

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received **SEP 16 1983**

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic The Collegiate Architecture of Henry K. Holsman: ~~An~~ Historic Campus District,  
Fairfield, Iowa.

and or common Maharishi International University 1974

**2. Location**

Bounded by Merrill St., 201, and Carter Ave.

street & number Highway One North not for publication

city, town Fairfield vicinity of

state Iowa code 119 county Jefferson code 101

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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
	<u>n/a</u>	<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 Maharishi International University

street & number Highway One North

city, town Fairfield vicinity of state Iowa 52556

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk's Office

street & number Jefferson County Courthouse

city, town Fairfield state Iowa 52556

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title n/a has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" 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

Henry K. Holsman (1866-1961) was a self taught Iowa-born architect whose lengthy career was uniquely innovative and progressive. His architectural works covered a broad range of building types and were constructed throughout the midwest. The complex of college buildings which are located on the present-day Maharishi International University campus is particularly suited to representing Holsman's evolving tastes in style and his developing skills as an architect.

This district consists of five collegiate style buildings, constructed 1903-1915, and Ewing Hall, built in 1857, a listed National Register property, which served the school in many ways, besides providing the central focus visually on the original campus. This nomination will not address the significance of Ewing Hall except inasmuch its location within the district functions as a visual focus for the buildings which surround it.

Three of the five buildings exhibit the characteristics of the then popular Beaux Arts\* style. As a grouping, these design efforts by architect Henry K. Holsman evidence increasing complexity over time, as well as the maturation of the architect's skill.

Foster Hall (1903) is located in the southwest corner of the original campus area and is rectangular in plan (116' by 74'). Foster Hall is a good example of the Beaux Arts style popular at the turn of the century for large institutional buildings throughout the eastern and midwestern United States. It is constructed of orange-red brick with detailing in light cream brick and cut limestone. It features a rusticated stone and brick foundation wall with cut stone capping supporting large brick corner quoins above. The front and rear doors are made of cut limestone and are Beaux Arts in detail. The front door contains an inscribed archway and a nameplate reading "Foster Hall" above. The lintels are brick, with limestone keystones, and the sills are bands of cut stone. The upper story features an observatory/telescope installed in the early 1950's.

Fairfield Hall (1903) was commissioned simultaneously with Foster Hall, and was constructed on the north central edge of the campus. It is essentially rectangular on plan (57' by 95') with projecting end wings, and front and rear gabled pavilions. Fairfield Hall is significant in that it illustrates a well-developed example of the Beaux Arts style. Its details include a brick pediment with a typical oculus window, formed metal cornice and dentil work, limestone banding through brick coursing with details connecting bands at corners, limestone nameplate and window sills, and brick corner quoins. Windows are 12/1 double hung with brick lintels and keystone, and the entry portico is made of cut limestone block engaged columns and lintels. The building has a rock faced limestone foundation, an open stairway in the interior with a skylight, and a ventilation system in the attic.

Carnegie Hall (1906-07) is the final Beaux Arts style building, and is also significant for its being one of two Carnegie endowed college libraries in the state. This building, a narrow rectangle in plan (33' by 90') has projecting pedimented front and rear pavilions, with the classical entrance facing west. The building was constructed on the east central edge of campus. Carnegie Hall is a good example of the Beaux Arts style of architecture. Among its significant details is a hexa-style Ionic portico consisting of six

\* Our Review Committee favors reading "Twentieth Century Classical Revival" whenever the term "Beaux Arts appears in the nomination.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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** 1903–15 **Builder/Architect** Henry K. Holsman

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Collegiate Architecture of Henry K. Holsman: An Historic Campus District, Fairfield, Iowa presents a unique complex of five collegiate buildings which were designed by Iowa born architect Henry K. Holsman between 1903 and 1915. The buildings represent the evolution in stylistic taste and refinement on Holsman's part of his architectural skills over time. The grouping includes his first works which were executed in the late Gothic Revival style. As a grouping of a single architect's works the district is representative of Holsman's long career.

Henry K. Holsman, the architect for five of the six buildings in the historic district, was a native of the state of Iowa. Born in Dale, Iowa in 1866, he was orphaned by the age of eleven and took on jobs as a ranch hand and school building janitor to help support his siblings and put himself through school. When he graduated from high school in 1884, he taught the eighth grade for three years before entering Grinnell College (then Iowa College) in 1887 (Grinnell Alumni Records).

During his four years at Grinnell, he stumbled upon his future career as an architect. While he was living with a doctor's family, he came across the design plans for the doctor's home which he studied with great interest and care. When a friend of the doctor was bemoaning the lack of an architect in the area to design a house, Holsman volunteered to undertake the work, based on his previous study of the doctor's house plans. The house was a success, both structurally and aesthetically, leading to another project. For the second one, Holsman was asked to draw up plans to remodel a four-room house which had become too small for a Grinnell professor's growing family. Instead of adding on rooms horizontally, Holsman had the house raised up on stilts and built a new first floor underneath. This novel solution gave him a reputation locally as a bright young architect and led to an offer from a Chicago architect to come to that city to pursue an architectural career (J. Holsman Interview).

Before leaving Iowa, Holsman apparently worked on other design projects including the Women's Gymnasium at Grinnell, the music building at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, and a church at Newton, Iowa. While at the University of Nebraska, he met his future wife, Elizabeth Tuttle, who was an art student at the time. (Grinnell Alumni Records.)

When Holsman moved to Chicago in 1892, he first worked as a building superintendent for three high-rise buildings inside the Loop. Then he began practicing as an architect in the firm of Brainerd & Holsman from 1893-97. In 1896 he married Elizabeth Tuttle, who continued her career as a painter and sculptress after her marriage. In subsequent years, the Holsmans had three sons, Henry, John, and William (the last two were identical twins). (Grinnell Alumni Records; J. Holsman & Barlow Interviews.)

In 1897 when Holsman began to practice on his own, he entered into a wide range of design projects, which eventually included commercial and industrial buildings, cooperative apartment projects, college buildings and churches, and individual residences. Additionally he was involved at different times with automobile design and landscaping. In all of Holsman's undertakings, two qualities were always evident: the

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 12.1 acres

Quadrangle name Fairfield North

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

### UTM References

A	1 5	5 8 6 8 0 0	4 5 4 0 9 8 0
Zone	Easting	Northing	

B	1 5	5 8 7 0 3 1 0	4 5 4 1 0 9 4 1 0
Zone	Easting	Northing	

C	1 5	5 8 6 8 0 0	4 5 4 0 7 2 0
Zone	Easting	Northing	

D	1 5	5 8 6 9 1 4 1 0	4 5 4 1 0 7 1 2 1 0
Zone	Easting	Northing	

E			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

F			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

G			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

H			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Refer to Continuation Sheet 10-2

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

state	n/a	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

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

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jane Schatzel, and Dara Llewellyn, MIU Resources Planning Office  
James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa SHPO date 1 September 1983

street & number Historical Building telephone 515-281-4137  
East 12th and Grand Ave.

city or town Des Moines state Iowa 50319

# 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 Adrian D. Anderson

title Executive Director Iowa State Historical Department date 9/1/83

### For NPS use only

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

Reth Grosvend date 10/31/83  
 for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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continuous steps. The front and rear entries both consist of two limestone engaged columns supporting a detailed arch or balustrade. Other limestone details include continuous horizontal banding through the brick coursing, dentil coursing, foundation wall, and keystones on lintels. The elaborate modillions supporting the cornice are cement cast. Brickwork is quoined throughout. The original interior features a two-story reading room with oak woodwork and elaborate plaster cornices, upper and lower story windows, and a fireplace. The library building is also fireproofed in its southern wing, reflecting Holsman's early innovative efforts and interest in incorporating fireproofing into his design efforts.

The remaining two buildings designed by Holsman, Barhydt Chapel (1910-11) and the attached Parsons Hall (1915) mark a significant point of departure on the part of the architect from the Beaux Arts to the late Gothic Revival style. Holsman's original plan for the Chapel, executed in red brick with the same classical motifs, was rejected by the patron in favor of the then more popular Gothic style. Holsman's later work reflects this involuntary adoption of a different style.

Barhydt Chapel was built on the west central edge of campus facing to the southeast. The chapel is primarily constructed of rough cutstone. Its plan (117' by 59') is a longitudinal cross with octagonal apse and two rectangular towers. Most of the Chapel's exterior detail is made of cut Blue Bedford stone. Most of the interior woodwork was altered in the mid-1950's. The windows throughout are leaded and stained glass depicting Biblical themes of the "Rich Young Ruler" and the "Crown of Righteousness", and are in the form of Gothic arches. The interior also features a built-in pipe organ and a choir loft reached by a winding stair. The roof is covered with a green glazed ceramic tile.

Parsons Hall was constructed to the north of and at a right angle to Barhydt Chapel, and was connected to the Chapel by means of an open covered arcade. The building is rectangular on plan (44' by 72'). Parsons Hall is significant in that, along with the Chapel, the connecting cloistered walk and the entry gates, it forms the key focal point for the old campus. Its walls are rock-faced Blue Bedford limestone with steps, sills, and wall capping of cut Blue Bedford Stone. The roof is covered with a brilliantly rich glazed green ceramic tile. The first floor front windows have wooden frames with tracery and contain small diamond shaped panes. Other details include copper gutter work and inset stone panels in the upper walls. The interior is highlighted by an entry hall containing oak paneling with matching inset arched doors and oak encased ceiling beams with hanging iron lanterns.

The original campus thus consists of three red brick collegiate buildings with classical stone ornamentation and two Blue Bedford limestone buildings, all of which surround Ewing Hall. The buildings are united by the fact that a single architect designed the non-extant Ballard Hall (1902), his first work on the campus, Ballard Hall in its materials and treatment matched Ewing Hall and to some extent placed Ewing Hall within the larger continuity of the campus.

The district includes four objects, two entry gates and two campus memorials. The

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Northwest Gate (1915) consists of a single tapered rough stone pier on the south side of the entrance on Highway 1, and three identical piers on the north side, which are connected by low brick walls. The northern portion of this gate is the only area which lies north of East Carter Drive which is included within the district. The Main or South Gate (1910) consists of a symmetrical arrangement of red brick square piers and connecting walls with stone coping. Originally separate taller piers flanked the entrance and separated the roadway and sidewalks. These were removed in 1953 in order to pave and widen the drive. Curved brick walls are flanked by taller interior square piers, and shorter outside piers. The eastern portion of the gate is the only property located east of the drive which is included within the district. The Armstrong Memorial is a granite and limestone monument which honors the first president of Parsons College, Dr. John Armstrong, who died in 1877. Uniquely, the monument marks the on-campus gravesite of Dr. Armstrong and his wife. The Melconian Memorial (c. 1927) is a concrete pier and metal tablet with lantern top which honors a Parsons student who drowned attempting to save the life of another person.

The original campus has changed over time primarily in respect to the loss of two buildings, alterations in landscaping schemes, and in its relationship to the overall campus. Originally Ewing Hall served Parsons College until 1875 when it was joined by a small chapel to the west which was expanded in 1882 as Ankeny Hall. In 1902 Ballard Hall, a dormitory for women, was built (designed by Holsman) and when Ankeny Hall burned that same year, the new building housed the college. Ballard Hall was demolished in 1982.

As early as 1907, a network of converging driveways and adjoining sidewalks interconnected the campus (refer to Figure A). This system emphasized the inward-oriented setting of which Ewing Hall was the centerpiece and president's residence. The present day scheme of sidewalks, haphazardly arranged, replaced the early scheme. The historic campus was associated with a series of brick veneered faculty homes which were located to the north and east of the campus, as well as a power plant and gymnasium which stood to the southeast. All of these buildings are non-extant. In addition, several objects of interest on the campus have been totally or largely lost. The sundial, which was located west of Ewing Hall is represented by only one of its original stones. The Carpenter Street Gate (1924), located due west of Foster Hall, was one of three gates on the campus, and is today represented by only a flat stone. This gate was for pedestrians only. The original campus is today relegated to the "corner" of campus activity. Growth and new expansion has occurred to the northwest, north, northeast, and east.

The campus is located in Block 4 of the Oakland Addition and in part of Block 15 of the Centennial Addition to the Town of Fairfield, Jefferson County, Iowa. The site is a large rolling hill, sloping upwards from south to north. A state highway bounds the south and west sides while campus service roads border the east and north sides. The historic district boundaries cross these service roads at two points so as to encompass the entireties of two entrance gates.

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Landscaping

Origininally the land in the original campus belonged to Bernhart Henn and was the setting for his home built in 1857. Even in the early years of Parsons College before landscaping, the campus was an attractive spon with rolling hills and wooded areas. Dr. Jenkins, Parson's youngest college president, had this favorable impression upon first coming to the campus.

"...rustic beauty of the...rolling campus with its charming bit of woodland at the northwest corner conspired to make the natural surroundings such as could not fail to woo the sensibilities and endear themselves to anyone dwelling in their midst even for a short time."  
(Fifty Years, p. 76).

As building began on the college campus, certain changes in landscaping were necessary. The garden associated with the mansion lay due east of it and was fenced by tall Osage Orange trees. In 1902 it was cleared to become the site of Ballard Hall. West of the Mansion was a lush grape arbor and south of that was a much deeper hollow than there is a present today through which a creek ran. When the Chapel was built in 1911 the grape arbor was abolished and the hollow and creek were filled. There apparently was a garden on the site where Ankeny once stood which was referred to as the Ankeny Garden. A sun dial was placed there in 1925 but little else about the garden is known.

Other than the changes necessitated by the erection of buildings in the district, serious landscaping did not begin until 1905. The services of a landscape architect, F. E. Pease of Des Moines were hired for \$849 to plant trees and shrubs. According to W. E. Parsons in Fifty Years of Parsons College, students and other observers made fun of the whole effort and joked about planting "buck brush" on the campus. (Fifty Years, p. 92).

Sidewalks were added at regular intervals. In October 1911 the sidewalk from Fairfield Hall to Foster Hall was put in. In 1913 the sidewalk along the west side of the district was put in by Spaulding and Kearns for a sum of \$418. And in April of 1914, the Classes of 1911 and 1913 contributed to have the sidewalk put in from Carnegie Hall to the northwest gate.

Althouth the buildings and landscaping cannot be said to be in a formal arrangement, the buildings do form an attractive composition surrounding a grove of mature Burr Oak trees at the center of the district.

