

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received FEB 14 1985

date entered MAR 14 1985

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

1. Name

historic Agriculture and Manual Arts Building, Platteville State Normal School

and/or common Ullrich Hall, University of Wisconsin-Platteville

2. Location

street & number University of Wisconsin-Platteville not for publication

city, town Platteville vicinity of

state Wisconsin code 55 county Grant code 043

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property

name State of Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin System

street & number 1930 Monroe Street

city, town Madison vicinity of state Wisconsin 53706

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds Office, County Courthouse

street & number 126 West Maple Street

city, town Lancaster state Wisconsin 53813

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

7. Description

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

A two-and-one-half story structure of cream-colored, vitrified brick, Ullrich Hall represents the growing influence of the Neoclassical style in the community of Platteville, Wisconsin during the early twentieth century. Located on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and consisting of two stories of classroom and office space set upon a large raised basement area, the formal looking building was completed in 1916, directly to the south of the original Old Main Building of the State Normal School campus in Platteville. Facing south onto Pine St. the building is presently bounded on the south and west by modern academic facilities and on the north and east by broad areas of landscaped lawn.

L-shaped in plan, the building is dominated by a flat roof with deeply overhanging eaves and contains entrances on the south, north and west elevations. The main (south) elevation clearly reveals the structure's raised basement area which is capped by a sizable cut stone watertable and punctuated by a number of simple rectangular window openings. The window openings of the upper floors are tall, paired and contain simple limestone lug sills and unadorned brick lintels. Three sets of windows are featured at either side of the central entry. All windows presently contain unpainted aluminum sash, which have replaced the original multi-pane wooden sash.

Reached by a short flight of steps, the building's central entrance is detailed by a classical broken pediment supported on fluted Doric columns. Directly above the door is an inscribed panel with the date 1916. A sizable, round arched window bound by a scrolled keystone and a decorated stone surround, lights the main stairwell area above the entry. The entrance itself leads into a small, tiled vestibule and thence onto the main stairwell space.

A heavy wooden box cornice, detailed with small classical antefix, marks the roofline. Below this cornice is a simple brick frieze appointed with stylized brick diglyphs. The distinctive cornice detailing found at the roofline is carried around the entire building.

The side elevations of the building are dominated by arcades of keystone accented, segmental arched windows. These windows originally lit the large gymnasium space housed in the rear wing of the building. Simple, paired basement windows lie beneath a continuous stone watertable and the western elevation also features two separate minor entries, one detailed with a classical stone surround.

The northern (rear) elevation contains an enclosed fire stair of modern design in matching cream brick. At some date after initial construction, additional segmental arched openings on the rear facade were infilled.

The interior of the building has been substantially modernized in recent years. The major aspect of the modernization effort was the transformation of the former boy's gymnasium, which occupied the upper two stories of the rear wing, into efficient classroom and laboratory space. The top floor rooms of this rear section still reveal the metal truss members of the original roof structure. The largely unfinished basement areas, which originally contained a large forge room, a carpentry shop, a dairy lab,

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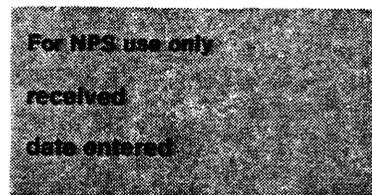
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a stock judging room and locker facilities, now house laboratory and classroom space for the Agriculture department. Of the original interior detailing, most of which was rather utilitarian, only the central stairwell and entryhall areas retain any original materials.

Located on the hilltop campus of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Ullrich Hall is the oldest of a relatively young stock of academic facilities at the school. Sited at the eastern end of the campus, the building's most immediate neighbors are the 1969-71 Elton S. Karrman Library and the 1942 Educational Media Services/Art building. (The original Old Main structure at the school was razed in 1982.)

