

1986

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries. Use letter quality printer in 12 pitch, using an 85 space line and a 10 space left margin. Use only archival paper (20 pound, acid free paper with a 2% alkaline reserve).

1. Name of Property

historic name Henry Mall Historic District

other names/site number Lesser Mall, Agricultural Mall

2. Location

420, 425, 440, 445, 460, and 465 Henry Mall
street & number 1450 Linden Drive N/A not for publication

city, town Madison N/A vicinity

state Wisconsin code WI county Dane code 025 zip code 53706

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	No. of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>7</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

No. of contributing resources
previously listed in the
National Register 3

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

X [Signature] _____ 11/25/91
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historic Preservation Officer-WI
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

entered in the National Register.
___ See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 1/22/92

___ determined eligible for the National Register. ___ See continuation sheet

___ determined not eligible for the National Register.

___ removed from the National Register.

___ other, (explain:)

[Signature] _____
Signature of the Keeper Date

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/college
EDUCATION/research facility
RECREATION/CULTURE/work of art
LANDSCAPE/plaza

EDUCATION/college
EDUCATION/research facility
RECREATION/CULTURE/work of art
LANDSCAPE/plaza

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival
Italian Renaissance
Modern Movement

foundation Concrete
walls Brick
Limestone
roof Terra Cotta
other Wood
Bronze

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Description

The Henry Mall Historic District consists of a block-long, beautifully landscaped mall around whose edges are placed seven sizable institutional buildings belonging to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This district is located near the heart of the instructional core of the sprawling 192-building University of Wisconsin campus. Included within it are five contributing buildings built between 1906-1914, two of which are among the nine buildings built on the University campus between 1908 and 1914 to designs supplied by nationally-known University of Pennsylvania colleagues, architects Warren P. Laird and Paul P. Cret. Laird and Cret had been chosen by the Board of Regents of the University in 1906 to produce a master plan to guide the future expansion of the Madison campus. The resulting Beaux Arts style-influenced "General Design for Future Constructional Development" was completed late in 1908. Although the plan was never formally implemented by the Regents it had a lasting influence on campus development, an influence that was partly due to the Regent's decision to retain Laird and Cret to design subsequent campus buildings in collaboration with Arthur Peabody, then the Campus Architect and the designer of the Agronomy Building (Map No. 2 - 1906), and the Agricultural Engineering Building (Map No. 3 - 1907, NRHP 06-27-85); two of the district's oldest resources.

Most of the buildings that resulted from this collaboration were designed in the Italian Renaissance Revival style in order to bring visual uniformity to a campus that was then most notable architecturally for its stylistic diversity. Laird, and especially Cret, acted as the principal designers in this collaboration and the designs they supplied for the Agricultural Chemistry Building (Map No. 1 - 1912, NRHP 06-19-85) and the Wisconsin High School Building (Map No. 7 - 1913-1914) are both representative examples of their other work on the campus. These buildings were given prominent sites facing each other on the southwest and southeast corners that were formed by the intersection of the mall (then known as the Agricultural or the Lesser Mall) and the perpendicularly placed University Avenue and they were constructed of steel and reinforced concrete and surfaced in reddish brown and in buff colored brick, respectively. These buildings thus served to anchor the south end of the mall (Map No. 8 - 1908), a planning element that Laird and Cret designed as an integral part of their 1908 master plan and one that is considered to be one of the district's contributing resources. Laird and Cret positioned the mall at this point in order to take advantage of the already existing Agriculture Hall Building (Map No. 4 - 1903, NRHP 03-14-85), an excellent large-scale Neoclassical Revival style building designed by J.T.W. Jennings (Peabody's predecessor). This building anchors the north end of the mall and commands an elevated position overlooking it. These five contributing buildings were then later joined by two other non-contributing Modern Movement style buildings that completed the design of the mall. These buildings are the Stovall Laboratory of Hygiene (Map No. 5 - 1951) and the Genetics Building (Map No. 6 - 1961). Although several of these buildings have had later additions attached to them and have undergone other modifications, all of them have been well maintained and are in excellent condition today.