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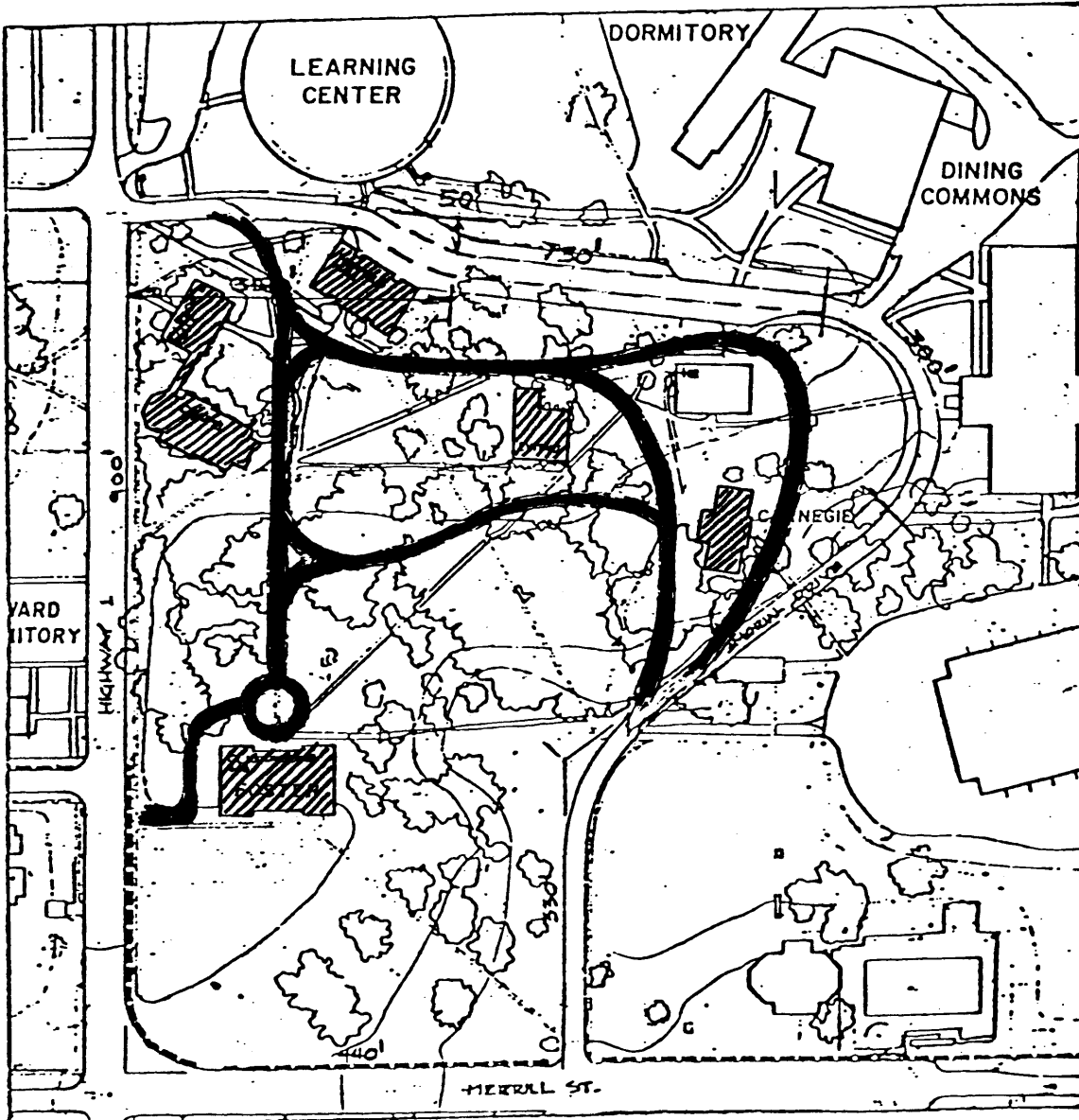
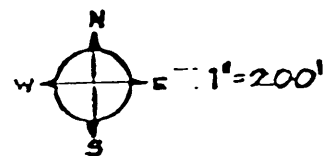


Figure A: Original Campus Driveway  
Superimposed upon Present-  
Day Landscaping. Original  
drives are non-extant. Cross-  
hatched buildings are extant  
and included in this nomination.





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flexibility to draw upon a wide variety of styles according to the needs of the client and his own taste, and a flair for mechanical or technical innovations to make projects safer, more efficient, or more cost effective. (Grinnell Alumni Records; J. Holsman and Barlow Interviews.)

Cooperative Apartment Buildings: Most of Holsman's attention was absorbed in designing apartment buildings -- a total of 4,000 units by his own reckoning by the end of his career. He was among those architects in Chicago who realized that the city was growing too fast for there to be enough land for individual family dwellings, and that the design for the future would have to be multiple-level residences.

His first experiment in apartment building design may have been his contribution to the Chicago Architectural Club's 1900 Exhibition, a design for "superimposed residences." (Exhibition 1900 -- see photograph.) The rendering shows an elegant four-story building of brick and stone trim in the Italianate style which looks, at first glance, like an imposing individual residence. A closer look reveals that the building was designed to be four apartments, each one occupying a single floor, with a ground floor basement. The brick-and-stone-trim style, the heavy keystone lintels above the windows, the contrasting stone outlining the edges of the building, the ornate dentil coursing, and the English basement were to become central features in Holsman's subsequent work in apartment designs, and, modified to the Beaux-Arts style, in his college buildings as well. Such traditional design features combined to give Holsman's buildings a feeling of dignity and solidity to offset both the transitory feeling associated with multi-family dwellings and the rawness of a midwestern college campus.

By 1912 Holsman had designed at least one apartment building, for W. W. Bell of Chicago, having 12 four-room apartments at a cost of \$26,000. The apartments each had a kitchen, two stairway entrances, a small porch or sun parlor, a dining room, living room, two bedrooms, a bath, and four closets. Holsman was particularly proud of this design where the rooms were "nested" in such a way as to avoid unnecessary corridors or other wasted space. (Letter, 3/28/12.) Throughout his career he moved increasingly towards "open-space" designs with fewer walls which were not only cost-effective, but attractive solutions to the tendency of apartments to feel more cramped and enclosed than single-family houses.

Holsman's correspondence indicates that by 1915 he had designed a number of other apartment buildings in Chicago, including "garden terrace" apartments set on lots to allow garden space both at the front and rear of the buildings; apartment buildings with stores on the first floor; and residential studio apartments. The last-named were called studio apartments, according to Holsman, because the "living room is to be practically glass at one end and I think that makes a very handsome end to the room, makes it look a good deal like a studio room and would be better than two or three small windows." (Letter, 9/15/15.) In fact, Holsman lived in one of these residential studio apartments at 57th and Dorchester where his wife was able to use one of the rooms with the expanse of glass for her artist's studio. (Barlow interview.)

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At this same time that he was developing garden apartments and experimenting with larger windows, Holsman also developed a more economical and safer interior wall construction. The standard partition at the turn of the century was constructed with 2 x 4 inch studs to which wood lathing and 3/4 inches of plaster on either side resulted in a six inch thick wall. Holsman successfully developed a solid two inch fireproof wall which was less costly to build and vermin free as well. His experiments produced a fireproof wooden wall, and finally one which used metal lath. Although Holsman did not obtain patents for his efforts, he was at an early date concerned with incorporating fireproofing into his design work.

In 1922, Holsman entered the competition announced by the socialist mayor of Milwaukee to design low-income, multiple housing units for the city. His apartments utilized the space-saving innovations, fire-proofing advances, and landscaping ideas he had been developing over the years. Even more importantly, though, he developed a new form for financing the project, inspired by the Philadelphia community trust plan, originating in that city's successful efforts to preserve the oldest and most historically significant neighborhoods. Holsman's version of the trusteeship plan made the participants the beneficiaries of a trust which owned the apartment building. In addition to being beneficiaries, the participants had an automatically renewable annual lease for their own apartments. (J. Holsman Interview.)

While Holsman's apartment design did not win the competition, his trusteeship plan did attract attention and was eventually purchased by a representative from the city of Milwaukee. Holsman himself began to use both his architectural designs and his financing ideas for apartment projects in the Hyde Park area around the University of Chicago from 1922 until 1929. He founded Mutual Home Ownership in 1922, sponsored by the Community Development Trust, to provide the financing for what came to be called "cooperative apartments." (J. Holsman Interview; Who's Who in America.)

Nearly all of the buildings developed as cooperative apartments were red brick structures with artificial stone trim, built in the collegiate gothic style with heavy keystone lintels over the windows, lighter-colored brick or pressed stone quoining, modest inset porticos, crenellated roofs or pressed-stone balustrades, and flat roofs. One of the most attractive features of these buildings is still the large, steel-sashed and multi-paned windows which, combined with the artificial stone trim, give the buildings their traditional collegiate air, particularly well-suited to the Hyde Park area. (See photographs.)

Many of these apartment buildings were built as four-story walk-ups, even though they were no higher than other buildings in the area with only three stories. Holsman's genius for conserving space was responsible for this economy: his buildings utilized what he called "high basements" where the first floor was sunk several feet below ground, without altering the height of the windows and still allowing entrance from the outside. Space

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was also saved by lowering the ceilings somewhat, without sacrificing a sense of spaciousness because of the use of the large windows and open areas. (Barlow and J. Holsman interview.)

Other apartment buildings he designed in the Hyde Park area were elevator buildings ranging from five to fourteen stories. Many of these buildings have exterior stone decorative panels designed by Elizabeth Tuttle Holsman. The interior public area tended to be without ornamentation, though, in keeping with the collegiate gothic style.

In 1931-32 Holsman and his son Henry T. Holsman bought the Parker Realty Company just as the Depression started to affect the housing market in Chicago. Holsman himself continued to focus on his architectural practice while his son Henry managed the real estate business. Largely due to Holsman's foresight in developing trustee ownership of the cooperative apartments, these projects weathered the Depression far better than other types of housing projects. Not a single one failed. (J. Holsman and Barlow Interview.)

During the Depression years, Holsman also turned his attention to the economic problems of housing in Chicago's rundown neighborhoods. From the very beginning of his career, he had involved himself frequently in wider public responsibilities such as serving as president of the Chicago Architectural Club in 1903, becoming a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1914, serving as a director of the Association of Arts and Industries (which he also helped to found), and as director of the Chicago Municipal League, and helping to found the Museum of Science and Industry. (Living Architecture; Grinnell Alumni Records.)

But in 1932, as Chairman of the Committee on Blighted Area Housing of the Architects Club of Chicago, Holsman was able to show how his architectural and financing ideas, originally developed for middle-class families in the Hyde Park area, could meet the needs of low-income families living in blighted neighborhoods throughout Chicago. In the committee's report which he wrote entitled "Rehabilitating Blighted Areas," Holsman advocated the principles of cooperative ownership and landscaped apartment projects (or "garden" projects) to enable low-income families to turn their rent checks into mortgage payments and thus build equity over time, and to stimulate the residents to take pride in their homes and maintain their neighborhoods properly. While no immediate action was taken in response to the report, the report served to educate the public as to the value of mutual ownership and the importance of attractive, landscaped settings for apartment projects. One of Holsman's favorite sayings was that where trees don't grow, children won't grow. (See photographs.)

Holsman's son John joined his father in the architectural firm in the early 1930's, and together they continued to design apartment buildings through the 1950's. During the 1940's, Holsman adapted metal lathing in the Princeton Park project under the auspices of the Federal Housing Authority. The metal lathing was stretched between runners set in the floor and ceiling for the interior walls. Plaster was applied to the metal lathing, and no wood was used in the construction at all. During this period, John Holsman began

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to take over more of the architectural design work, leaving his father free to concentrate on construction technology and the financial arrangements for their projects.

By the 1950's, the firm had expanded to become Holsman, Holsman, Klecamp & Taylor. The firm was still principally engaged in designing apartment projects, such as the Lunt north Chicago, and the Sherman Gardens project in Evanston, Illinois. The later project, incorporating the Holsman trademarks of intensive landscaping, economical use of space, large windows, and exterior decorative cement panels, resulted in Holsman's winning the AIA Honor Award for 1951 at the age of 85. (J. Holsman Interview; Living Architecture.)

Colleges and Churches: According to Holsman's own recollection, some of his first designing work was done in 1887-1891 while he was still attending Grinnell, including college buildings at Grinnell and at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and a church in Newton, Iowa. (Grinnell Alumni Records.) In addition to the eight buildings he designed for Parsons College between 1900 and 1912 (discussed below), he also drew up plans for buildings at Cole College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Appleton University in Appleton, Wisconsin; Ripon College in Ripon Wisconsin; Illinois College in Jacksonville, Illinois; and Central University of Kentucky in Danville, Kentucky. (Letter, 8/28/12.)

Holsman's work at Parsons College between 1902 and 1912 reveals the full range of styles he was later to employ during the 1920's in church buildings at the University of Chicago and in the Hyde Park cooperative apartments. However, when Holsman designed his first building for Parsons in 1900, prior to the Ankeny Hall fire and hence before the College launched its tremendous building campaign, he used the unpretentious Dutch Colonial Revival style for Ballard Hall. This style was one which Holsman typically used for residential structures (see below). After the fire, Holsman appears to have risen to the challenge felt by the College and proceeded to develop a loftier concept of what a college should look like, reflected in his use of the Beaux-Arts style which was becoming widely used for American colleges.

This Beaux-Arts style was used for Foster Hall, Fairfield Hall, and the Carnegie Library, all designed between 1902-1904. These red-brick structures feature the same use of contrasting stone or lighter brick trim and quoining, heavy keystone lintels above multi-paned windows, and intricate dentil coursing found later in nearly all of his cooperative apartments in the Hyde Park area of Chicago.

The "high basement" design which had made its first appearance in the 1900 Exhibition design was apparently adapted by Holsman for Foster Hall, Fairfield Hall, and the Carnegie Library as a partial basement in keeping with the rolling topography of the Parsons campus. In each of these college buildings, the ground floor on one side of the building is completely above ground, allowing an outside entrance, while the same floor on the opposite of each building is below ground, due to the slope of the land. He reverted to the full "high basement" design for the cooperative apartments in Chicago a decade later to maximize the space.

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Holsman also designed a chapel for the College in the same classical style using brick-and-stone materials as he had employed for the Foster, Fairfield, and Carnegie buildings. However, in 1910 this plan was scrapped, apparently at the behest of Theodore Barhydt, who was giving the money for the chapel, and Holsman came up with a new design in a completely different style: a Late Gothic plan utilizing rough-hewn limestone blocks and buff stone trim. In further contrast from the other red-brick buildings, the chapel had a green ceramic tile roof and ornate copper gutters and downspouts. When the Parsons family donated money to build a Bible College building to adjoin the chapel, Holsman continued the Late Gothic design and rough-hewn limestone materials to match the chapel.

No information has come to light as to whether any of Holsman's earlier buildings were patterned in this Late Gothic style or had used rough-hewn limestone blocks. Mr. Barhydt's wishes may, therefore, have triggered Holsman's interest in this style; in any event, when Holsman was called upon to design a church, divinity House, and chapel for the Disciples of Christ at the University of Chicago ten years later, he drew upon the same design and materials already tried out on the Parsons campus.

The Disciples Divinity Church, Divinity House, and chapel were built during 1922-30. Holsman used the same crenellated roof detail and tiled roof here as he had for the Barhydt Chapel and Parsons Bible College on the Parsons campus. Even the design of the copper gutters and downspouts and the decorative stone facing ridging the windows are identical to those of the Parsons buildings. The interior of the Divinity House also shows certain similarities to Parsons Hall, notably in the use of large broken-arched windows, framed in dark wood, in the stairwells of each building. ("Disciples Divinity House" pamphlet.)

The Disciples Church also reveals, however, Holsman's free adaption of styles he liked. The church combines two variations of the Gothic style: on the east side of the building, there are three large interrupted or broken arches with a recessed walk; on the west side, six lancet arches separated by columns which stand away from the wall to form another seating area separate from the nave of the church. While the two sides of the church are asymmetrical in their different types of Gothic arches, they are balanced by the creation of space which adjoins, but is separate from, the main aisle and seating area of the church. (J. Holsman Interview; "Disciples Divinity House" pamphlet.)

The Divinity House chapel differs even more markedly from the Barhydt Chapel on the Parsons campus. The latter is a simple, straightforward version of the Gothic style on the outside, and tends to even greater simplicity and singleness of design in the interior, with painted stain glass windows depicting scenes from the New Testament, dark wooden pews facing the chancel, and a vaulted, undecorated ceiling and walls. In contrast, the Divinity House chapel tends towards a medieval gothicism with pews facing each other across the aisle, a ceiling painted a cerulean blue with small abstract decorations, tinted stained glass, colored faience tiles on the floor, carved wooden chairs and chancel screen, and heavy wooden doors embedded with small areas of stained glass. The symbols and themes of the artwork in this chapel are taken more from medieval Christian

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romance (e.g., Sir Galahad's quest for the Holy Grail) than from traditional Biblical stories. Holsman's wife was responsible for much of the artwork in the chapel, and his son John was also involved in the architectural design. ("Disciples Divinity House" pamphlet--see photograph.)

In addition to these churches associated with college campuses, Holsman evidently designed other churches as well, but no records have been found to locate them. (Grinnell Alumni Records.)