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900– | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1916¹ **Builder/Architect** Van Ryn and De Gelleke²

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Period of Significance: 1916–1935

The oldest remaining academic facility on the main campus of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, the Agriculture - Manual Arts Building is architecturally significant as a well maintained example of institutional architecture influenced by the early twentieth century Neoclassicism revival. Erected in 1916 by the State Normal School at Platteville, the building also represents a significant milestone in the development of specialized vocational training in the state normal school system.

Architecture

Designed in 1916 by the prominent Milwaukee firm of Van Ryn & De Gelleke², the Agriculture-Manual Arts Building represents an excellent local example of the Neoclassic style in Platteville. The round arched windows of the Renaissance Revival classicism, the Baroque influenced scroll surrounding the central window, the grooved Doric columns supporting the pedimented door hood, and the distinctive cornice detailing are all synthesized to create a rather stylized 20th century classical design. The formal looking structure is one of only four remaining Neoclassic inspired designs in the city. (Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places: 1st National Bank, 44 Main St., 1924; Platteville Post Office, 85 S. Court St., 1910; Platteville Municipal Building, 75 Bonson St., 1928.)³

The architectural firm of Henry Van Ryn and Gerrit De Gelleke produced drawings and designs for an extensive number of academic facilities in the state. Architects for the majority of the schools built in the city of Milwaukee between 1912 and 1925, the firm was also responsible for the design of normal school facilities at River Falls, Stevens Point, La Crosse, and Oshkosh, Wisconsin.⁴ Ullrich Hall is notable as being one of the few design efforts of the firm not interpreted in the Jacobean influenced Collegiate Gothic style, which became a trademark of their work.

Education

Built in 1916 to house the departments of Agriculture and Manual Arts, in addition to a sizable boy's gymnasium, Ullrich Hall has remained the home of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville's Agriculture department for a period of over 68 years. Renamed in honor of Agriculture department director Fred Ullrich (1914–1941) in 1966, the building served as the first permanent home of the department, which played a large and significant role both in the training of qualified teachers in agricultural studies and in the dissemination of information concerning contemporary scientific farming methods in the southwestern region of the state.

The first of the state normal schools to be established in Wisconsin, the Platteville school began its first session on October 9, 1866.⁵ With an initial enrollment of 60 pupils, the school quickly became an important and influential educational institution

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Gamble, Richard D. From Academy to University 1866=1966, A History of Wisconsin State University Platteville Wisconsin. Platteville, 1966.
- Herrmann, William H. The Rise of the Public Normal School System in Wisconsin. Madison, 1953.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Platteville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

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| Zone | | | Easting | | | | Northing | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification

Located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 16, T3N, R1W.
(See attached site map.) S 165' of Block 1, Redan's Addition; including all of the original Lots #16, 17 and 18 of said block. City of Platteville.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul R. Lusignan, Acting Architectural Historian

organization State Historical Society of Wisconsin date November 30, 1984

street & number 816 State Street telephone 608/262-4772

city or town Madison state Wisconsin 53706

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

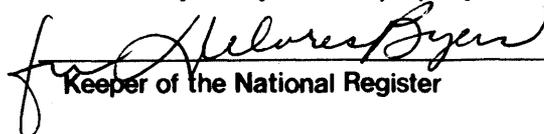


title DIRECTOR OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

date JAN. 22, 1985

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register


Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 3-14-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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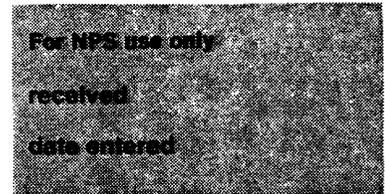
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in the southwestern part of the state. Dedicated to the training of teachers, the school supplied educators to grade schools, rural schools and high schools throughout Wisconsin and across the upper Midwest.