X See continuation sheet

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In addition to these eight resources (seven buildings and one site), the district also contains two other resources. These resources consist of a contributing commemorative statue of William Dempster Hoard designed by noted sculptor Gutzon Borglum (the creator of Mount Rushmore), which is located on the upper portion of Henry Mall (Map No. 9 - 1922); and a commemorative boulder that bears a plaque honoring Dean of Agriculture William Arnon Henry that is located on the lower end of the mall (Map No. 10 - 1924).

The city of Madison is both the capital of the state of Wisconsin and its second largest city.¹ The University of Wisconsin campus is located immediately to the west of the downtown commercial section of the city and the historic core of the campus centers around the eminence on the eastern edge of the campus known as Bascom Hill (Bascom Hill Historic District, NRHP 09-12-74). This core is dominated by Bascom Hall (1857), which is placed on the summit of Bascom Hill and which faces east toward the Wisconsin State Capitol (1906-1917, NRHP 10-15-70) a mile away. Bascom Hill is also the easterly terminus of a ridge whose ridgeline runs in a westerly direction and whose slopes run north to the shore of Lake Mendota and south towards the east-west running University Avenue. During the period in which the contributing resources in the Henry Mall Historic District were built the University campus was roughly bounded by Park Street to the east, University Avenue to the south, and the southern shoreline of Lake Mendota to the north. The western end of the campus then consisted of the buildings and lands associated with the University's School of Agriculture and its associated model farm and beyond this was privately owned farmland that was being acquired by the University for campus expansion purposes as quickly as funds permitted.

As enrollment at the University increased, building activity on the campus spread westward and by 1908, when the Laird and Cret master plan for the University was completed, several distinct groups of buildings had developed to the west of the north-south running Charter Street; the western boundary of Bascom Hill. The most visually prominent of these buildings was Agriculture Hall (1450 Linden Drive), located on the east-west running Linden Drive at the head of what in 1903 was the still undeveloped Agricultural Mall (now Henry Mall). This now beautifully landscaped block-long mall runs north to south between Linden Drive and the parallel route of University Avenue. By 1908 two buildings designed by Campus Architect Arthur Peabody had been built on what would eventually be the west side of the mall; the Agronomy Building (1906) at 440 Henry Mall (now Agricultural Journalism), and the Agricultural Engineering Building (1907) at 460 Henry Mall. These buildings were followed in 1912 by Laird and Cret's Neoclassical Revival style Agricultural Chemistry Building (1912) at 420 Henry Mall, which completed the west side of the mall. The Agricultural Chemistry Building (now Biochemistry) was then followed by

¹ Madison's 1980 population was 170,616 and the student enrollment of the University of Wisconsin in 1989 was approximately 45,000.

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Laird and Cret's Neoclassical Revival style Wisconsin High School (1913-1914) located at 425 Henry Mall directly across the mall. The remainder of the east side of the mall remained undeveloped until the early 1950s when the Modern Movement style Stovall Laboratory of Hygiene (1951) at 465 Henry Mall and the Genetics Building (1961) at 445 Henry Mall were constructed.

In order to impose a sense of architectural uniformity on the University campus the Laird and Cret master plan divided the then existing campus buildings into three distinct zones, each zone of which was defined by the prevailing materials and architectural styles present in each.

In the design and construction of buildings undertaken during the last two years (1913-1914), the intention of the general design (the Laird and Cret plan) has been studiously followed especially as regards architectural treatment and materials of construction. Buildings located on the eastern portion of the University grounds have been faced with Madison stone (sandstone) and made to harmonize with the rather free Italian style of the existing buildings, and at the same time have been given such variety as desirable. In buildings located further west, the same color scheme and architectural design has been conserved at somewhat lower cost by the use of buff vitreous brick with stone trimmings. In the Agricultural Department brown brick and Bedford stone (limestone) have been adopted as fulfilling all aesthetic requirements in a harmonious and economical way.²