Commercial & Industrial Projects: Holsman evidently designed a number of commercial and industrial buildings in his long career, including banks, office buildings, and laboratories. Few details have come to light about these projects, except for an office building he may have designed for a Mr. Sharp of Lincoln, Nebraska in 1915, and the Ricketts laboratories which he designed for the University of Chicago. The first of these laboratories, built in 1915, was a one-story temporary structure used as a bacteriological lab. The second one, built in 1922-23, was similar in design and use. One of the laboratories was torn down in the 1940's and the second one is scheduled for demolition in the near future. (Twelf Interview.)

Individual Residences: Holsman designed some individual residences but very little is known about them. One residence is the C. B. Sholes house built in River Forest, Illinois, sometime in 1916. This semi-rustic two-story structure has wood shingle siding from the cement foundation to just below the upstairs windows and stucco siding the remaining distance to the deeply-eaved roof. The semi-rustic design is somewhat at variance with the ornamentation provided by brick pillars at the corners of a side porch and at the front portico, all of which are topped with stone balls. (Architectural Record--see photograph.)

Holsman also designed a Dutch Colonial Revival residence near the University of Chicago which has since been acquired by the University for its development offices. This red-brick three-story residence is nearly a miniature version of Ballard Hall on the Parsons campus with its broken-angled barn roof, third-story dormer windows, and keystone lintels. Ballard Hall pre-dates this residence probably by 15 years. (See photograph.)

Landscape Design: From 1908 to 1909, Holsman served as the Park Commissioner for Park Ridge, Illinois. It is not clear how he came to serve in this position. During his tenure he designed the park landscaping with unknown success. (Grinnell Alumni Records.)

Automobile Design: Holsman's interest in automobile design began at least as early as 1897, when he decided to develop a business which his younger brother, J. Arthur Holsman, could take over at a later date. The first prototype used successfully by Holsman himself was finished in 1901. During the next ten years, Holsman developed over twenty patents related to automobile design, more than any other individual at that time. His high-wheeled automobiles were more like motorized carriages in the first models, but gradually evolved to look increasingly like other automobiles and less like

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carriages.

In 1903, Holsman transferred his "little factory" to the Holsman Automobile Company, of which he was the president and engineer and his brother the machinist and superintendent of works, where more systematic manufacturing techniques resulted in the production of several thousand automobiles before 1910. The Holsman automobile was by far the most popular one using the high-wheeled design which lent itself to midwestern country roads with their mud and snow in spring and winter. ("Holsman Automobile" literature; J. Holsman Interview.)

Holsman was pressured into selling the business to the Independent Harvester Company in 1910 when his bank forced a foreclosure in its attempt to gain control of the business. He stayed on as a consultant to the business until 1912.

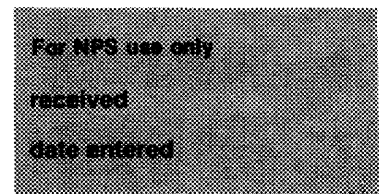
Until a few years ago, a Holsman automobile was featured in the Smithsonian Institution's collection of antique cars. Several models are still in the Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan. (J. Holsman Interview.)

When Henry K. Holsman was 93 years old, he received a letter from another elderly gentleman, Court Administrator Henry P. Chandler, coming out of retirement at the age of 79 to serve in the Illinois judicial system. Chandler expressed his appreciation for Holsman's "social conscience in architecture and housing" over the years and concluded that "Chicago is a better city than it would have been without you." (Chandler Letter, 10/22/57.) As important as Holsman's contributions certainly were to the development of cooperative ownership and landscaped housing projects in Chicago, they should not overshadow Holsman's contributions as a technical innovator and designer in the very best American tradition of creative adaptability and mechanical genius. He brought great enthusiasm to whatever ventures he undertook, whether they were new buildings, automobiles, or parks, confident that he had something to contribute, eager to try his hand at advancing the state of technology, yet quick to appreciate and utilize what was already at hand.

These qualities which characterized Holsman's long career were particularly important to the development of Parsons College at the turn of the century. His quickness to find and adapt appropriate architectural styles to the needs of the College helped to create an academic setting which still stands today as an attractive, interesting, and integrated group of buildings. His boldness, even as a very young man, to freely use whatever styles were available and to experiment with architectural features were in keeping with the young college's optimism and sense of adventure in facing an uncertain future.

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ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE HISTORIC CAMPUS DISTRICT

Founding of an Institution: The origins of the subject nomination provide insight into the early, serious dedication of the American people to the concept of higher education for young people. Strong concern and commitment can be found in this area of southeastern Iowa from the earliest days of the settlers to the present day. There were pioneering individuals in Fairfield, Iowa, who were determined to establish an institution of higher education in their town despite continuing financial difficulty, accidents, natural catastrophes, and a world war. The endeavors of these pioneers resulted in the establishment of Parsons College. A fine group of academic buildings comprised the original campus which was located on the northern side of the town of Fairfield. These buildings, all designed by a Chicago-based architect, Henry K. Holsman, are still in use today as the historic part of the campus where Maharishi International University has made its home since 1974.

A summary of the efforts to found an institution of higher education begins with the members in the Iowa District of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Wisconsin in 1837 who established "nine seminaries of learning for the instruction of both sexes in science and literature." (Fifty Years of Parsons College.) In 1838 the first Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa added five more seminaries. It was not until the third Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Iowa in 1840 that a seminary was established in Fairfield, called the Fairfield Lyceum. This seminary appears to have continued to function as late as 1859.

In 1848, a Female Seminary was established by the Reverend Lancelot Graham Bell, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Fairfield. By the fall of 1857, the seminary had become coeducational, but due to financial difficulties, it had failed by 1860.

At approximately the same time that the Female Seminary was being established, a bill to relocate Iowa State University was introduced to establish a Fairfield branch of the State University. Bernhart Henn of Fairfield was elected President of the Board of Directors. Construction of a building was subsequently begun but it was partially destroyed by the hurricane of 1851. When no aid was received from the state, a group of private stockholders took over the property and in 1855 Fairfield University was open to young men. In 1863 the institution became Fairfield College and continued as such until 1874 when it closed, also due to financial difficulties.

During this time, Presbyterians were discussing the educational needs in Iowa. The Southern Synod of Iowa decided to take steps to establish a college. In December 1874 a proposition was made to establish the college at Fairfield if \$27,000 could be assured in securities within two weeks.

This amount and an additional \$3,000 were secured largely from the estate of General Lewis B. Parsons. In his will of 1855, General Parsons had set aside a major portion of his estate to establish a Christian College. After an extensive horseback trip over the country west of the Mississippi and a later trip through Iowa, he "seemed to catch the



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vision of a possible college in this region." (Fifty Years of Parsons College.) The central location of Iowa, its fertility and the possibilities of growth all impressed him. When informed of the Presbyterian proposition, his sons, who were his executors, met with thirty gentlemen on February 24, 1875, to become the trustees of the proposed college.

The trustees selected twenty acres north of the town of Fairfield, as a site for the college. This property had once belonged to Bernhart Henn who had been instrumental in earlier education endeavors in the area. On September 8, 1875, Parsons College opened its doors in the brick mansion which had formerly been Henn's residence with a coeducational enrollment which reached 63 by the end of the year.

The Presbyterian Years of Parsons College: Parsons College was not without its own trials and tribulations; it too faced hardships. On August 19, 1902, Ankeny Hall, the principal college building, was destroyed by fire and the college was forced to open in Ballard Hall, the ladies' dormitory. Not defeated by this disaster, the college went on to initiate a major building campaign which resulted in the six fine buildings for which recognition is now being sought from the National Register of Historic Places.

The College called upon a Chicago-based architect, Henry K. Holsman, to submit designs for the new buildings. Holsman had already designed Ballard Hall in 1900 as a simple, functional red-brick building in the Dutch Colonial Revival style to fit in well both with the unpretentious lines of the Henn Mansion and with the modest budget available for the project.

When called upon to design the group of new buildings after the Ankeny fire, Holsman apparently shared in the general feeling that the time had come for Parsons College not merely to recover lost ground caused by the fire, but to embark on a new era of growth. In drawing up the new plans, he chose the Beaux-Arts style which was popular at the turn of the century for public buildings and which would certainly give an added measure of dignity and stateliness to the campus.

The first of the new buildings, Foster Hall, was designed in 1902 and is the most modest example of the new venture into the Beaux-Arts style, perhaps out of deference to the intended use of the building for the science departments. Its style is understated, appearing only in the keystone lintels above the windows, scrolled dentil coursing, and some masonry detail surrounding the portals.

Fairfield Hall, the second building constructed in 1903, shows a much bolder hand, perhaps because the architect felt more confident with the style at this point or because the intended use of the building as an Academy lent itself to a fuller expression of a style becoming so closely identified with educational buildings. Holsman used classical brick pediments at both the front and rear of the building, each with an oculus window, as well as an elaborate dentil coursing, other classical details for the portals, cut limestone banding, heavy keystone lintels over the windows, and lighter cream brick quoining on the corners of the building.

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By the time Holsman designed the Carnegie Library, he had plunged into the Beaux-Arts style to an even greater degree. The classical pediment for Carnegie Hall was extended outward on the front of the building to form an imposing porch supported by six stately Ionic columns. Additionally, Holsman used an elaborately scrolled dentil coursing, heavy keystone lintels over the windows, and stone quoining for the corners of the buildings.

Holsman had also designed a new chapel in the Beaux-Arts style, but the donor who came forward with the funds, Theodore Barhydt, preferred the late Gothic style--two large rectangular crenellated towers at the front of the building and a steeply pitched roof--to be executed in native limestone in rough-hewn blocks which Holsman duly designed. The Barhydt Chapel, built in 1910, was soon followed by an adjoining building to house the Bible College, called Parsons Hall in honor of the donors, and designed by Holsman in the Late Gothic style. It was built in 1911-12 and connected to the chapel by a cloistered walk. Holsman's experience in designing these two late Gothic structures stood him in good stead ten years later when he was asked to design the Disciples Divinity House and adjoining chapel on the University of Chicago campus.

When Barhydt Chapel and the Parsons Bible School were finished in 1912, the circle of new buildings was complete. As a brochure for the College proudly announced: "A Group--Instead Of One Building.

The Expansion Years--An Experiment That Failed: Parsons College continued to flourish until the 1940s but afterwards faced shrinking enrollments. By 1955, Parsons had only 212 students and was heavily in debt. The original 20 acres of the campus had grown to 55, but the physical plant was described by David Boroff, in Campus U.S.A.: Portraits of American Colleges in Action, as including only "musty old buildings." (Boroff, p. 105.) The prospects for the college did not look good. It was at this time that the controversial Dr. Millard Roberts assumed the presidency of Parsons College.

Roberts' philosophy of college administration was, according to Boroff, based on the principles of good corporate management. He believed that "faculty, not buildings, makes a college," and although extensive expansion of the physical plant was undertaken, much of the college's resources were directed towards the faculty and administration. (Boroff, p. 107.)

Roberts instituted several innovative measures intended to bring Parsons into the forefront of educational trends and thereby to increase enrollment. The most controversial of these innovations was the program for marginal students. One-third of all new students were from the lower half of their class. Other innovations had been proven elsewhere, such as the Great Books Program based on the one at the University of Chicago and a trimester plan for the academic calendar.

Under Roberts' administration, the enrollment did increase to 1,450 in 1960 and to 5,000 by the mid-sixties. With so many more students on campus, physical plant expansion became essential. Two large dormitories were built in 1958 and 36 smaller residences known as pods were built in 1962. In 1964, five three-story residences were built and 14

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residential fraternity buildings were built in 1965. Despite the increased physical plant, overcrowding remained a major problem due to the large number of students. A further building campaign during President Roberts' administration enlarged the campus to include 72 buildings.

Boroff's summation of Parsons College in 1960 was that it was "not one of America's great colleges" but that compared to its status in 1940, it stood a good chance for surviving and achieving its goals. (Boroff, p. 104.)

But by 1965 and 1966, James Flansburg of the Des Moines Register and Tribune and an article in Life magazine entitled "The Wizard of Flunk-Out U" had begun the expose of conditions at Parsons which led to its downfall. Overcrowding and accusations of being a "diploma mill" brought the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools for site visits to Parsons and on April 6, 1967, the NCA removed Parsons from its list of accredited colleges and schools. On June 26, of that year, Roberts was fired from the presidency.

Enrollment dropped from 5,000 to 1,500 by 1969 and a "crash program of retrenchment had to be undertaken" according to Koerner in Parsons College: The Bubble That Burst. (Koerner, p. 220.) The status of Recognized Candidate for Accreditation was gained that year but by that time it was too late. The college was bankrupt and in 1971 did not open its doors.

Maharishi International University--More Than A Decade of Unified Field-Based Education: The campus stood vacant for two years. It was purchased in 1973 to become the home of Maharishi International University. Today, this thriving university offers education for enlightenment from pre-school through Ph.D. MIU continues the proud tradition of offering high-level education to the people not only of Fairfield and southeastern Iowa but to students from all over the country and the world. MIU offers a system of education integrating the traditional academic disciplines with the knowledge and experience of the unified field of natural law through the Science of Creative Intelligence, and its practical aspect, the Transcendental Meditation and TM-Sidhi program, the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field.

To house the collective practice of this unique unified field technology, the University has constructed two large golden domed buildings to the north of the historic part of campus, one in 1980 and one in 1981.

Today, the historic part of the campus remains largely unaltered and still reflects the pride which went into the planning of the original building campaign. These buildings represent a range of compatible architectural styles which are described on the Traces form and together form the type of eclectic arrangement frequently found on college campuses built during that time period in the eastern and midwestern United States. Included are a chapel and administrative building in Late Gothic style, three classroom buildings in the Beaux-Arts style, and the original mansion built in the Italianate and Greek Revival styles. Together they provide a pleasant and attractive academic setting which maintains the full flavor of the past in the vibrant campus life of today.

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The MIU Historic Campus District is located in Block 4 of the Oakland Addition and in part of Block 15 of the Centennial Addition to the town of Fairfield, in Jefferson County, Iowa. The extreme southwest corner of the District is defined by the intersection of Highway One and Merrill Street.

The southern boundary of the District runs due east along the northern edge of Merrill Street for 440 feet. The eastern boundary then runs due north along the eastern side of Carter Memorial Drive for 330 feet before curving east for approximately 400 feet.

The northern edge of Carter Memorial Drive continues to serve as the northern boundary of the District as it takes a large sweeping curve west for 300 feet. The drive then straightens and continues west for 730 feet to abut on the east side of Highway One. Three hundred and fifty feet before the drive reaches Highway One, it takes a small jog 50 feet to the north.

The western boundary of the district runs south from Carter Memorial Drive for 900 feet along the eastern edge of Highway One until it intersects with Merrill Street, completing the four sides of the district.