Following the lead of normal school facilities elsewhere in the state, the Platteville school began to initiate specialized training programs in vocational education during the early 1900s. A manual training department, the second within the state system, was established at the school in 1908, although experimental classes had been conducted as early as 1902.⁶ A year later (1909), under president William J. Sutherland, the school began to develop a sizable agricultural education program, which included the establishment of a nearby model farm.⁷ In 1914, the state board of normal school regents officially established a permanent department of agriculture at the Platteville school, and professor Fred Ullrich was named as the program's first director, a position he would hold until 1941.⁷ (The River Falls normal school had established the only other such specialized agriculture program in the Wisconsin system in 1912.)

The establishment of vocational training programs at the state normal schools in the early 1900s had been in keeping with the progressive ideas of upper level state educators that the training of teachers should respond directly to the growing needs of specialized academic fields and also reflect the regional differences among the various normal school sites. Between 1909 and 1914, curriculum revisions within the state normal school system resulted in the establishment of twelve new specialized departments. At La Crosse, Oshkosh, River Falls, Stevens Point, Whitewater, and Platteville the board of regents maintained departments for the training of teachers for rural schools, while departments for the preparation of kindergarten teachers existed in Milwaukee and Superior. The Stevens Point normal school specialized in domestic science education, while at Whitewater a commercial education (business) program was initiated. An art department and a music department were established at Milwaukee, as well as a special department for the training of the deaf. A teacher training department in industrial education was located at Oshkosh and a manual training department was instituted at Platteville. A physical education department was set up as part of the new La Crosse campus, while special agricultural departments were established at River Falls and Platteville, two areas of growing agricultural development.⁸

The agriculture programs in particular were meant to augment some of the programs already being established by the University of Wisconsin in Madison in agricultural science and farmer education. The individual most responsible for the institutional and curricular reorganization, of the Wisconsin normal school system was William Kittle, the secretary of the board of regents of normal schools. His intensive study of 22 normal school systems in the midwest and east served as the basis for changes made in the Wisconsin system in the early 1900s.⁸

The popularity of the new manual arts and agriculture programs at the Platteville school quickly took on sizable proportions. Two, three and five year study programs were established as a part of the teacher training curriculum in the agriculture department and by 1916 one-fourth of the male students at the school were enrolled in the manual training program.⁹ Under Professor Ullrich, extensive demonstration and lab courses utilizing a

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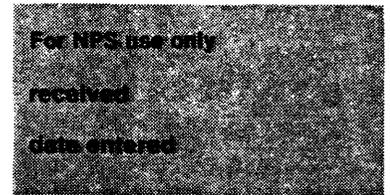
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23 acre tract of land to the southwest of the campus were inaugurated. In 1915, the first farm extension course was held on campus, in which numerous farmers were invited to campus for intensive surveys of contemporary farm practices. The one week winter "short courses," as they were called, were among the most popular programs introduced at the school (over 160 area farmers attended the first session) bringing the most modern, scientific farming practices directly to the local farmers in the rich agricultural regions of the southwest.

Prompted by the dramatic rise in popularity of the new specialized programs at Platteville, the board of regents authorized school president Asa M. Royce to commission plans for a new academic facility on campus in 1915, to be located adjacent to the Main Building which had been erected in 1907. Construction of the new facility officially began in 1916. The first true home for both programs, and only the second building erected on the new campus of the Platteville normal school, the Agriculture and Manual Arts building was completed and ready for occupancy in the fall of 1917.¹⁰

The new building contained a large forge room, a large farm carpentry room, a dairy laboratory, a testing room, a stock judging room and lavatories, shower rooms and dressing rooms in the basement area. The main floor contained a large (58' x 82') gymnasium, soil and agronomy labs, a green room, storage space and various offices, while the upper floor contained the main lecture and recitation rooms. With the erection of the \$65,000 building, the programs gained renewed respect and popularity within the local region and enrollments continued to rise.¹¹

Over the next several decades, the agriculture department based in Ullrich Hall played an important role in the dissemination of information and the advancement of scientific agricultural ideas and theories in the farming regions of southwestern Wisconsin, both as a teacher training facility and as a regional extension center. Coinciding with the Progressive movement to stretch government services to more people and with the University of Wisconsin's efforts to broaden the scope of its services, Platteville became a locus for agricultural studies in the rich southwestern region. The school clearly lived up to its mandate as set forth in the 1915 official bulletin: "in a community where the chief industrial interest is agriculture, the school which does not teach the science and art of agriculture fails significantly in the fulfillment of its functions...."