Charter Street was used as the boundary between the eastern and the center portions of the campus and the buildings that eventually lined this street (including Laird and Cret's Sterling Hall, built in 1914) and all the other buildings within the center zone were faced in the buff brick mentioned above. Henry Mall was then used to separate the center or Applied Sciences portion of the campus from the Agricultural or western portion and it was the construction of Laird and Cret's brown brick-faced Agricultural Chemistry Building in 1912 that completed "the group on the west side of the Lesser Mall and forms the eastern limit of the College of Agriculture."³

The east side of the Lesser Mall, as Henry Mall was known in 1914, marked the western boundary of the center portion of the campus and when Wisconsin High School was completed in 1914 on the south end of the east side of the mall it was the first structure built by the University within this portion. In order to permit the construction of this building it was first necessary for the University to purchase several already existing buildings on the site and raze them. This was also true of

² Peabody, Arthur. "Report of the Architect." Contained within the University of Wisconsin Biennial Report of the Board of Regents for the Years 1912-13 and 1913-14. Democrat Printing Company (State Printers), Madison, Wisconsin, 1914, pg. 344.

³ Ibid, pg. 342.

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all the later University buildings built within the center portion of the campus south of Linden Drive as well since this area had been previously subdivided by private interests. The lots thus created were then developed with a mix of mostly single and multi-family residential buildings, three of which survived until as late as 1961, when they were razed for the construction of the Genetics Building.

The Henry Mall Historic District is comprised of ten resources including seven institutional buildings, one site, and two objects; ~~eight~~ of which are considered to be contributing to the district and ~~two~~ of which are considered to be non-contributing. For the most part the buildings within the district resemble the other campus buildings that surround them in terms of their size and the quality of their design. They are set apart, however, and are enhanced by being grouped around the edges of Henry Mall; a distinction that makes them a visually distinct entity within the otherwise pragmatically organized campus that surrounds them.

The following inventory lists all the resources within the district by number, gives the original name of the resource, the present name when different, the construction date, address and contributing or non-contributing status.

INVENTORY

<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Historic Name (Present Name)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
- 1	420 Henry Mall	Agricultural Chemistry Building (Biochemistry Building)	1912 (NRHP)	C
2	440 Henry Mall	Agronomy Building (Agricultural Journalism)	1906	C
- 3	460 Henry Mall	Agricultural Engineering Building	1907 (NRHP)	C
- 4	1450 Linden Drive	Agriculture Hall	1903 (NRHP)	C
4A		Agriculture Hall Steps	1903, 1922, 1923	
5	465 Henry Mall	Stovall Laboratory of Hygiene	1951	NC
6	445 Henry Mall	Genetics Building	1961	NC
7	425 Henry Mall	Wisconsin High School (425 Henry Mall)	1913-14	C
8		Henry Mall	1914	C
9		Hoard Statue	1922	C
10		William A. Henry Memorial Boulder	c.1924	C

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Agricultural Chemistry Building Contributing 420 Henry Mall Map No. 1

The original portion of the Agricultural Chemistry Building is a two-story Neoclassical Revival style building constructed of reddish-brown brick accented with limestone trim. The main east-facing facade of the original portion fronts onto Henry Mall and the entire building rests on a raised basement story that is founded on a reinforced concrete foundation.

The overall plan of the building (as of 1985) is L-shaped. The main block consists of the original structure, designed by Laird and Cret and built in 1912, and a non-contributing matching addition, designed by Law, Law and Potter of Madison and completed in 1941. The main block measures 130 feet on the east and west facades, and 165 feet along the south (University Avenue) facade. A three-story non-contributing brick addition completed in 1957 and running eighty feet east-to-west and 145 feet north-to-south lies to the north of the 1941 section, north of which is [still] another [six story] non-contributing addition currently [1985] under construction. The symmetrical exterior of the main block features a raised, rusticated basement, quoins, a stone water table, a simple stone cornice, a low-pitched hipped red tile roof, and central projecting pedimented entrance pavillions on the east and west facades.*

The overall building, with its several later additions (including that of 1985), is now irregular in plan and represents a virtual chronology of the architectural styles that have been fashionable on campus since the original portion was built. The exterior of the original portion of the building is still highly intact, however, and has been relatively untouched by the later additions, unlike the interior, which has been much modified as the needs of the biochemistry department have evolved. The entire building is in excellent condition today and has benefited from the outstanding maintenance which all University buildings receive.