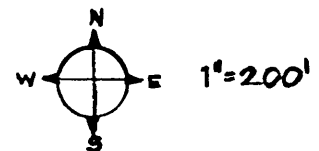
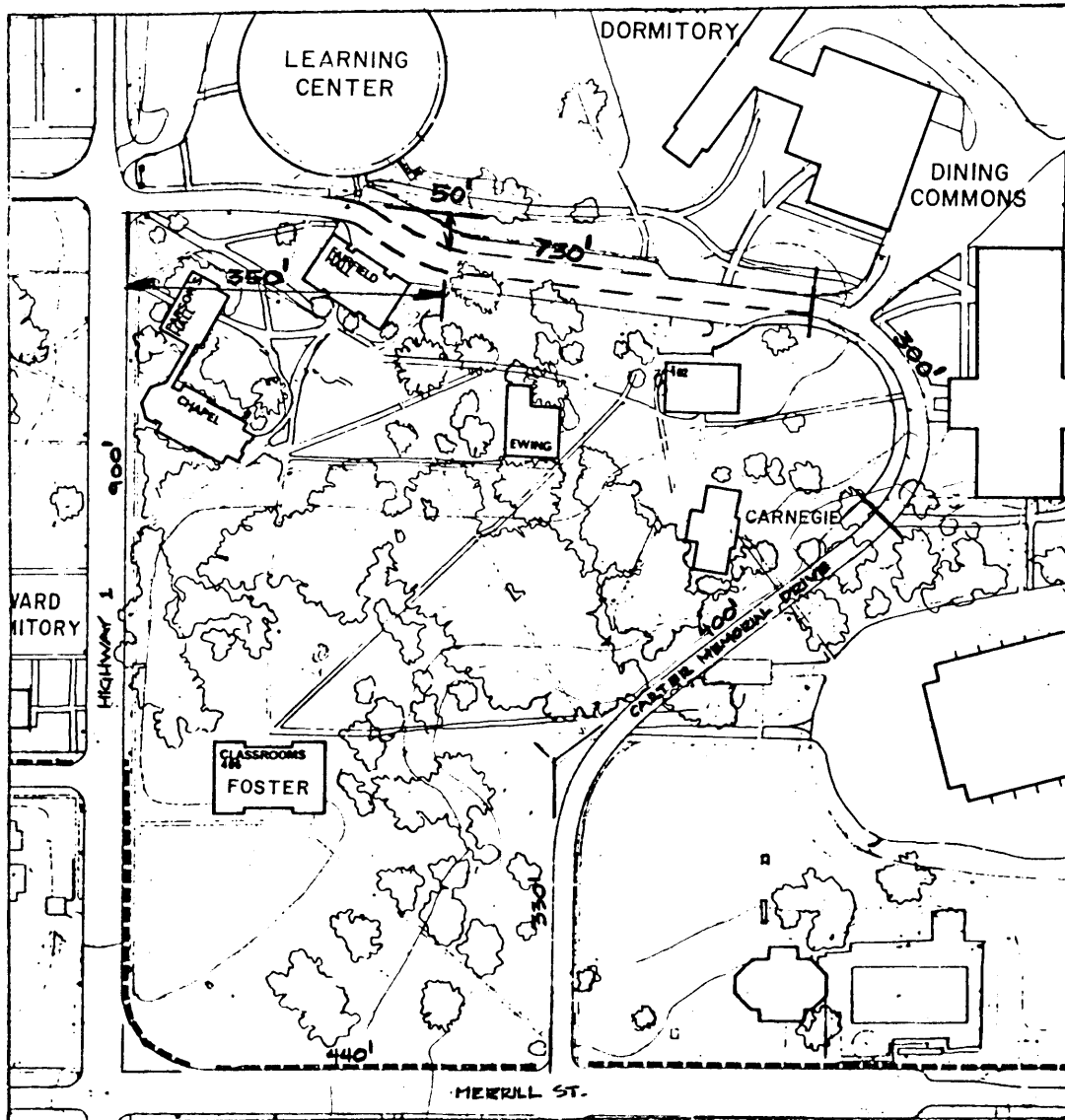
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- Holsman, John T. Personal interview. 20 April 1983.
- Holsman, Mrs. Henry T. Telephone interview with Mrs. Holsman, wife of Henry T. Holsman. 16 April 1983.
- Holsman, Peter. Telephone interview with Mr. Holsman, grandson of Henry K. Holsman and practicing architect. 16 April 1983.
- O'Connor, Estelle. Personal interview with Ms. O'Connor, secretary of the Disciples Divinity House, University of Chicago. 2 February 1983.
- Twelf, Douglas. Telephone interview with Mr. Twelf, Director of Research, Development Office, University of Chicago. 14 January 1983.

Miscellaneous

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- Holsman, Henry K. "The Holsman Automobile" and other promotional literature. University Archives, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.
- Holsman, Henry K. Obituary Notice. The Delavan Enterprise. 18 May 1961. Delavan, Wisconsin.
- Scrapbook on Architecture. "Promontory Apartments." 4 May 1947. Newspaper clipping file on microfilm, p. 487. Burnham Library, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

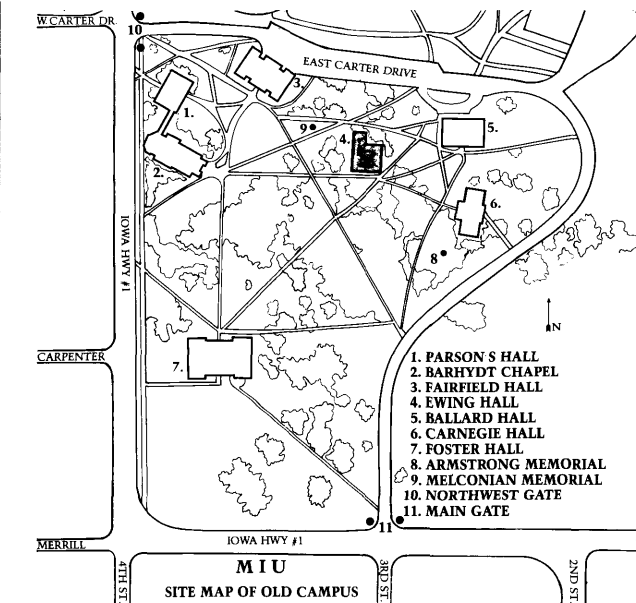
**Identification**

1. Site Name Henn Mansion/Ewing Hall
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson
3. Street Address Highway One North
4. Legal Location Centennial addition to City of Fairfield 15 (see aerial graphic)  
Urban: subdivision block range parcel section subparcel 1/4 section of 1/4 section  
Rural: township
5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_ ; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_
6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University
7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Empty Original Private home

**Description**

9. Date of Construction 1857 Architect/Builder Unknown
10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling     industrial     other institutional     religious  
 multiple-family dwelling     educational     public     agricultural  
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
 (See continuation sheet)
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? The building is in an advanced state of deterioration; external walls are crumbling
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other college campus with related educational buildings.

**18. Map**



**19. Photo** Roll 7 Frame 17 View Front, West side



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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC

Ewing Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Henn Mansion

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

— VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jefferson

STATE

Aug. 8, 1982

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO

Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT

MIU Facilities Planning

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph shows an exterior front view of the Mansion. The west wall is also included.

# Significance

(Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Henn Mansion/Ewing Hall was built in the Italianate style with a Greek Revival front entry porch. It consists of one main block with projections to the rear and a roof monitor protruding from its hip roof. Four chimneys serve six wood and marble fireplaces within. The main entry consists of two fluted wooden Doric columns, supporting a flat stone lintel. Windows are six over six double-hung, except those in the front and rear walls of the main floor, which are triple-hung, and extend from floor to ceiling. Lintels and sills are limestone in the main part of the building. The foundation wall is rough stone, capped with a cut-stone band supporting the brick above. The building is unusual in that it is an unusually elaborate high style home for this period of Iowa history.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) Architecture/Education.

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

This property was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on January 11, 1983

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College  
Peira 1927  
A Fair Field  
The Fairfield Ledger, August 27, 1928, p. 8  
Dorsett Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
 Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
 Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

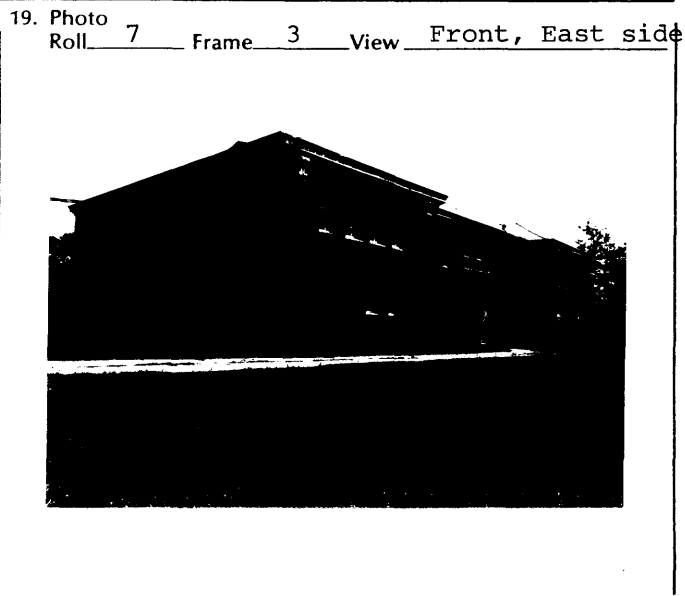
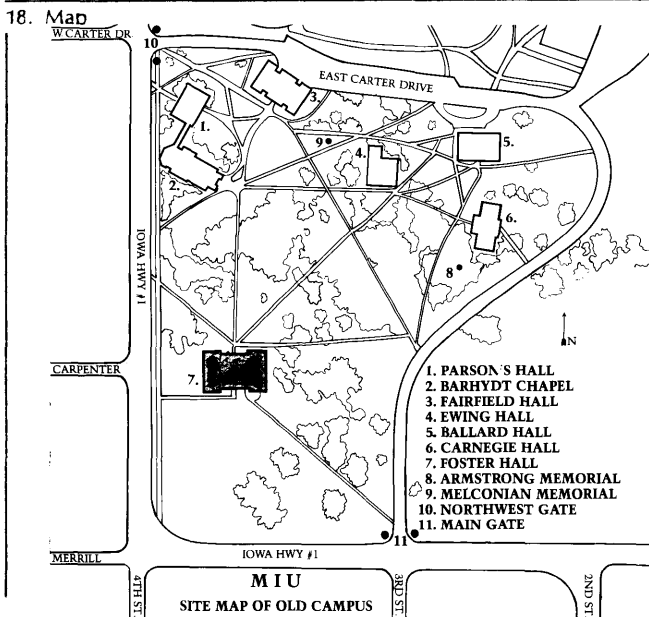
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Identification

1. Site Name Foster Hall
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson
3. Street Address Highway One North
4. Legal Location Oakland Addition Block 4 & Centennial Addition Block 15 to the town  
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel  
Rural: township range section ¼ section of ¼ section  
of Fairfield, Iowa
5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_
6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University
7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present classroom and office Original Science building for Parsons College

### Description

9. Date of Construction 1903 Architect/Builder H.K. Holsman (Architect)
10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling     industrial     other institutional     religious  
 multiple-family dwelling     educational     public     agricultural  
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historic campus area, landscaped, telescope/observatory added to attic story, late 1920's
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other landscaped college campus with related educational buildings



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC Foster Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Foster Hall

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jefferson

STATE

Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO

Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT

MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph shows an exterior front and side view of Foster Hall taken from the northeast corner.

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Foster Hall is a good example of the Beaux-Arts style popular at the turn of the century for large institutional buildings throughout the eastern and midwestern United States. It is constructed of orange-red brick with detailing in light cream brick and cut limestone. It features a rusticated stone and brick foundation wall with cut stone capping supporting large brick corner quoins above. The front and rear doors are made of cut limestone and are Beaux-Arts in detail. The front door contains an inscribed archway and a nameplate reading "Foster Hall" above. Decorative pressed-metal modillions support the cornice and dentil coursing. The lintels are brick, with limestone keystones, and the sills are bands of cut stone. The upper story features an observatory/telescope installed in the early 1950's.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

(See following page)

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College  
Original blueprints, H.K. Holsman, Architect  
The Fairfield Ledger 1/13/04; 6/8/25  
The Portfolio, Vol. 32, # 6, 11/1/11, p.2  
Selz Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

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## Foster Hall

Foster Hall was also a product of the building campaign which produced five of the six buildings in the historic district and which came about as a result of the burning of Ankeny Hall. The consequence of the rallying together of the educators and the community to promptly address the problem of reconstruction can be seen in how quickly this building campaign bore fruit. The insurance settlement for Ankeny Hall not being adequate, the Board of Trustees began a building campaign to raise \$125,000 to construct a group of buildings which would include a science hall, a general recitation hall, a chapel, a library, a gymnasium, and a central heating plant.

Henry K. Holsman, the same Chicago architect who designed Ballard Hall, prepared the sketches. Perhaps as the result of being given the challenge of designing so many new buildings at one time and sensing the determination of the College to do a great deal more than just survive the Ankeny Hall disaster, Holsman was apparently inspired to undertake a more dignified and classical approach to designing Foster Hall so that it more closely resembled the traditional ideal of a college building. Through the use of contrasting brick and stone trim, Holsman gave the building classical touches such as the keystone lintels over the windows, the scrolled dentil coursing, and the masonry detail of the doorways.

Mr. T.D. Foster of Ottumwa made a gift of \$25,000 to start the campaign. The citizens of Fairfield themselves responded with a contribution of \$26,428.74. Within a year the contracts were signed with Bartlett and Kling of Galesburg, Illinois. In 1903 the ground upon which



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Foster Hall now stands and extending south to Merrill street, was bought from H.D. Knight. Ground was broken on April 23, 1903 and excavation was begun.

Foster, constructed of brick and stone, is located in the southwest corner of the campus. It is three stories with exterior dimensions of 116' x 74'. The building was designed so that the ceiling of one floor served structurally as the floor of the one above. According to a former Parsons administrator, the building originally had a central hallway which was open from the ground floor to the roof, culminating in a skylight. In this large open area on the ground floor were display cases filled with fossils, rocks, and artifacts donated by former Parsons students who had traveled to distant countries as missionaries. The rock collection had been donated by a Fairfield doctor, and some of the fossils and stuffed specimens were "seconds" from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. (apparently acquired through a highly influential Iowa senator).

The entire building was originally devoted to the sciences with laboratory and lecture room facilities. The basement was devoted to physics with a lecture room whose seating capacity was 70. The first floor was for biology and the second floor for chemistry. On January 13, 1904, Foster was dedicated along with the Academy building (Fairfield Hall) and the central heating plant.

The building continued to be used largely as a science building, although quarters for a YMCA were established in the basement in 1911. During World War I, in the the fall of 1918 when Fairfield Hall and Ewing had been appropriated by the Student Army Training Corps, Foster housed all

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National Park Service

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the classrooms and offices of the college as Ballard Hall had done some sixteen years previously. After the war, Foster Hall was once again used for the science disciplines.

During the 1920's, the center supports in Foster Hall--10-inch square wooden center posts--began to sink and give way because they had not been footed properly. The money to repair the damage was donated by the T. D. Foster family of Ottumwa in their continuing support of the College. It may have been at this time that the three-story open central hallway was altered to its present condition of enclosed hallways on each floor, or this change may have come in later years.

In 1951-52, an observatory was built on the roof of Foster Hall to house the College's 9" refractor telescope. Previously the telescope had been housed in a small, round brick observatory built in 1913-14 on top of a hill across from the Main Gate. (See Aerial Views 1925) However, when the truck traffic became heavy on Highway 1 as it passed between the observatory and the campus, causing sufficient vibrations to interfere with the telescope, the land on which it stood was sold to the state to widen the highway and the proceeds were used to construct a new observatory on the roof of Foster Hall. Dr. Paul Selz of the College designed the observatory so that the whole roof, made of aluminum, could slide back, allowing students the chance to look at the sky while one member of the class was busy using the telescope. In 1957, a severe storm tore the aluminum roof section away and the observatory was never repaired.

Today Foster Hall houses the MIU School, including lower, middle, and upper divisions. As part of the current renovation plans for the building,

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the observatory and telescope are to be repaired and refurbished so that the students can take advantage of these unique features of Foster Hall in their study of astronomy.



FOSTER HALL - FRONT (1936)

Site Sheets: Foster Hall, page 26.