The manual training department moved out of the building in 1941 after the erection of the Industrial Education building to the west of Ullrich Hall.

¹ Original plans and drawings on file with the office of Campus Planning and maintenance, UW-Platteville, dated 1916.

² Ibid.

³ Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places, files of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Historic Preservation Division, Madison.

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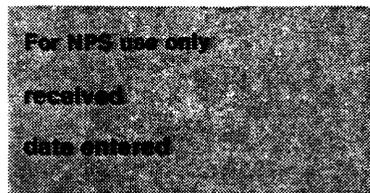
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⁴ Gregory, J.G., History of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Vol. IV (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Co., 1931), pp. 287-288, 307-308.

⁵ Gamble, Richard D., From Academy to University, 1866-1966, (Platteville: Wisconsin State University, 1966), p. 10.

⁶ Bulletin of the State Normal School Platteville, vol., II, no. 2, Department of Agriculture and Manual Arts, 1915-1916, p. 10.

⁷ Gamble, Richard D., op cit., pp. 123-125.

⁸ Board of Regents of Normal Schools, The Organization of Special Departments in the Normal Schools of Wisconsin, (Madison: Board of Regents, 1915), p. 3-4.

Herrmann, William H., The Rise of the Public Normal School System in Wisconsin, (Madison: Board of Regents, 1971), p. 432-436.

Kittle, William, History of the Special Departments in the Normal Schools of Wisconsin, 1914-1925, (Madison: Board of Regents, 1925), pp. 5-7.

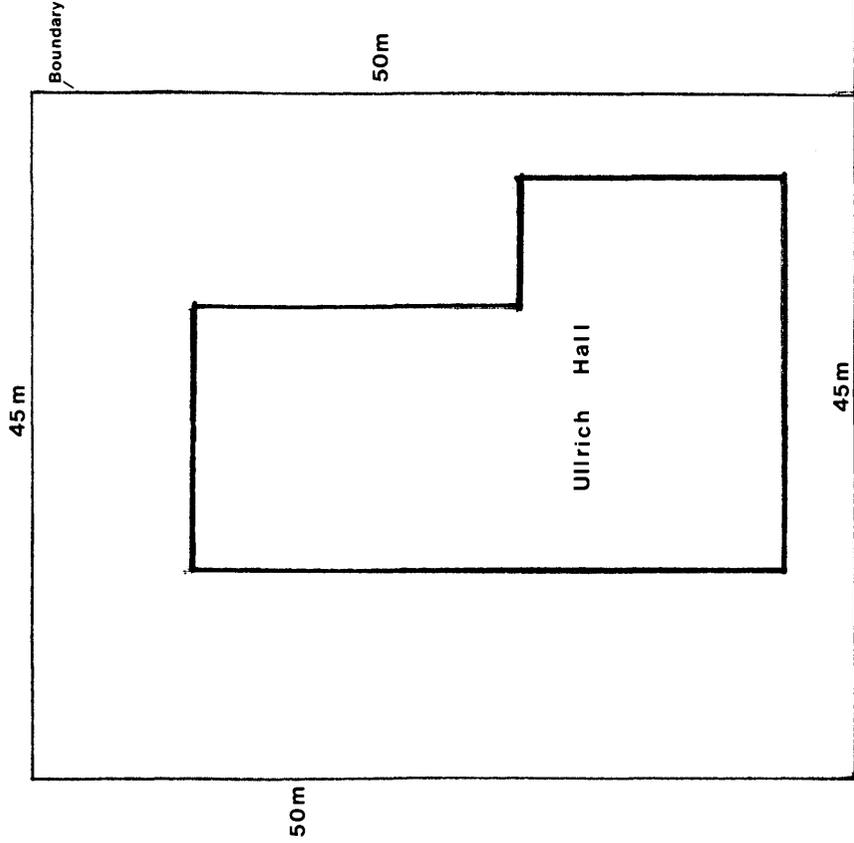
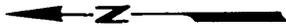
⁹ Bulletin, op. cit., p. 27.