Agronomy Building Contributing 440 Henry Mall Map No. 2

The Agronomy Building was designed in 1905 by campus architect Arthur Peabody as the first building on the west side of what would become Henry Mall. This is a two-story rectilinear plan 96-foot-long by 48-foot-deep Renaissance Revival style building and it was constructed in 1906 of reddish-brown brick accented with limestone trim. The entire building rests on a raised basement story that is founded on a reinforced concrete foundation and the symmetrical seven-bay-wide main facade faces east onto Henry Mall. The design scheme of this facade follows a typical Italian Renaissance Revival precedent in having a raised, rusticated

* Miller, E.L. Agricultural Chemistry Building National Register Nomination. December, 1984. On file with the Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. This building was placed on the NR on June 19, 1985 and this nomination contains a considerably more detailed description.

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basement story, a tall first story or piano nobile, and a less tall second story. The facade is then terminated by a simple corbelled brick frieze band and the whole is sheltered by the wide eaves of the shallow-pitched hip roof, which is covered in reddish-colored tiles.

The center bay of the main facade contains the main entrance to the building. The entrance is reached by ascending a broad flight of limestone steps that is flanked by brick and limestone balustrades. These steps then terminate at a shallow landing placed in front of a pair of entrance doors. A large multi-light transom filled with repeated geometric-patterned muntins is placed above the doors and a raised limestone panel into which the words "Department of Agronomy" were once carved is placed above the transom. All of these elements are then enframed by a limestone architrave, which is itself highlighted by a pair of rusticated limestone pilasters that echo the design of the brick quoins that decorate the corners of the building. Two small paired two-light casement window groups are then placed above the entrance in the second story of the facade. The other six bays of this facade contain window openings and they are all identical in design. Each bay contains a small two-light flat-arched double hung window placed in the basement story that is then surmounted by a tall two-light flat-arched double hung first floor window that has a stone sill and that is topped by a flat brick arch that features a pronounced keystone. This window is then itself surmounted by a much smaller grouped pair of two-light casement windows placed in the second story.

The north and south-facing side elevations are each three-bays-wide and the two outer bays are identical in design to the ones on the main facade described above. The center bay on these elevations, however, is given greater importance by having its first floor window enframed with a limestone architrave that is surmounted by a segmental-arched pediment. The first and second floor wall surface of this bay is then given further emphasis by being rusticated.

The interior of the Agronomy Building is simple, even utilitarian in design and many of the original interior partitions have been moved to suit the needs of later occupants.⁶ Never-the-less, the exterior of this building is the least altered of all the buildings in the district, the only change having been the placing of four-light aluminum storm windows over the original windows. Otherwise, this building too has been the recipient of excellent maintenance and it is in excellent and largely intact condition today.

Agricultural Engineering Building Contributing 460 Henry Mall Map No. 3

The Agricultural Engineering Building is a two-story Italian Renaissance Revival style building that was designed by campus architect Arthur Peabody and constructed

⁶ This building now houses the Agricultural Journalism Department and the interior was substantially remodelled in 1977 to accommodate their different needs.

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in 1907 of reddish-brown brick accented with limestone trim. The main east-facing facade faces onto Henry Mall and the entire building rests on a raised basement story that is founded on a reinforced concrete foundation.