FOSTER HALL (1908)



FOSTER HALL - BACK (1925)

Identification

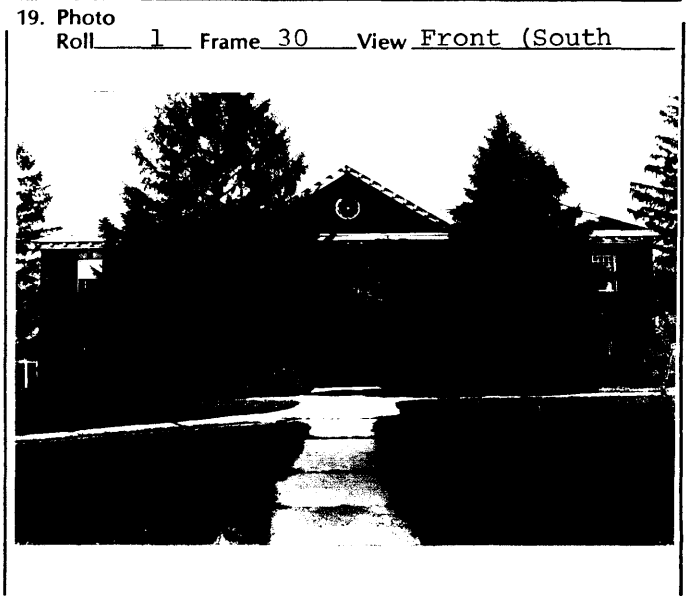
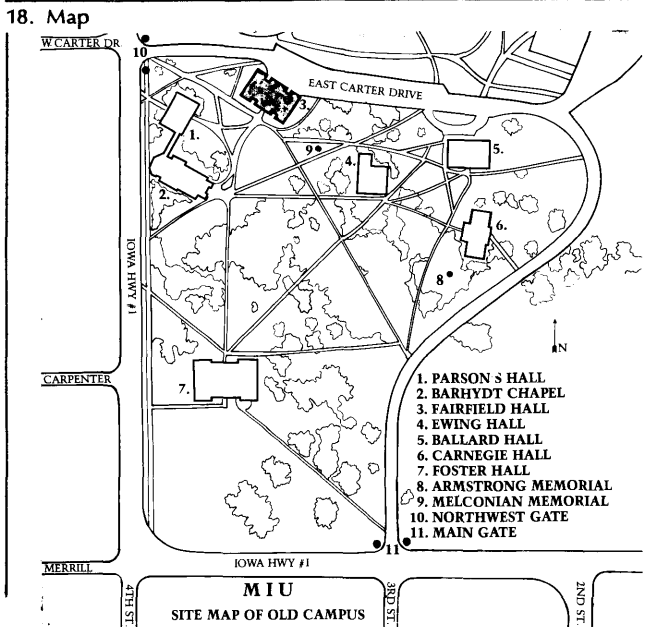
1. Site Name Fairfield Hall
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson
3. Street Address Highway One North
4. Legal Location Centennial addition to City of Fairfield, Iowa 15  

Urban:	subdivision	block	parcel	subparcel
Rural:	township	range	section	¼ section of ¼ section
5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_ ; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_
6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University
7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Classroom and Office Building Original same

Description

9. Date of Construction 1903 Architect/Builder H.K. Holsman (architect)
10. Building Type:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial			
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historic campus area, landscaped, date stone, new institutional doorway.
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other Landscaped college campus with related educational buildings



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
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**1** NAME

HISTORIC

Fairfield Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Fairfield Hall

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jefferson

STATE

Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO

Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT

MIU Facilities Planning

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph is an exterior front view of Fairfield Hall taken from the south. . . .

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Fairfield Hall is significant in that it illustrates a well-developed example of the Beaux-Arts style. Its details include a brick pediment with a typical oculus window, formed metal cornice and dentil work, limestone banding through brick coursing with details connecting bands at corners, limestone nameplate and window sills, and brick corner quoins. Windows are 12/1 double-hung with brick lintels and keystone, and the entry portico is made of cut limestone block engaged columns and lintel. The building has a rock-faced limestone foundation, an open stairway in the interior with a skylight, and a ventilation system in the attic.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

(See following page)

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College  
The Fairfield Ledger, Vol. 53, Part II, No. 50, 12/10/02  
The Portfolio, Vol. 23, No. 2, November 1902; Vol. 31, No. 27, 5/18/11  
A Fair Field  
Original blueprints, H.K. Holsman Architect  
Taylor and Young Interviews

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

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Site Sheets

Item number

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## Fairfield Hall

Fairfield Hall, known originally as the Academy Building, was also constructed as a result of the building campaign which followed the burning of Ankeny Hall. Construction was made possible by the contributions of the citizens of Fairfield. Initially it was thought that seven to ten thousand dollars could be raised from the town but \$26,428.74 was actually secured. It was noted in The Fairfield Ledger on December 10, 1902 that "Parsons College is an educational institution in which the people of Fairfield have always shown a considerable pride." Consequently the building was named in honor of the town.

The building was also designed by the Chicago architect, Henry K. Holsman. Even more than Foster Hall, Fairfield Hall represents the architect's desire to give the building sufficiently classical details to endow it with the dignity and traditionalism to be expected in college buildings. Holsman achieved this aim by the use of classical pediments on both front and rear sides of the building, each with an ornamental round window; even more elaborate dentil coursing than he used for Foster Hall; the keystone lintels; and contrasting brick detail along the building's edges.

The contract for construction was let to Bartlett and Kling of Galesburg, Illinois. The building was 85' x 100' and is of brick and stone. It housed the Academy, a preparatory department of the college. It was located on the north side of the campus facing Foster Hall.

The building was to contain a finished basement plus two upper stories, providing classrooms and an assembly room for the academy



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Continuation sheet Site Sheets

Item number

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students. The second floor was used for college classes in the humanities. The building was opened on September 22, 1903.

On March 13, 1917, the Board of Trustees decided to discontinue the Academy, so Fairfield Hall was turned over for general classroom space for the college. Prior to the building of Barhydt Chapel, Fairfield Hall was also used as the chapel for vesper services. In the fall of 1918, Fairfield Hall was appropriated by the Student Army Training Corps along with Ewing Hall for barracks, mess, and hospital.

When Fairfield Hall was turned back over to the College after the war, it was refurbished to be used for administrative offices, including those of the president, registrar, and deans. It continued to be used as such until 1955 when the administrative offices were moved to Parsons Hall.

Today it is used for classroom and faculty office space for departments in the humanities areas. It is scheduled for renovation and restoration during the summer of 1983.

Site Sheets: Fairfield Hall, page 31.



FAIRFIELD HALL (1936)

Identification

1. Site Name Carnegie Hall

2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson

3. Street Address Highway One North

4. Legal Location Centennial addition to the town of Fairfield, Iowa Block 15--undivided  
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel  
 Rural: township range section ¼ section of ¼ section

5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University

7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)

8. Use: Present Classroom and Office Building Original College library

Description

9. Date of Construction 1906-1907 Architect/Builder H.K. Holsman (architect)

10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling  industrial  other institutional  religious  
 multiple-family dwelling  educational  public  agricultural  
 commercial

11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

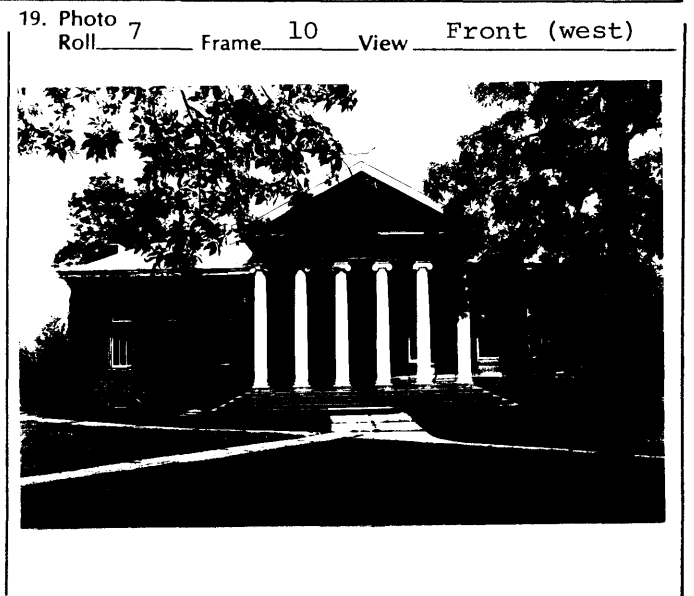
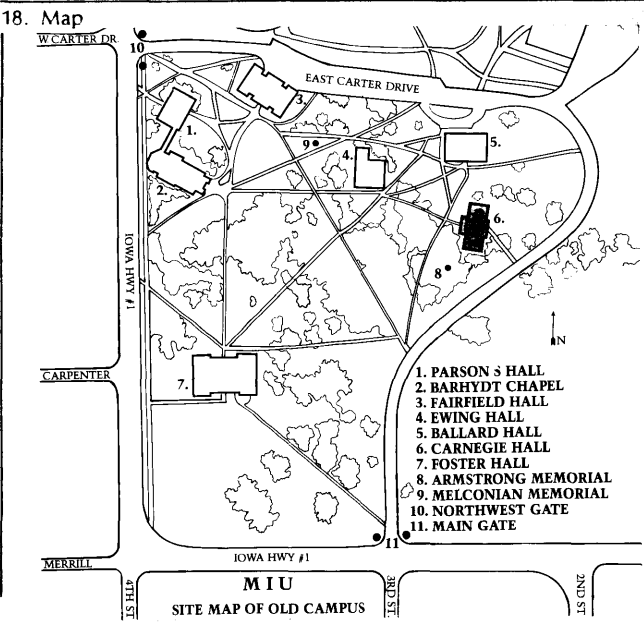
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated

14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historic campus area, landscaped, classical portico

15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none

16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other college campus and related educational buildings.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC

Carnegie Library

AND/OR COMMON

Carnegie Hall

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Fairfield

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jefferson

STATE

Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO

Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT

MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph shows an exterior front view of Carnegie taken from the west.

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Carnegie Hall is a good example of the Beaux-Arts style of architecture employed in many American collegiate buildings. Among its significant details is a Hexa-style Ionic portico consisting of a brick pediment with elaborate cornice, six Ionic columns, and a plinth of six continuous steps. The front and rear entries both consist of two limestone engaged columns supporting a detailed arch or balustrade. Other limestone details include continuous horizontal banding through the brick coursing, dentil coursing, foundation wall, and keystones on lintels. The elaborate modillions supporting the cornice are cement-cast. Brickwork is quoined throughout. The original interior features a two-story reading room with oak woodwork and elaborate plaster cornices, upper and lower story windows, and a fireplace.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

(See following page)

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College

Original blueprints by H.K. Holsman, Architect

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, Vol. 1, 4/15/05

The Fairfield Ledger, 11/5/05

The Portfolio, Vol. 28, No. 1, October 1907, pp. 6-7

Selz Interview; Taylor Interview; Young Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983

Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028

Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # Six

## Carnegie Hall

The original plans in the building campaign after the burning of Ankeny Hall called for the construction of six buildings, but funds were secured to cover only three of the buildings. As the need for a library was still a high priority, Dr. Willis G. Crain and Dr. Hinitt, trustees for the College, went to New York to see if Andrew Carnegie, who was famous for building libraries, would do so for Parsons. Carnegie promised \$15,000 if Parsons could come up with another \$15,000 for endowment and upkeep, but the Board of Trustees could not meet that condition.

However, in 1905 while on a transatlantic voyage, Mr. T.D. Foster, a trustee and donor for Parsons, met Andrew Carnegie, a fellow passenger, and persuaded him to give the \$15,000 outright with no conditions attached. Mr. Foster added \$2,000 along with other contributors and the Board of Trustees decided to go ahead with construction.

The Chicago architect, Henry K. Holsman, also designed the Carnegie Library. His plans for this building were even more obviously classical in design than those for Foster or Fairfield Hall. Holsman not only designed a classical pediment for the building: he went a step further and extended the pediment out over the front porch to form a massive portico supported by six stately Ionic columns. As with Fairfield Hall, he used fairly elaborate dentil coursing, heavy keystone lintels, and contrasting brick edgings to give the building a wealth of classical detail. Holsman's growing objective to give the new campus buildings all the dignity and traditionalism associated with the classical style was fulfilled in this third building: even today it is still photographed as the most

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
25 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman  
Map Reference # Six

collegiate-looking of the buildings for the University's publications.

The contract was let to Bartlett and Kling of Cedar Rapids for \$16,662 and over the winter and spring of 1906-1907 the building was constructed. It is a two-story building with finished basement, of brick and stone, measuring 52' x 90'. It was considered the most attractive building on campus at the time. Unfortunately the building was plagued by foundation cracks thereafter because its southeast corner was situated over an old creek run.

On June 5, 1907 Carnegie Hall was dedicated with an address by Reverend E.P. Hill, D.D. of McCormick Seminary. There was a reading room, two stories high on the north end of the first floor, which, according to the student newspaper, was "appropriately fitted up with handsome mission furniture of Flemish oak." At the south end of the first floor was a large room housing the library stacks. There was a meeting room on the second floor for the faculty and Board of Trustees. The smaller rooms at the front of the building, opening out onto a small balcony, served as the President's offices until they were moved to Fairfield Hall in the 1920's.

After a successful drive by the College Auxiliary, the library contained 1500 volumes. According to the student newspaper, "No building...could have come to the College that would have been more beneficial to the general order of student life."

The basement of Carnegie Hall served at various times as a gymnasium, an infirmary, and later housed the College's printing press.

By 1948, according to a former college faculty member, the exterior pillars of Carnegie Hall had seriously deteriorated. They were replaced by

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
25 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # Six

new pillars with steel cores, and a new platform was laid at the same time by Mr. Kefer of Des Moines.

In 1962, when a new library had been constructed on the campus, Carnegie Hall was altered to be used for much needed office space to handle the increased number of administrative staff due to the College's precipitous expansion. The rooms were subdivided and partitioned to make more offices and a false lowered ceiling was installed in the south reading room.

Today, as Carnegie Hall is being renovated to house MIU's Master of Business Administration program, it is being restored to its original gracious proportions and beautiful wooden interior trim to once again stand as the most attractive building in the historic district.



**Identification**

1. Site Name Barhydt Chapel

2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Fairfield County Jefferson

3. Street Address Highway One North

4. Legal Location Centennial addition to the town of Fairfield, IA Block 15--undivided

Urban: Rural: subdivision township block range parcel section subparcel 1/4 section of 1/4 section

5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University

7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield, Iowa 52556

(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)

8. Use: Present Chapel Original Chapel

**Description**

9. Date of Construction 1910-1911 Architect/Builder H.K. Holsman

10. Building Type:

<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial			

11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

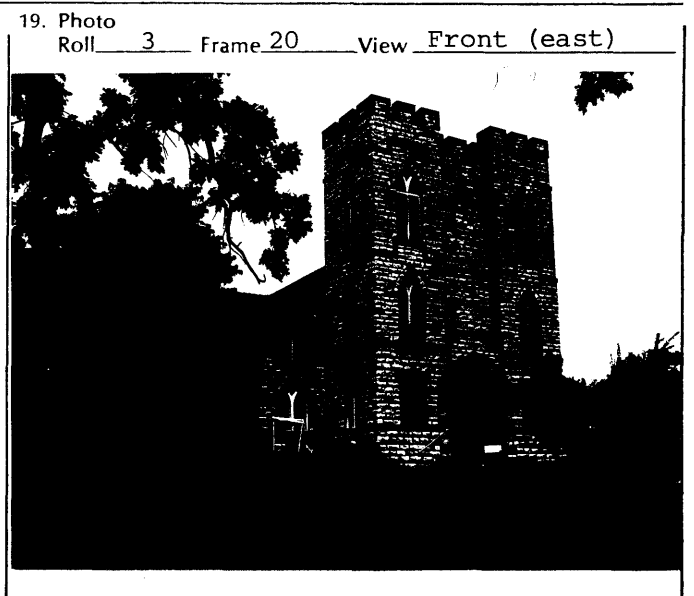
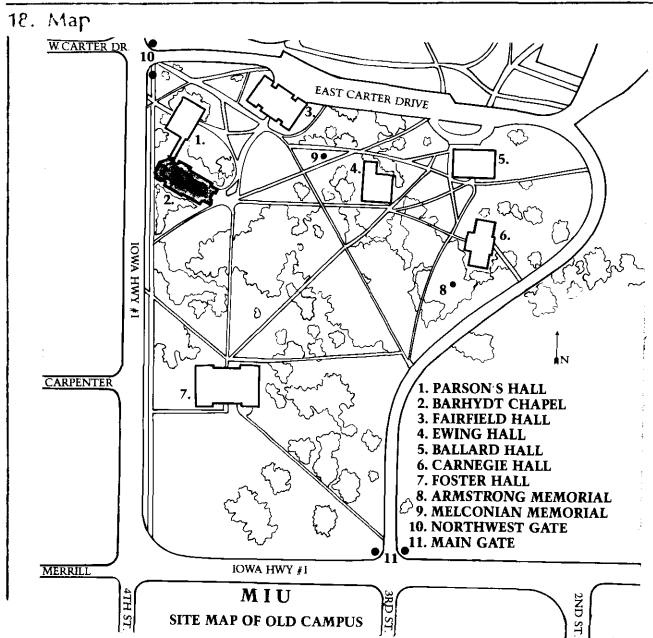
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated

14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historic campus area, attached to Parsons Hall by an 80 ft. loggia  
Leaded and stained glass windows, pipe organ

15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other Parsons Hall and connecting loggia

16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other college campus and related educational buildings



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC

Barhydt Chapel

AND/OR COMMON

Barhydt Chapel

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE

Fairfield

Jefferson

Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO

Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT

MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph is an exterior front view of Barhydt Chapel taken from the southeast side.

