United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS sees only received JNN 5 003 dels antespid

not for publication

code

193

6

congressional district

Woodbury

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

1. Name

historic Charles City College Hall

and/or common North Hall, Conservatory Hall/Bldg.

2. Location

street & number 1501 Morningside Avenue

city, town

Sioux City

state

Iowa

code

19

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	public	<u> </u>	agriculture	museum
XX building(s)) XX private	unoccupied	commercial	park
structure	both	work in progress	<u>_xx</u> _educational	private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	n.a. in process	<u> </u>	government	scientific
•	being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
	-	no	military	other:

vicinity of

county

4. Owner of Property

name Mornir	ngside College,	A Corporation			
street & numbe	r 1501 Morningsi	de Avenue			
city, town	Sioux City	vicinity of	state	Iowa	
5. Loc	ation of L	egal Description			
courthouse, reg	jistry of deeds, etc.	Woodbury County Courthouse			
street & numbe	r	7th & Douglas			
city, town		Sioux City	state	Iowa	
6. Rep	resentati	on in Existing Surve	eys		
title n,a,		has this property been	determined ele	egible? yes	no
date		fec	ieral stat	e county	local
depository for s	survey records	·			
city, town			state		

7. Description

Condition		Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered
_xx_good	🚰 📜 ruins	altered
fair	unexposed	

Check one XX_ original site moved date _

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Charles City College Hall (1890), on the Morningside College Campus, is a surviving although altered example of the Romanesque Style with Richardsonian influence, and a surviving example of the relatively rare use of quartzite (either from Southern Minnesota or Sioux Falls, SOuth Dakota) in the Sioux City area.

Originally the building was two stories tall with dormers lighting a third floor, and a central front bell tower loomed several stories above the building. The building is rectangular in plan (62' x 44'). Romanesque features included a steeply pitched broad hip roof with cross gables (or dormers), stone piers which defined the tower's pavilion base, a segmental arched entryway, eaves cut close to the wall, short and squat chimneys, deeply set windows, and a straight forward treatment of the stone exterior. The treatment of the otherwise uniform stone material varies as the wall plane ascends. A raised foundation with projecting base and water table forms the base and is composed of coursed stone blocks. The main walls or body are composed of random ashlar blocks on each floor with several coursed of coursed ashlar between the second and third floors. A dentil band and projecting ridge separates the first and second floors, and the third floor is composed of random ashlar blocks and constitutes the capital for the building. Basement and first floor windows are topped with flat-lintels, while second floor windows are paired (as are first floor windows) and have segmental arched tops. The original square tower (see Continuation Sheet) contained two stories of paired flat topped and round arched-windows beneath the open bell canopy and the steeply pitched hip roof. Matching cross gables or dormers with large arched clerestory windows flanked the tower on either side.

A December 1914 fire gutted the building and destroyed the roof, cross gables and bell tower. The tile roof was rebuilt at a lower pitch and third floor windows replaced the cross gables. However, for some reason windowless hipped roof dommers were built into the roofline. The basement windows were enlarged and the front steps were lowered with the front door and a short flight of stairs was placed inside the entryway. The tower was cut off at the third floor level and a short false pediment with corbelled brick ornamentation and a projecting stone coping now terminates the pavilion. The 1914 inscribed nameplate survives above the second floor retains the words "Charles City College Hall."





CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Charles City College Hall, 1905. Morningside College Bulletin, Volume 5, Number 1, May 1905.

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82) OMB No. 1024-0018 Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet	Description
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Item number 7





Charles City College Hall, right, 1906. Morningside College Bulletin' Volume 5, Munder 4, March 1906.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics XX education engineering exploration/settlement	<u> </u>	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation
Specific dates	1890, 1914	Builder/Architect J.M.	Poorbaugh, original	builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Charles City College Hall on the campus of Morningside College is a reminder of collegiate education, particularly music education, in Sioux City. As towns on the prairie were settled and grew it was common for city leaders to desire that a college locate in their community to provide education, cultural activities and more importantly to spur the growth of the city. Charles City College Hall represents the beginnings of higher education in Sioux City.

In 1889 business leaders of Sioux City founded the University of the Northwest with the belief that it would develop into a large multi-college university just as they expected Sioux City to grow into a major city. However, the financial crisis of the early 1890's had an adverse effect on university and city alike. Charles City College Hall was built in 1890 by John M. Poorbaugh as the first building of the University of the Northwest. It housed the classrooms, dormitory, library, dining hall, physics lab - essentially, everything that was the University could be found in Charles City College Hall. By 1894 the building and other campus property was in the sheriff's hands because of debts. In December 1894 Articles of Incorporation for Morningside College were filed by the Northwest Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The campus and building were acquired and Charles City College Hall (then called "Old Main") again became the only building of an educational institution. The bulding has had four different names in its ninety year history. Originally it was called Old Main, then North Hall, then the Conservatory and finally in 1914 it was named Charles City College Hall when Charles City College merged with Morningside College. It continues to be called Charles City College Hall.

In 1900 another building was completed on campus and Charles City Hall became the home of the Conservatory of Music. The presence of the Conservatory on this campus and in the Sioux City community has had a considerable impact. The Conservatory attracted outstanding musicians as instructors and produced outstanding musicians. "...Sioux City's greatest musical assets - the concert course, the symphony orchestra, the civic sho rus - have resulted from encouragement and work of college instructors" (from a 50th anniversary article, <u>Sioux City Journal</u>, 28 May 1944). Until 1966, when a Fine Arts building opened on campus, many members of the community attended concerts in Charles City Hall. Thus, it not only offered musical education to students but it also provided many cultural opportunities for the community. After 1966, it became the home of several academic departments and the location of classrooms; it serves that function to this day.

Charles City College Hall reminds those on our campus of the history of the College. It is also one of the earliest collegiate buildings in Northwest Iowa still in use for educational purposes.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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city or town	Des Mo	oines			state Ic	owa 50319	
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The evaluated sign	nificance of	this property	within the st	ate is:			
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State Historic Pres	ervation O	fficer signature	3 Ad	in A.	Ander	21	
title Executive	Directo	or Iowa Sta	te HIstor	ical Departm	nent dat	e 23 Decemb	oer 1982
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER 9	PAGE	one
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Interview with Bill Diamond, Director of Sioux City Public Museum, May 20, 1980

Letters and articles provided by descendants of John M. Poorbaugh

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- Morningside College Alumni Directory (Falls Church, Va.:College and University Press, 1978).
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