Rectangular in shape, the Agricultural Engineering Building measures 150 feet along the east and west facades and forty-five feet along the north and south facades. The symmetrical exterior features brick quoins, a modillioned cornice with dentils, and central projecting pedimented pavilions on each of the north, south and east facades. Each pavilion has quoins and returned eaves, and is accented with a large multi-paned semi-circular window, evoking a fan light, at second story level. A flight of exterior concrete steps rises from Henry Mall to the main entrance, located in the east facade pedimented pavilion. Double entrance doors are set deep in the paneled wood jamb, above which is a transom whose muntins form multiple roman window motifs. Rusticated columns highlight the pedimented architrave, each column supporting an abbreviated entablature and pier. ... The windows on the Agricultural Engineering Building are double-hung sash, regularly spaced. Those at first story level have flat brick arches with pronounced keystones, and stone sills. A simple chimney rises at either end of the hipped red tile roof.⁷

The exterior of this building is still highly intact, the only major alteration having been the addition of twin service towers on the rear (west-facing) elevation designed by Madison architects Peters and Martinson in 1968. These towers, however, were designed in the same style and using the same detailing as the original building and are thus virtually undetectable to anyone not aware of the original appearance of this elevation. The only other exterior change has been the placing of four-light aluminum storm windows over the original windows. The original interior of this building was quite plain, the only decorative elements being largely reserved to the still intact entrance vestibule and main hall. Many of the building's other original interior partitions, however, have been moved as needs dictated. Never-the-less, the Agricultural Engineering building is in excellent condition today and it too has benefited from the outstanding maintenance which all University buildings receive.

Agriculture Hall Contributing 1450 Linden Drive

Map No. 4

The Agriculture Hall building is an imposing three-story Neoclassical Revival style building that was designed by campus architect J.T.W. Jennings and constructed in 1903 using an orange-colored brick and limestone trim. The main south-facing facade faces onto Linden Drive and the entire building rests on a rusticated raised

⁷ Miller, E.L. Agricultural Engineering Building National Register Nomination. December, 1984. On file with the Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. This building was placed on the NR on June 27, 1985 and this nomination contains a considerably more detailed description.

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basement story that is founded on a reinforced concrete foundation.

(The rectilinear plan main block of the building is three-stories in height), measuring 200 feet long along the south (main) facade and sixty-four feet on the east and west facades. The raised basement is constructed of Indiana buff Bedford limestone, the upper stories of buff pressed brick in Flemish bond with terra cotta and limestone trim. On the north facade of the main block is attached a two-story octagonal wing sixty-six feet across, flanked on either side by a rectangular poured concrete and brick basement addition, erected in 1928 and banked into Observatory Hill. The symmetrical exterior of the main building features quoins, a string course, and an enriched cornice of limestone. A two-story limestone portico, three-bays-wide, is attached to a central projecting pavilion on the south facade, marking the main entrance. The portico's heavy entablature is supported by four fluted Ionic columns with enriched capitals, and ornamented with raised lettering reading "COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE." ... A set of double doors appears on the east facade of the main block, and there is a single door on the west facade. At either end on the northern facade of the main block, a door at each level gives access to a fire escape. The octagon has a door at basement level on the east facade and a set of double doors at the first floor on the west facade. On the north facade of the octagon are two single doors, regularly spaced, each set in an architrave shouldered at top and bottom. Each door has a pedimented frontispiece set on consoles and ornamented with a swag and a cartouche. Between the doors is a plaque inscribed "AUDITORIUM AND LIBRARY HALL OF AGRICULTURE." Two brick chimneys appear at either end on the hipped red tile roof of the main block. Limestone cresting in a floral motif ornaments the roof's edge. The red tile roof of the octagon is capped with a squat octagonal wooden cupola with a Roman window motif on each face and a domical copper roof. The octagon has Roman windows on the first and second floors, while the flanking basement additions have fixed multi-pane windows. The remainder of the windows are double hung sash, evenly spaced. Those at basement and third floor level have no surrounds, while those at the second story have sills, voussoirs and keystones of limestone. On the south, east and west facades of the main block at the piano nobile each window is set in an architrave shouldered at top and bottom, with either a scrolled keystone or an ornate tabernacle window enframingent.^e

The exterior of this building is still highly intact, the only major alteration having been the additions added to the octagon wing in 1928. Most of the original interior has also survived, the most notable examples being the entrance hall and the interior of the octagon. Some of the original interior partitions have been moved as needs dictated. Never-the-less, Agriculture Hall is still highly intact today and in excellent condition and it too has received outstanding maintenance.