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Barhydt Chapel is primarily constructed of rough cutstone and is Late Gothic revival in style. Its plan is a longitudinal cross with octagonal apse and two rectangular towers. Most of the Chapel's exterior detail is made of cut Blue Bedford stone. Most of the interior woodwork was altered in the mid-1950's. The windows throughout are leaded and stained glass depicting Biblical themes of the Rich Young Ruler and the Crown of Righteousness, and are in the form of Gothic arches. The interior also features a built-in pipe organ and a choir loft reached by a winding stair. The roof is covered with a green glazed ceramic tile.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

(See following page)

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College

A Fair Field

The Portfolio, Vol. 30, No. 26, 4/28/10, pp. 1-2; Vol. 31, No. 28, 5/25/11; Vol. 31, No. 2, 9/29/10

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, Vol. 1, 11/9/10

Original blueprints, H.K. Holsman, Architect; Selz Interview; Taylor Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983

Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028

Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
25 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # Two

## Barhydt Chapel

Barhydt Chapel was one of the last two buildings to be constructed during the building campaign after the burning of Ankeny Hall. As this campaign was bearing its final fruits, the student newspaper, The Portfolio, commented on the building of the Chapel.

"After Ankeny Hall burned the future looked very dark, but the fire seems to have proven a blessing in disguise, for the sun shines brighter each succeeding year, until today Parsons students are enjoying things not dreamt of a few years ago."

Adversity could not defeat their spirit. At the Parsons commencement of 1908 it was announced that Mr. Theodore W. Barhydt of Burlington, a Parsons trustee, intended to build a chapel as a memorial to his mother who had died when he was very young. Earlier plans drawn by Henry K. Holsman which would have continued the classical theme of the other new buildings in red brick and contrasting stone trim were discarded in favor of an Late Gothic style in rough-hewn limestone with buff stone trim. Whether or not Holsman had ever used such a style before is unknown; however, he made use of the new style twenty years later when he designed the Disciples Divinity House and Chapel on the University of Chicago campus.

A new location was also selected on the west side of campus where originally there had been a grape arbor, the building was to face the southeast. The contract was let to L.T. Crisman and Company of Ottumwa and excavations were begun in April of 1910.

The Chapel's Late Gothic design was carried out in Eddyville limestone, brought from the Mississippi River at Burlington, with buff Bedford stone trimmings at a cost of about \$30,000. Unfortunately the

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman  
Map Reference # Two

limestone used suffered from "spawling"--tiny cracks which admit water and cause small pieces to flake off--so that the chapel walls developed water leaks over the years which are a continuing problem. The total length of the building is 117 ' x 60' with two square towers at the front which were 60' tall.

Seating capacity was provided for 700 by oak seats with a dark finish at a cost of \$1500. The original pulpit, trim, choir screen, and communion railing were also in dark wood. The organ and choir lofts at this time were built at the back of the chapel. A huge chandelier hung in the center of the sanctuary.

Stained glass windows were installed which depicted the biblical theme of the Rich Young Ruler and the Crown of Righteousness. A bid was accepted at \$1740 on 10/25/10 from Leyendeker Studio in Chicago.

The Chapel was dedicated on October 18, 1911. The Iowa Presbyterian Synod came for the dedication by special train from Burlington where they were in session. Due to Parsons' affiliation with the Presbyterian Synod, the Chapel played an important role in community life for chapel services, vespers, and commencement activities.

A graduate of Parsons recalled that while he was a student at the College (sometime during 1928-30), the Barhydt Chapel was closed one morning by the dean, Carl Guise, because it was becoming structurally unsafe. The massive green tile roof had become too heavy for the four main supporting pillars, causing them to sag. Dean Guise commented to the students, "The fellow who designed this building was more of an artist than

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
25 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number .....  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # Two

an architect." The weight problem was subsequently solved by installing iron tie-rods linking the pillars across the sanctuary.

In 1955 the chapel's interior was altered in preparation for the inauguration of the new president, Dr. Millard Roberts. New pews in a lighter finish were installed; the dark wood trim was removed throughout the building; the organ and choir section were moved forward to the chancel; the communion rail was taken out; the side steps leading from the nave to the chancel were replaced with shallower steps across the entire front of the chancel; and the original pulpit was replaced by an imposing one of lighter wood set in the center of and dominating the chancel area.

Today Barhydt Chapel continues to be a building of great beauty on the MIU campus and serves as an interdenominational chapel and meeting hall for the community.

### Identification

1. Site Name Parsons Hall
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson
3. Street Address Highway One North
4. Legal Location Centennial addition to the town of Fairfield, IA Block 15--undivided  

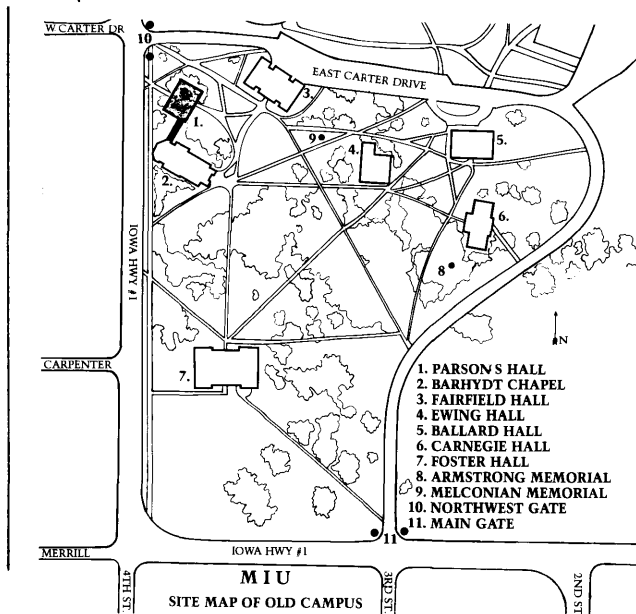
Urban:	subdivision	block	parcel	subparcel
Rural:	township	range	section	¼ section of ¼ section
5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_ ; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_
6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University
7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Administrative Office Building Original Lewis B. Parsons Bible School

### Description

9. Date of Construction 1915 Architect/Builder Probably H.K. Holsman
10. Building Type:
 

<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial			
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Parsons is connected to Barhydt Chapel by an eighty foot matching loggia.  
Parsons, Barhydt Chapel, the connecting loggia and the main entry are identical in
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  material.  
 other loggia, chapel, and main entry gates.
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other landscaped college campus

### 18. Map



### 19. Photo



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC Parsons Hall

AND/OR COMMON Parsons Hall

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN	VICINITY OF	COUNTY	STATE
Fairfield		Jefferson	Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Lisa Stein DATE OF PHOTO Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

(Form No 10-301a  
Rev. 10-74)

This photograph shows an aerial exterior front view of Parsons taken from the roof of Barhydt Chapel. The road seen in the upper right hand corner is State Highway One North.



# Significance

(Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Parsons Hall is significant in that, along with the Chapel, the connecting cloistered walk and the entry gates, it forms the key focal point for the old campus. Its late Gothic revival style is very unusual in this area. Its walls are rock faced Blue Bedford limestone (the same as the Barhydt Chapel) with steps, sills, and wall capping of cut Blue Bedford Stone. The roof is covered with a glazed green ceramic tile of good brilliancy and richness. The first floor front windows have wooden frames with tracery and contain small diamond shaped panes. Other details include copper gutter work and inset stone panels in the upper walls. The interior is highlighted by an entry hall containing oak paneling with matching inset arched doors and oak encased ceiling beams with hanging lanterns.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

(See following page)

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College

A Fair Field

The Portfolio, Vol. 30, No. 26, 4/28/10, pp. 1-2; Vol. 31, No. 28, 5/25/11;

Vol. 31, No. 2, 9/29/10

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, Vol. 1, 11/9/10

Selz Interview; Taylor Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office

Date April 24, 1983

Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556

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Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

Review and Compliance Project:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman, Q1  
Map Reference # One

## Parsons Hall

The last building to be constructed in the historic district and also the last of the buildings resulting from the building campaign was Parsons Hall. In June 1914, the Board of Trustees of Parsons College established the Lewis B. Parsons, Jr. School of English Bible and Christian Service, named in honor of the donor whose bequest made Parsons College itself possible. Miss Julia E. Parsons and Dr. Willis E. Parsons, the son and daughter of Lewis B. Parsons, provided the funds to construct a new building to house this department at a cost of \$20,000.

The two-story building was also designed by Henry K. Holsman in the Late Gothic style and constructed of Eddyville limestone with Bedford stone trimming to match Barhydt Chapel. Like the chapel, Parsons Hall also has a green tile roof. The crenellated detail of the roof, copper gutters and downspouts, and certain interior features such as the large, arching windows in the stairwell were all used again by the architect in his design of the Disciples Divinity House at the University of Chicago. Parsons Hall was connected to the chapel by a cloistered walk, forming a very beautiful unit on the campus' northwest corner.

Excavation began and construction was completed during the summer of 1915. The first floor was divided into two large classrooms, and the upstairs area was used as a museum. Originally the museum contained furniture from the Parsons family home in Illinois, oil paintings of the Parsons family, and other memorabilia. In time, the display cases from Foster Hall with the rock and fossil collections, wildlife specimens, and

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # One

cultural artifacts were moved to the second-floor museum in Parsons Hall.

Parsons Hall was dedicated on October 13, 1915. It continued to house the Bible College for many years. In 1955, the administrative offices, including the president's office, were moved from Fairfield Hall to Parsons Hall. When the College closed, the museum exhibits were transferred to a new museum in the Fairfield Public Library.

Today Parsons Hall continues to house the executive and administrative board offices for MIU and together with Barhydt Chapel forms the most impressive structure in the historic district.

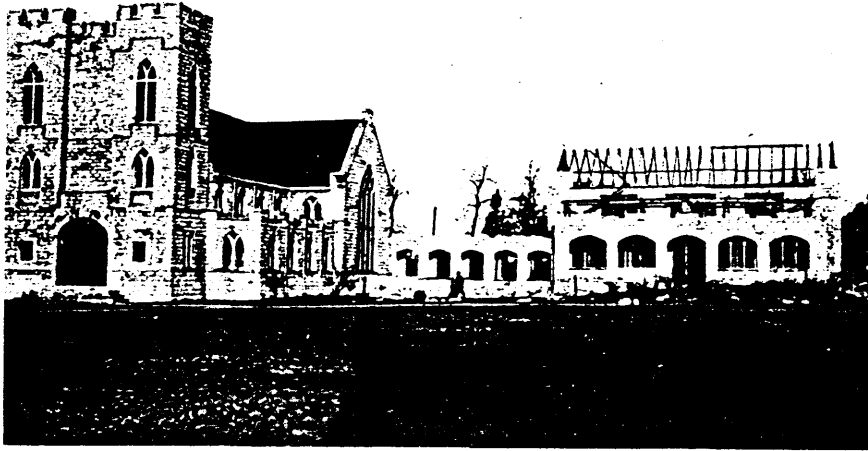


BARHYDT CHAPEL AND PARSONS HALL (1936)



BARHYDT CHAPEL (1936)

Site Sheets: Parsons Hall



BARHYDT CHAPEL AND PARSONS HALL (under construction)  
(1916)

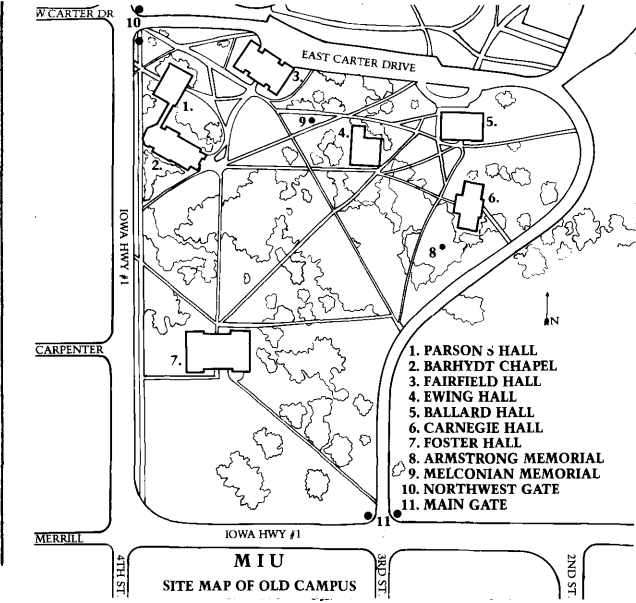
**Identification**

1. Site Name Armstrong Memorial Marker and Statue  
 2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson  
 3. Street Address Highway One North  
 4. Legal Location \_\_\_\_\_  
 Urban: \_\_\_\_\_ subdivision \_\_\_\_\_ block \_\_\_\_\_ parcel \_\_\_\_\_ subparcel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rural: \_\_\_\_\_ township \_\_\_\_\_ range \_\_\_\_\_ section \_\_\_\_\_ ¼ section of ¼ section \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_ ; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University  
 7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
 (Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)  
 8. Use: Present \_\_\_\_\_ Original \_\_\_\_\_

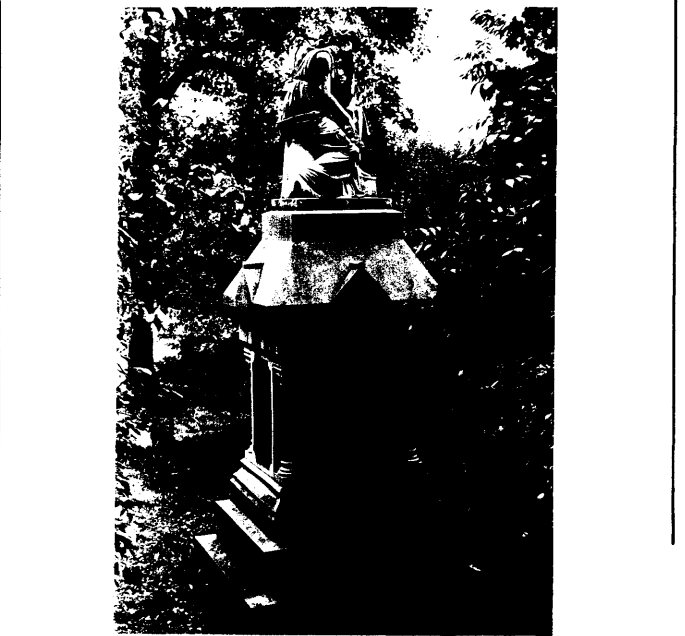
**Description**

9. Date of Construction \_\_\_\_\_ Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling  industrial  other institutional  religious  
 multiple-family dwelling  educational  public  agricultural  
 commercial  monument  
 11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_  
 12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other carved stone block  
 13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
 14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historical campus area, landscaped, marks burial site, engraved plaque  
 15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none  
 16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_  
 17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other university campus and related educational buildings

18. Map



19. Photo 3 Frame 24 View Front (west)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC

Armstrong Memorial and Statue

AND/OR COMMON

Armstrong Memorial and Statue

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Fairfield

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Jefferson

STATE  
Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT

MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph is a front view of the Armstrong Memorial and  
Statue taken from the west.

