in honor of the students of the University who served their country in the war with Spain, 1898-9." The cost of the monument at completion was \$6,000.

The Student Soldier Memorial Monument formerly stood at the east end of the drill field (at the present site of the James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History). The figure was oriented toward the Armory. When the Museum was constructed in 1940, the Monument was moved to its present site in front of the Armory.

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### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	9	PAGE	9	

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