^e Miller, E.L. Agriculture Hall National Register Nomination. October, 1984. On file with the Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. This building was placed on the NR on March 14, 1985 and this nomination contains a considerably more detailed description of both this building's interior and exterior.

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Agriculture Hall Steps

Map No. 4A

When J.T.W. Jennings designed Agriculture Hall in 1903 he also designed a series of three limestone steps flanked by limestone-faced balustrades that ascend from Linden Drive to the main entrance of the Hall. These steps consist of two broad lower runs of eight steps each that are both divided in two by centrally placed limestone-framed planting beds. A narrower third run of sixteen steps then ascends to a landing placed at the foot of the portico of the Hall. All three runs are centered on the same axis and the lowest run is flanked by short, simple balustrades. The upper runs, however, are flanked by taller balustrades, each of which has ends terminated by pedestals.

Over the years various graduating classes have contributed memorials that have enriched the original design. Two examples are the matching flattened limestone urns donated by the College of Agriculture Short Course classes of 1922 and 1923 that terminate the pedestals at the upper (north) end of the balustrades that flank the middle run of steps.

These steps constitute a landscape element that is integral with the attached Agriculture Hall, even though it is separately treated here, and it too has also been well maintained over the years.

Stovall Laboratory of Hygiene Non-Contributing 465 Henry Mall Map No. 5

This sizeable L-plan Modern Movement style building was designed in 1951 by the Milwaukee architectural firm of Brimeyer, Grellinger & Rose. This is a four-story 150-foot-long by 95-foot-deep building whose main facade faces west onto Henry Mall and it is constructed of buff-colored brick accented with limestone trim. The slope of the site permitted a partially exposed basement story at the south end of the building and this story is founded on a reinforced concrete foundation. A large rectilinear plan one-story penthouse was also placed on the flat roof of the building. This flat-roofed penthouse adds a fifth story to the whole and its elevations are identical in design and use the same materials as the floors below.

The principal facade is symmetrical in design and seven-bays-wide and it is unornamented. The fenestration plan organizes the single-light windows used on the building into horizontal bands that are emphasized by being enframed with limestone and each band is identical in length and extends across most of the width of the facade. The individual windows are then organized into groups within each band, with each group being separated from the next by a plain limestone panel that is identical in size to the window openings. These groups are then arranged in bays across the facade. For the second thru fourth floors, the two outermost bays (1 and 7) each contain three square-shaped window openings while the middle five bays each contain four openings. The same organizing principal is used on the first floor as well, but here the windows are larger and are rectilinear in shape because of the more public nature of this floor.

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The principal entrance to the building is placed in the center bay on the first floor at the top of a flight of limestone stairs and it consists of a pair of glass doors with aluminum frames set into a small curtain wall that has identical-sized fixed panes of glass placed on either side of the doors (identical in size to each door). These four large equal-sized panes are then each surmounted in the fashion of a transom light by a smaller rectilinear pane. This entire curtain wall-like element is then flanked on either side by identical height limestone panels, the left-hand one of which has the letters "STATE BOARD OF HEALTH" placed on it and on the right-hand one "STOVALL LABORATORY OF HYGIENE." Because of the size of this entrance the third and fifth bays of the window bands on this floor have only two window openings instead of the four openings found in same bays in the bands above. The west-facing elevation of the penthouse is also centered on the main facade below and it is treated in the same manner and is five-bays-wide, with the two end bays each having three window openings while the middle three bays each have four.

The north-facing side elevation of the building fronts on Linden Drive and it is four-bays-wide. The design and organization of this elevation's windows is identical with that of the main facade, with the two outer bays each having three grouped window openings. The two center bays on the first floor, though, each have four openings separated by three limestone panels while the same bays in the floors above each have groups of five openings separated from each other by a single limestone panel.

The exterior of this building is completely unaltered, while the interior is essentially utilitarian in design with the exception of the marble-floored entrance vestibule and lobby. The Stovall Laboratory of Hygiene building has been very well maintained and it is in excellent condition today, but its late date of construction and ordinary design make it ineligible for NR consideration.