# Significance

(Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The Armstrong memorial is built in two pieces--an elaborate granite base in the Beaux-Arts style and a carved limestone figure on top. The base features four engaged corner columns with decorative carving, base and cornice detail, and triangular pieces centered over a polished granite inscription plate on each side. The figure is a woman in a pensive mood, holding a floral garland in her left hand. The style of the monument depicts the revival of interest in classicism during the late 19th century in the United States.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

Dr. John Armstrong, D.C., the first President and a founding faculty member of Parsons College, assumed office in 1877. Dr. Armstrong had been a strong promoter of the college, and he served until 1879 when after a short illness, he passed away. It was decided that he should be buried in the midst of the scene he loved so well. His wife erected a monument over the grave and was later buried there also.

Dr. Armstrong typified that educational spirit presented in this application. In an historical address given in 1882 by Judge Charles D. Leggett, it was said that, "Dr. Armstrong gave freely of his own means to the cause and carried the young institution in strong and loving arms over many a crisis in the first years."

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College

A Fair Field

"Exercises Connected with the Laying of the Corner Stone of the New College Building of Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa, Wednesday, June 21, 1882"

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



# UNIVERSITY INVENTORY

Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # Nine

## Identification

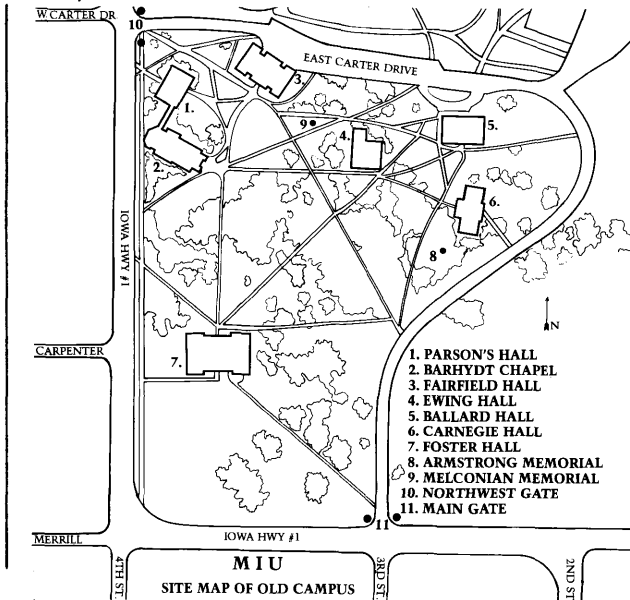
1. Site Name Melconian Memorial Marker
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson
3. Street Address Highway One North
4. Legal Location  

Urban:	subdivision	block	parcel	subparcel
Rural:	township	range	section	¼ section of ¼ section
5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_
6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University
7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present \_\_\_\_\_ Original \_\_\_\_\_

## Description

9. Date of Construction probably 1925 Architect/Builder not known
10. Building Type:
  - single-family dwelling
  - multiple-family dwelling
  - commercial
  - industrial
  - educational
  - monument
  - other institutional
  - public
  - religious
  - agricultural
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other solid masonry
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historic campus area, bronze historical plaque
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other university campus and related educational buildings

### 18. Map



### 19. Photo



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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC Melconian Memorial Marker

AND/OR COMMON Melconian Memorial Marker

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN	VICINITY OF	COUNTY	STATE
Fairfield		Jefferson	Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Lisa Stein DATE OF PHOTO Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph shows a front view of the Melconian Memorial Marker taken from the west.

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The memorial to George D. Melconian is a simple cement block with colored stone aggregate and minor detail at the base and top. Its sides slant slightly inwards and one carries a bronze inscription plate. A metal and glass lantern rests on top. The memorial serves to enrich the campus as an object of interest of small scale.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) Architecture/Education

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

This memorial was erected in 1927 in honor of George D. Melconian, who drowned on June 4, 1925 while attempting to save the lives of others. It was presented to the College by the Class of 1927.

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

The plaque on the Melconian Marker  
The Fairfield Ledger, June 4, 1925  
Selz Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation  
Iowa State Historical Department  
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number \_\_\_\_\_  
District Name Henry K. Holsman...  
Map Reference # Nine

## Melconian Marker

This memorial, erected in 1927, was in honor of George D. Melconian, a Parsons College student who died on June 4, 1925 while attempting to save two young children, Herbert Messer and Paul Kearns from drow<sup>ing</sup>. The Fairfield Daily Ledger for that day reported that the two younger boys were swimming in Crow Creek just east of Fairfield and a block and a half north of the Burlington Highway.

According to the article, Messer apparently got out of his depth and Kearns attempted to save him but got into difficulty himself. Melconian, a 21 year old student from Patterson, New Jersey whose brother, Vartan D. Melconian was due to graduate from Parsons in two days' time, jumped in to try and save the two boys but was likewise drawn under.

Paul F. Kearns was awarded a bronze medal from the Carnegie Hero Fund which bore the inscription "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." The medal is now in the Fairfield Public Library.

George D. Melconian was honored with a stone marker presented in his memory to Parsons College by the Class of 1927. The marker still stands west of Henn Mansion/Ewing Hall, a tribute to the bravery and heroism of this student.

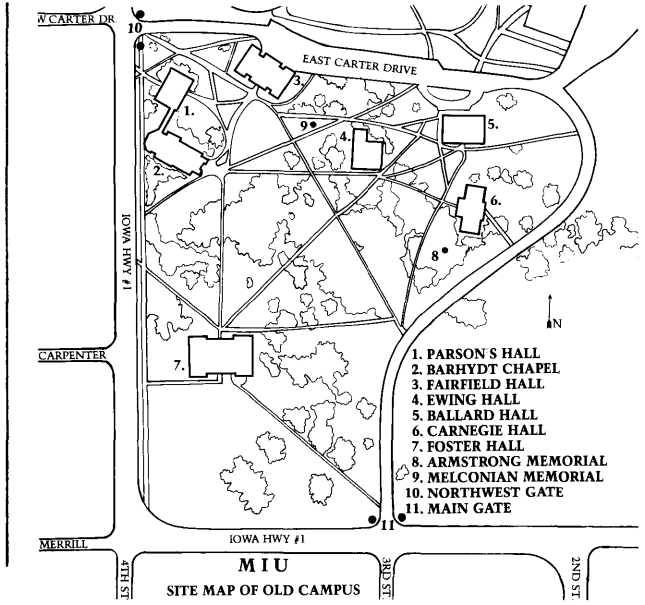
Identification

1. Site Name Northwest Gate
2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson
3. Street Address Highway One North
4. Legal Location Centennial addition to City of Fairfield, Iowa 15 (see aerial graphic)  
Urban: subdivision block parcel subparcel  
 Rural: township range section ¼ section of ¼ section
5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_ ; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_
6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University
7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
(Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)
8. Use: Present Gateway Original Gateway

Description

9. Date of Construction 1915 Architect/Builder Probably H.K. Holsman
10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling     industrial     other institutional     religious  
 multiple-family dwelling     educational     public     agricultural  
 commercial
11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_
12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other Stone and mortar
13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
Located in historic campus area, landscaped
15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none
16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_
17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other college campus and related educational buildings

18. Map



19. Photo Roll 7 Frame 53 View West



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC Northwest Gate

AND/OR COMMON

Northwest Gate

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Fairfield

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Jefferson

STATE  
Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph shows a front of the gate taken from the west on State Highway One North.

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The Northwest Gate, which matches the Chapel and Parsons Hall, is made of random-coursed rubble stone with cut-stone capping. It consists of three pillars, two of which carry lanterns on top. Two lower stone walls connect three of the pillars, two of which support the university's name plate, which is wood. The use of rough-cut stone relates to an interest in natural or rustic form, an evident contrast to the popularity of the classical revival of that time.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

In 1915 the Class of 1909 erected a gateway entrance at the northwest corner of the historic district. It was constructed of the same Eddyville limestone as the Chapel.

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



NORTHWEST GATE

(1916)



**Identification**

1. Site Name Main Gate

2. Village/Town/City Fairfield Township Center County Jefferson

3. Street Address Highway One North

4. Legal Location Centennial addition to City of Fairfield, Iowa 15

Urban: Rural: subdivision township block range parcel section subparcel 1/4 section of 1/4 section

5. UTM Location: zone \_\_\_\_\_ easting \_\_\_\_\_ northing \_\_\_\_\_; Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

6. Owner(s) Name Maharishi International University

7. Owner(s) Address Highway One North Fairfield Iowa 52556  
 (Street address) (City) (State) (Zip)

8. Use: Present \_\_\_\_\_ Original \_\_\_\_\_

**Description**

9. Date of Construction 1910 Architect/Builder Not known

10. Building Type:  
 single-family dwelling  industrial  other institutional  religious  
 multiple-family dwelling  educational  public  agricultural  
 commercial

11. Exterior Walls:  clapboard  stone  brick  board and batten  shingles  stucco  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

12. Structural System:  wood frame with interlocking joints  wood frame with light members (balloon frame)  
 masonry load-bearing walls  iron frame  steel frame with curtain walls  reinforced concrete  
 other brick

13. Condition:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated

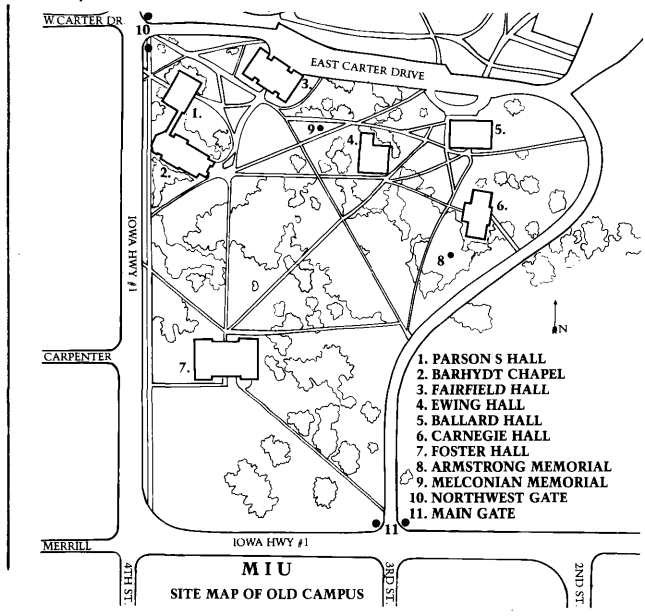
14. Integrity:  original site  moved—if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:  
located in historic campus area, landscaped

15. Related Outbuildings and Property:  barn  other farm structures  carriage house  garage  privy  
 other none

16. Is the building endangered?  no  yes—if so, why? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Surroundings of the building:  open land  woodland  scattered outbuildings  densely built-up  commercial  
 industrial  residential  other Landscaped university campus and related educational buildings

**18. Map**



**19. Photo** Roll 7 Frame 5 View Southeast



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1** NAME

HISTORIC Main Gate

AND/OR COMMON Main Gate

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Fairfield

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Jefferson

STATE  
Iowa

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT  
Lisa Stein

DATE OF PHOTO  
Aug. 8, 1982

NEGATIVE FILED AT  
MIU Facilities Planning Office

**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

This photograph shows a side view of the Main Gate taken from State Highway One, southeast direction.

# Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

## 19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The south or Main Gate is brick with limestone capping and consists of two main posts with copper and glass lanterns flanked by lower semi-circular walls extending twenty feet in either direction. It exists as an element of a noteworthy and dignified example of American landscape design.

## 20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The Main Gate was constructed in 1910 as the main entrance to the campus from the south section of what is now Highway One. Originally the brick posts with their semi-circular walls were further supplemented by large piers, topped with copper and glass lanterns, but the piers were removed in 1953 when the driveway was paved. The Main Gate's site provides an attractive view of the panorama of the MIU Historic Campus District.

## 21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

Fifty Years of Parsons College  
A Fair Field  
Selz Interview

Prepared by Resource Planning Office Date April 24, 1983  
Address Fairfield, Iowa 52556 Telephone (515) 472-6028  
Organization Maharishi International University

## For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

### 1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: \_\_\_\_\_
- Determination of Eligibility

### Review and Compliance Project:

- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Subject Traces

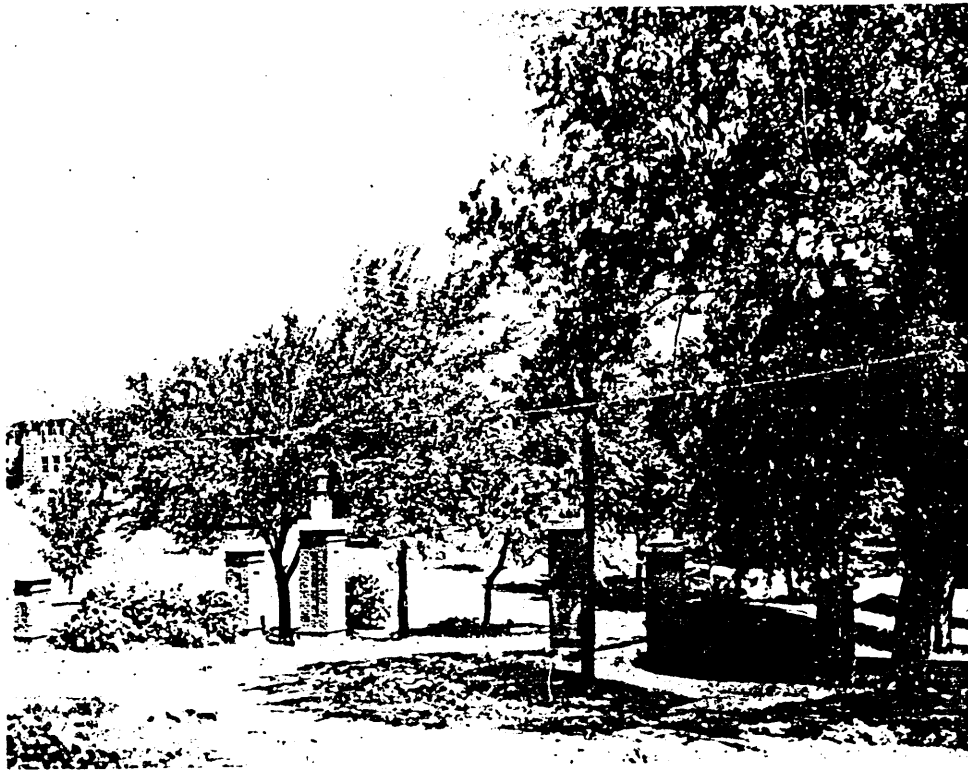
- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. \_\_\_\_\_
- e. \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Photo Images \_\_\_\_\_

