

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 22 1979
DATE ENTERED	APR 2 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Goodnow Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Grinnell College campus

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Grinnell

___ VICINITY OF

First

STATE

CODE

COUNTY
Poweshiek

CODE

Iowa

157

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ___ DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- ___ STRUCTURE
- ___ SITE
- ___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ___ PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- ___ BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- ___ IN PROCESS
- ___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- ___ UNOCCUPIED
- ___ WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- ___ YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- ___ NO

PRESENT USE

- ___ AGRICULTURE
- ___ MUSEUM
- ___ COMMERCIAL
- ___ PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- ___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ___ ENTERTAINMENT
- ___ RELIGIOUS
- ___ GOVERNMENT
- ___ SCIENTIFIC
- ___ INDUSTRIAL
- ___ TRANSPORTATION
- ___ MILITARY
- ___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Board of Trustees, Grinnell College

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Grinnell

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Iowa 50112

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Poweshiek County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Grinnell

STATE

Iowa

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

Goodnow Hall is a Romanesque Revival building, erected in 1884 on the western edge of the Grinnell College campus. Overall dimensions are approximately 40' x 60'. Exterior walls are of highly rusticated Sioux Falls granite. The same stone, smoothly dressed, is used for sills, lintels, arches and beltcourses. The foundation is of highly rusticated limestone.

The basic form of the building is a near cube, three stories high with a high-pitched hipped roof. On the northwest corner is a square tower, now finished with a crenellated parapet, but originally topped with a domed astronomical observatory. The tower is windowless, except on the top or observation floor, which contains tiny narrow fortress-like openings. On the southwest corner, the west wall is extended out into a semicircular bay. The main entrance, on the west side of the building, is sheltered by a gabled porch, with a round-arched opening on the front and a trabeated opening on the side, and proceeds through a small one-story vestibule, lighted by an arcade of three windows in its front. Both of these features stand in advance of the main wall of the building, at right angles to the plane of the main wall. Above the vestibule is a slightly projecting gabled bay, which extends above the main cornice and is marked with two triple windows, trabeated on the second floor and arched on the third.

On the side and rear facades, the round arch is used for first floor windows. Second and third story windows (on the north and south sides) are trabeated, the spandrels between them slightly recessed. The height of the windows on these facades decreases from the first to third floors. The east (rear) facade features a band of three round-arched windows, flanked with single windows of similar form on the first floor, with small lunette windows above them at second floor level. A large roof dormer here contains a wide, semicircular multi-light window.

The original interior consisted of reading room (first floor), stacks on the second, and a third-floor balcony. The building was converted to office and classroom use about 1906.

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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1884

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Stephen C. Earle, Worcester MA

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Goodnow Hall, the oldest remaining building on the Grinnell campus, is a striking example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. Erected in 1884, it is certainly one of the very earliest examples of this style in Iowa, and was designed by an architect who was an early follower of Richardson, Stephen C. Earle.

The building is oddly composed, with all elements which depart from its basic rectangle concentrated at the west front, and all vertical elements (the tower, west gable bay and north staircase bay) pushed tightly toward the northwest corner (but balanced, to a certain degree, by the high chimney on the southwest corner), and seems to lack the innate sense of balance achieved by Richardson in his asymmetrical buildings. What the building lacks in composition, however, it compensates for in its remarkable continuity of surface, and it is this quality which unifies the whole. The monochromatic effect achieved by the use of a single type of stone, and for all trim and details, the consistency of its texture, the lack of any carved decorative details, the simple, straightforward treatment of the window openings, the extremely low proportion of wall surface devoted to window openings, and the extension of the west wall into the rounded bay, which eliminates an important corner, all contribute to this effect. Such surface consistency was an effect sought after by Richardson beginning about 1880, and achieved before 1884 more often in his frame buildings (notably the Shingle style houses -- the Bryant house, Cohasset, 1880; the Stoughton house, Cambridge, 1882-3; and the Channing house, Brookline, 1882-83). Goodnow Hall bears comparison with such very late Richardson buildings in masonry as the Glessner House (1885-7), the Mac Veagh house (1885-87) and the Alleghany County Courthouse and Jail (1884-88).

Goodnow Hall is one of four buildings erected to replace those destroyed by a tornado which caused considerable damage on the campus in 1882. The other buildings, Blair Hall, Chicago Hall, and the Music Building, have all since then been demolished. The building is named for its principal donor, Edward A. Goodnow of Worcester, Mass., well-known nationally at that time as an abolitionist, reformer, and promoter of public education for women. Goodnow was apparently prompted to make the bequest in recognition of Grinnell College's record in women's education (the college admitted the first woman in 1857, and awarded its first degree to a woman in 1867). The gift carried the condition that the college establish ten permanent scholarships of \$10 each for women (later converted into loans). Goodnow's benefaction did not end with the library building. In 1888 a gift of \$5000 enabled the college to construct Mears Hall, a residence hall for women, and he offered the college a sizeable endowment if the trustees would change the institutions's name to Goodnow College, an offer which they declined.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Letters of David Mears of Worcester to J.M. Chamberlain of Grinnell College; Grinnell College Archives.

"From 1884 to Present: Mears history explored", article by Professor David Jordan on Mears and Goodnow Halls, The Scarlet and Black, 17 November 1978.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one (structure only)

QUADRANGLE NAME Des Moines, Iowa

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:250,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 522900 4621600
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Structure is located on SW corner of Grinnell College campus

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

S.J. Klingensmith, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Division of Historic Preservation

DATE

January 1979

STREET & NUMBER

26 East Market Street

TELEPHONE

319/353-6949

CITY OR TOWN

Iowa City

STATE

Iowa 52240

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Adrian D. Anderson

TITLE Director, Division of Historic Preservation

DATE 2/8/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles G. Henry
 Keeper of the National Register

DATE 4.2.79

ATTEST: *William H. Brashman*
 Chief of Registration

3.30.79

DATE