Genetics Building Non-Contributing 445 Henry Mall Map No. 6

This rectilinear plan flat-roofed Modern Movement style building was designed in 1961 by the Madison architectural firm of Sieberz & Purcell and it is the newest resource within the district. This is a five-story 128-foot-long by 78-foot-deep building whose main facade faces west onto Henry Mall and it was constructed using a steel framework that supported walls faced in reinforced concrete, orange-colored brick and curtain walls made up of precast concrete panels. The first story is actually set slightly below the grade of the site, permitting this five-story building to appear equal in height to the two other buildings located on this side of the mall (Map Nos. 5 & 7). The building is founded on a reinforced concrete foundation and there is a basement story located below the first story.

The principal facade is asymmetrical in design and seven-bays-wide and it is unornamented. The two end bays are stair towers that are sided in orange-colored brick. Natural light is admitted to these towers by single thin continuous vertical

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window strips that runs from ground to roof at the junctures where the towers join the rest of the facade. The five center bays are then separated from each other vertically by thin concrete piers. The bays of the four upper floors are all identical and each bay consists of four rectilinear shape precast concrete panels, each panel of which has a single rectilinear shape fixed light placed in its center. The five center bays of the first floor are treated differently than those of the upper floors. The two outer bays contain the main entrances to the building. These bays each have two deeply recessed solid wood entrance doors at their outer ends; the remainder of each bay consisting of precast concrete panels into which two rectilinear single light windows have been placed. The middle three bays then each have two identical windows that flank a single larger rectilinear window, all three being set into precast concrete panels.

The east-facing rear elevation of the building is essentially identical to the main facade except that the first floor contains no entrance doors. The side elevations are largely windowless and have corner bays comprised of the orange brick-sided stair towers and two center bays sided in reinforced concrete. The interior of the building is utilitarian in design and is devoid of architectural interest. Both the interior and the exterior of this building are largely intact and have not been altered and in addition, the building has been well maintained and is in excellent condition. Never-the-less, the late date of construction of the Genetics Building and ordinary design make it ineligible for NR consideration.

Wisconsin High School Contributing 425 Henry Mall Map No. 7

The original design of the principal west-facing facade of Wisconsin High was faithful in concept to the other Laird and Cret buildings of this type on the University campus, being symmetrical in composition with identical 44-foot-wide end wings flanking a 115-foot-wide center block.⁹ The decision of the Regents to build only two-thirds of the original design, however, undid the symmetrical appearance of this facade, but no attempt was made to redesign the portion that was built since it was generally assumed that the remaining third would be constructed at a later date. Unfortunately, this last portion was never constructed. Thus, the present building represents only a portion of Laird and Cret's original design for the school.

In the Report of the Architect to the Board of Regents for the years 1912-1913 and 1913-1914, campus architect Arthur Peabody included a capsule description of the newly completed school.

The Wisconsin High School was begun in July, 1913 and occupied in September, 1914. It is located on the east side of the Lesser Mall at the intersection with

⁹ A reproduction of the original rendering of this facade was used to illustrate an article on Wisconsin High School published in the September 24, 1957 edition of the Capital Times. The article is on pg. 33 of that issue.

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University Avenue, and is the first building in the Group of Applied Sciences. The building consists of a main portion facing west, 44 feet by 90 feet, containing three stories and basement. East of this is the auditorium and gymnasium portion 48 feet by 74 in size, and on the University Avenue the south wing 44 feet by 103 feet in size, three stories, basement and attic in height. The cost was \$118,828 or 13.25 cents per cubic foot, and the total floor area is 40,000 square feet. The building is constructed of buff vitreous brick with stone trimmings, concrete floors, fireproof partitions, iron stairways, and concrete roof. The visible portion of the roof is covered with tile. The building is divided into class rooms and offices and contains in the basement, manual arts laboratories and drawing room, shower and dressing rooms and gymnasium; in the first and second stories, lecture rooms are provided for students in the Department of Education. These overlook classrooms to the right and left, which enables students to witness the actual work of teaching. The gymnasium is overlooked by a gallery where the management and operation of the gymnasium classes can be studied. On the second floor is the auditorium or assembly hall with a seating capacity of 360. The third floor is occupied by laboratories for Home Economics, Biology, and Chemistry with the lecture room, store rooms, etc. The attic is used for games, lunches, and social activities incident to the school. Space is provided on the north of the building for a wing similar to that facing on University Avenue.¹⁰