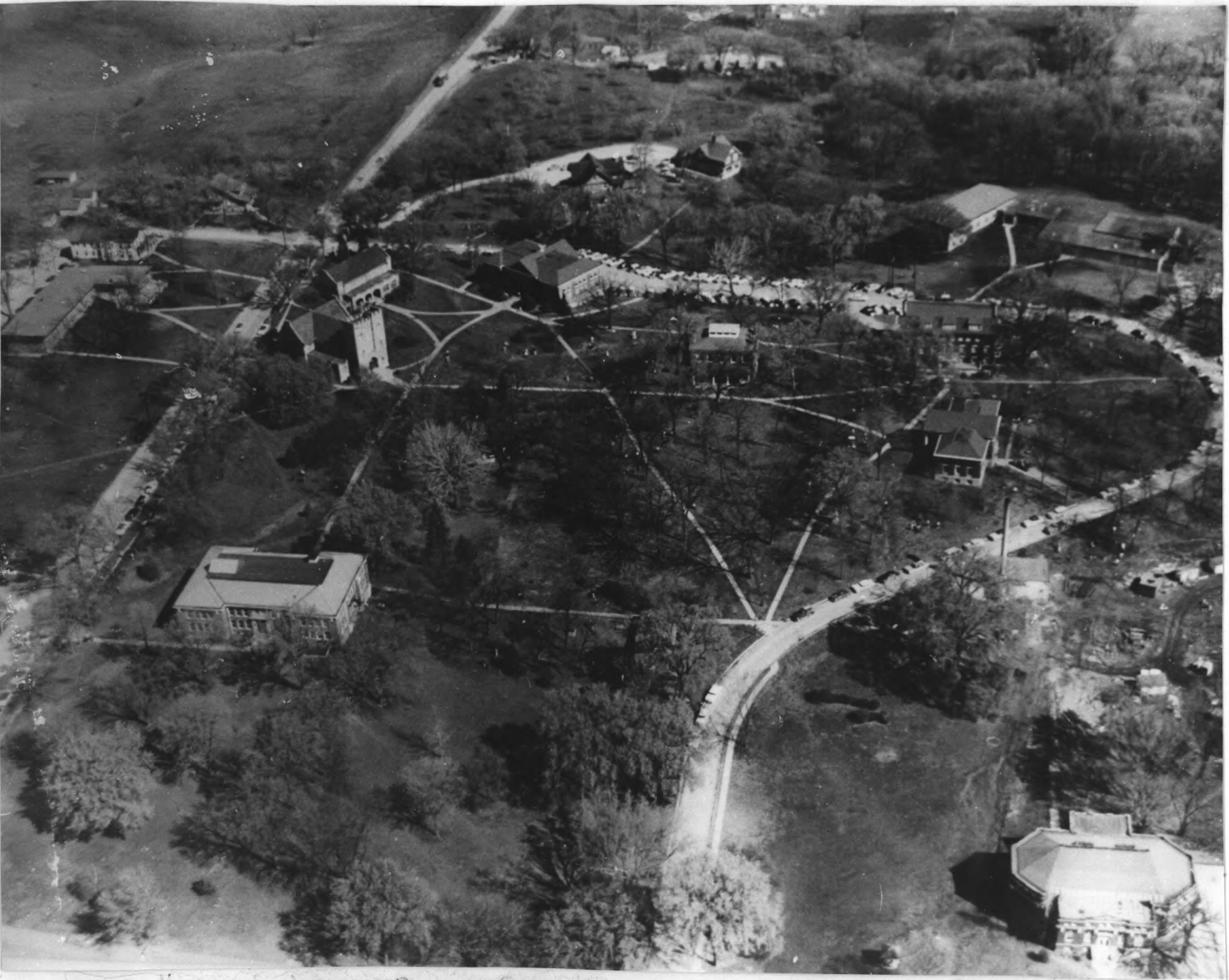
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



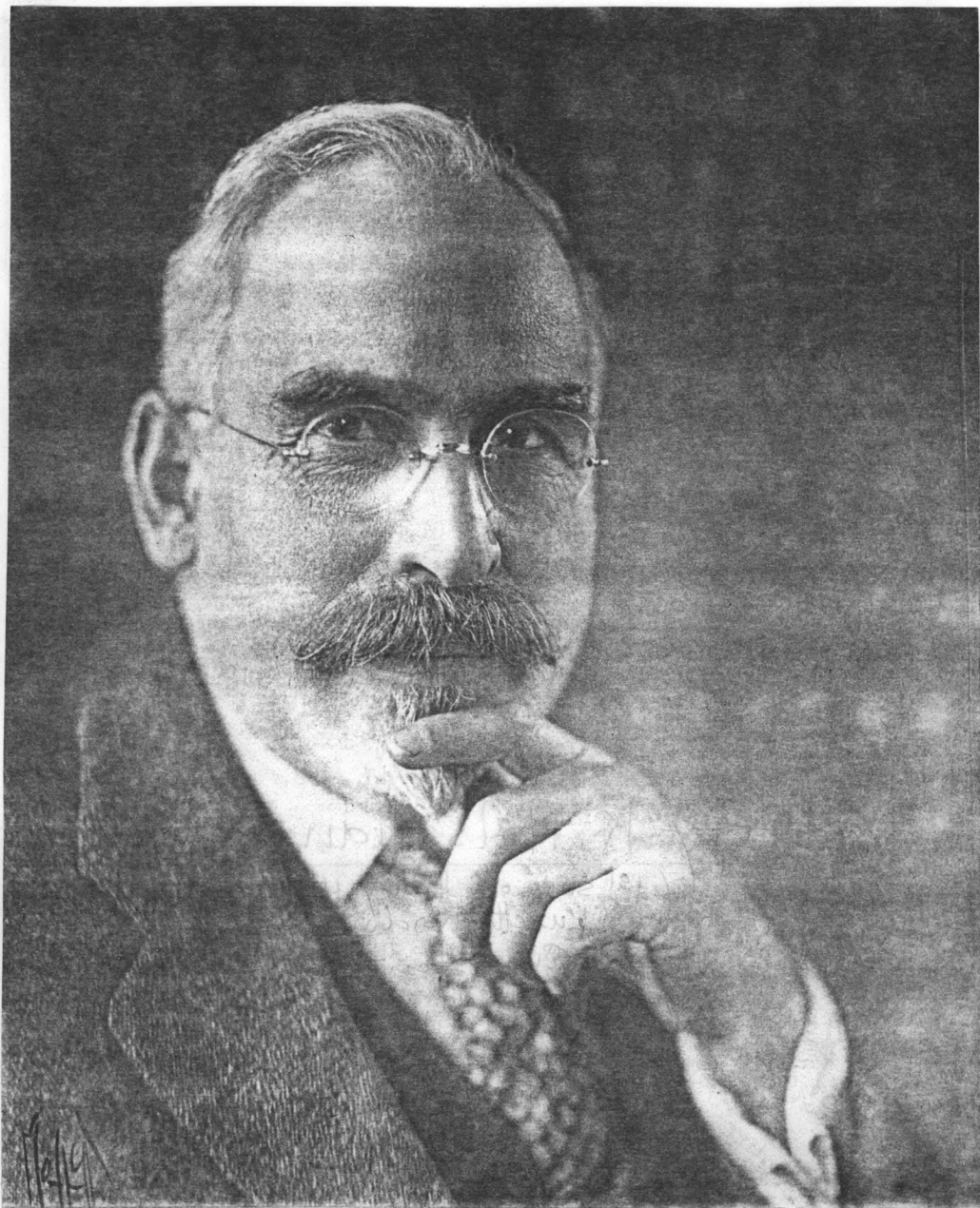
MAIN GATE - SOUTH (1916)



MAIN GATE - SOUTH (1927)

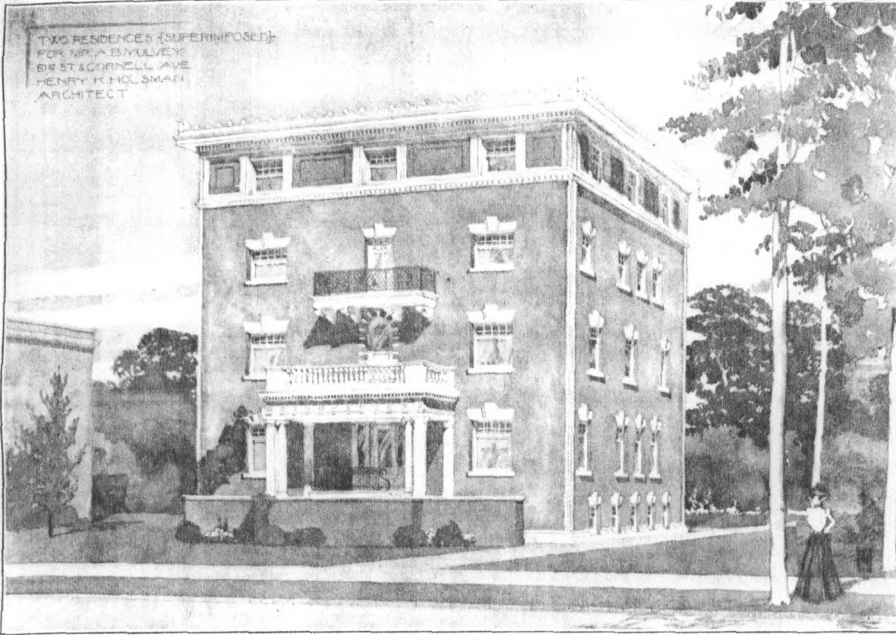


Aerial View (c. 1952) of then Parsons College, view to north (refer to page 6)

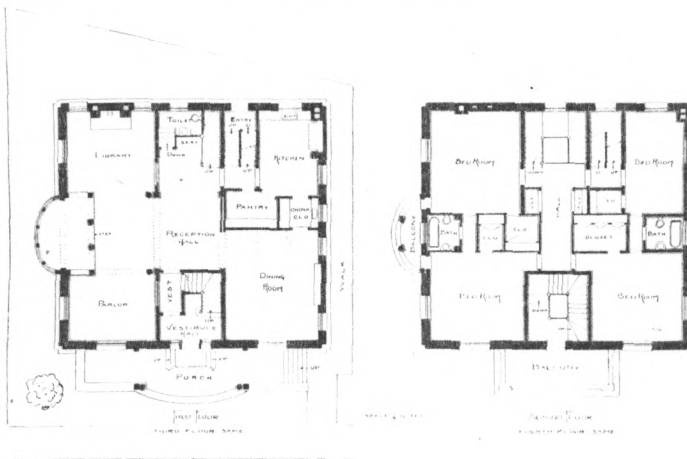


Henry Kerchner Holsman, A.I.A.

(ca. 1945)

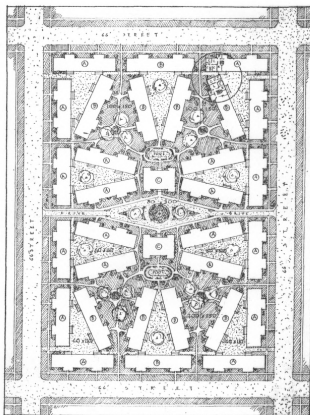


SUPERIMPOSED RESIDENCES.  
Henry K. Holsman, Architect.



PLAN.

Exhibition 1900, Chicago Architectural Club



## PLOT PLAN

AN EXAMPLE OF LOW COST APARTMENTS ON A TYPICAL CHICAGO BLOCK

SCALE OF FEET  $\frac{1}{8}'' = 10'$ 

## CONTENTS

20 (A) UNITS	8 6'-EM - 8-7'-EM	32 UNITS = 320 6'-EM; 160 8'-EM; 32 9'-EM
10 (B) -	16 6'-EM APTS.	TOTAL 512 APARTMENTS, 2050 ROOMS
2 (C) -	16 4'-EM APTS (HEAT PLANT)	COVERAGE OF LOT = 46.7%

HOLSMAN &amp; HOLSMAN ARCHITECTS 307 N. MICHIGAN AVE. CENTRAL CHICAGO

"Rehabilitating Blighted Areas," Henry K. Holsman,  
Architects Club of Chicago, 1932.



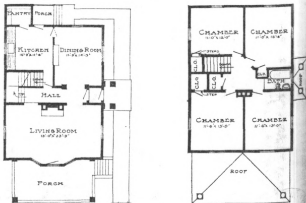
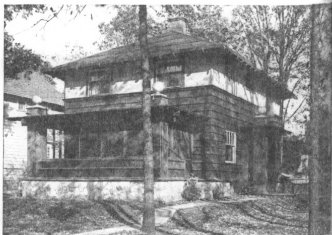
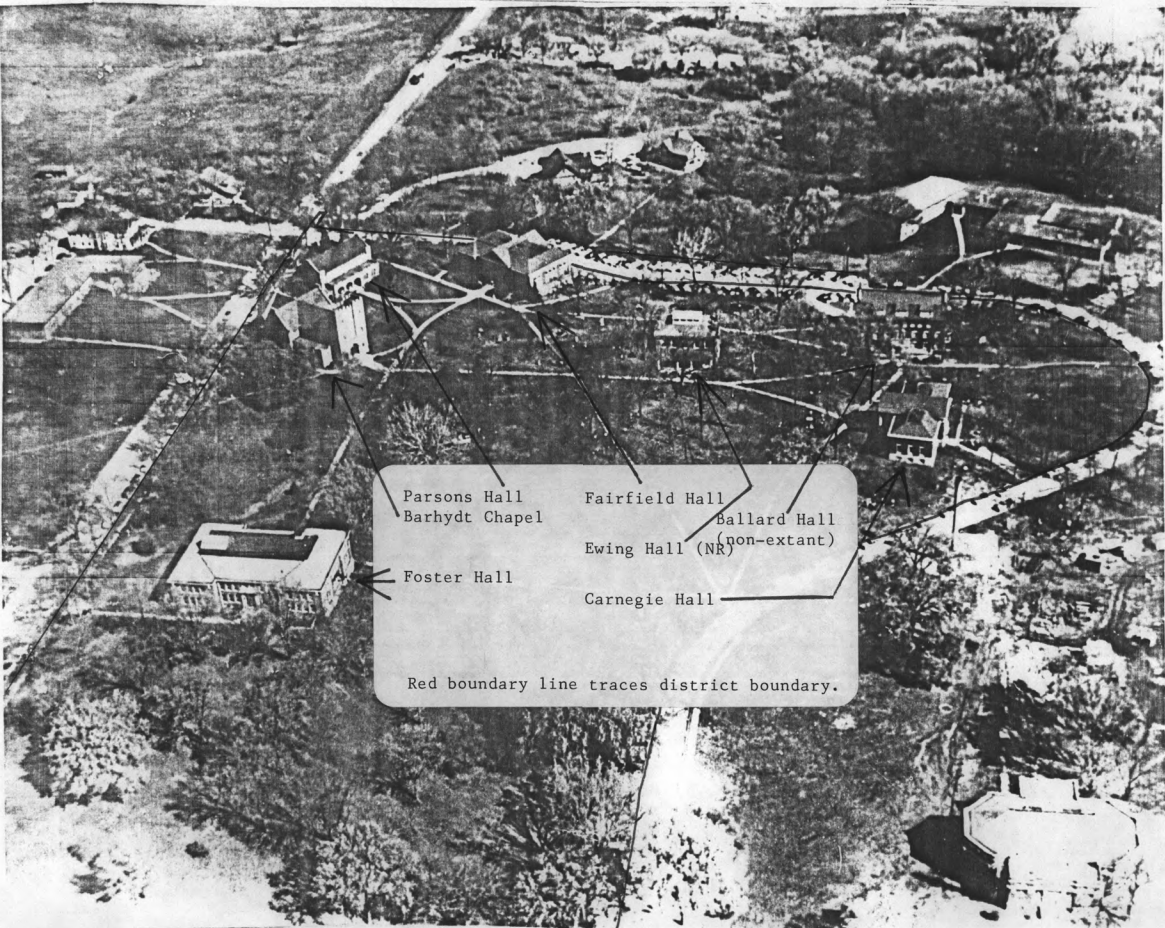


FIG. 12. VIEW AND FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR PLANS—HOUSE OF C. B. SHOLES, ESQ., RIVER FOREST, ILL. HENRY K. HOLSMAN, ARCHITECT.



Parsons Hall  
Barhydt Chapel

Foster Hall

Fairfield Hall

Ewing Hall (NR)

Carnegie Hall

Ballard Hall  
(non-extant)

Red boundary line traces district boundary.



The Collegiate Architecture of Henry K.  
Holsman...  
MIU Campus  
Fairfield, Iowa  
Photo No. 11  
By: Lisa Stein  
Date: February 3, 1983  
View: 5733 South University Ave., Chicago,  
Ill. by H. K. Holsman.

The Collegiate Architecture of Henry K. Holsman: An Historic  
Campus District, Fairfield, Iowa.

Numbered Photos:

Please note:

- Photos #2-10 are examples of Holsman's similar works in Chicago, they accompany the statement of historic significance pertaining to Holsman's career and importance.
- Photos 1, 11+ accompany the site sheets.
- Additional photos and photocopies of photos are retained in their mounted format as they were originally submitted to Iowa SHPO, and these were not dismounted. Again, some photocopies address Holsman's work in general, while others, accompanying the individual site sheets, pertain to this particular nomination.

The Collegiate Architecture of Henry K. Holsman...

There is no Photo #25.