¹⁰ Gamble, Richard D., op cit., pp. 123-125.

¹¹ Bulletin, op cit., pp. 14-17.

ULLRICH HALL

UW - PLATTEVILLE

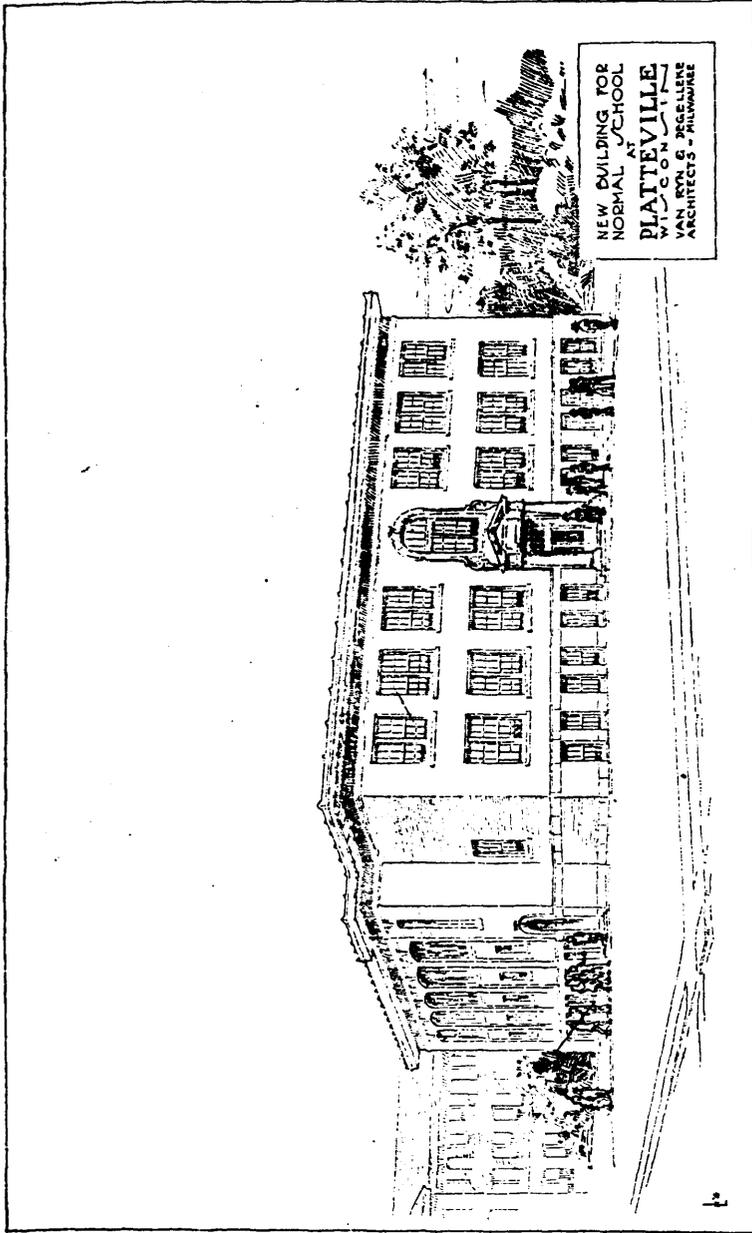


N Washington St.

Pine St. Mall

Karrmann Library





THE NEW AGRICULTURAL AND MANUAL ARTS BUILDING