The Wisconsin High School building as built consists of two main elements: the 94-foot-long by 90-foot-wide truncated portion of the original 113-foot-long center block; and the completed 44-foot-long by 103-foot-wide south wing of the original design. Both of these elements are underlain by a reinforced concrete foundation whose walls enclose the basement story of the school. The upper eight feet of these walls are visible above grade and this visible portion is sheathed in a smooth-faced regular-coursed ashlar limestone veneer on the west, south, and east facades of the building. The walls and the floors of the school are of reinforced concrete and are supported by a steel framework.

The west-facing facade of Wisconsin High is its principal facade and it consists of the seven-bay-wide elevation of the original nine-bay-wide center block and also the one-bay-wide side elevation of the south wing. The center block has three full stories, each of equal height, placed above the raised limestone-sheathed basement story and the wall above the basement story is sheathed in a buff-colored vitreous brick. This block is divided vertically into seven equal-width bays and it is now asymmetrical in composition. This asymmetry occurred because the main entrance to the school was kept in its original location in the first floor of the fifth bay from the right despite the loss of the two left-hand bays that would have balanced

¹⁰ Peabody, Arthur. "Report of the Architect." Contained within the University of Wisconsin Biennial Report of the Board of Regents for the Years 1912-13 and 1913-14. Democrat Printing Company (State Printers), Madison, Wisconsin, 1914, pg. 344.

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the composition. The entrance is reached by a straight flight of extra-hard blue Bedford limestone steps and this flight is flanked by solid limestone-sheathed stepped balustrades on both sides. These steps terminate in front of a pair of large modern doors, each of which has a single large rectilinear-shaped pane of glass set into it. A large four-light transom is placed above the doors and a raised limestone panel into which the words "High School" were once incised is placed over the transom. All of these elements are enframed by an eared limestone surround and they are surmounted by a simple two-foot-deep limestone architrave that is supported by two large carved limestone console brackets. This entranceway took the place of the single basement story window and the single first story window that are found in each of the other six bays of this block. Before they were replaced by modern four-light energy efficient metal framed windows in the mid-1980s the original basement window in each of these bays consisted of a single flat-arched 15-light metal sash window. A larger flat-arched window of similar design but having 30 lights was originally used in the first, second, and third stories of each of the seven bays on this elevation, but these were also all replaced in the mid-1980s by 6-light energy efficient metal frame windows.

The wall surface between each of the first story windows on this elevation is surfaced in brick and it is unrelieved by ornamentation of any kind. The spaces between the second and third story windows, however, are given a vertical emphasis by the use of two-story engaged brick pilasters. Each of these eight pilasters rests on a brick base that has a limestone surbase and they are terminated vertically by a limestone capital. The result is a colossal order colonnade that appears to rest on the broad limestone beltcourse that divides the first from the second stories and that also appears to support the broad limestone entablature that runs across the top of the facade. A final embellishment is the placement of a recessed rectilinear-shaped panel in the brick-surfaced spandrel between each of the second and the third story windows.

In keeping with the usual practice of Italian Renaissance-inspired designs of this period, the west-facing facade of Wisconsin High is divided horizontally into two different zones. The lower zone forms a piano nobile and consists of the raised basement story and the first story. Visually, the limestone sheathing that covers the basement story creates a base for this facade. Limestone is again used to form a thin stringcourse that extends across the facade immediately below the first floor windows and it is also used to form a broad 2.5-foot-wide beltcourse that extends across the facade immediately above the first floor windows. This beltcourse divides the lower zone from the two-story upper zone and it takes the form of a classically inspired entablature. The same entablature is repeated on a larger scale at the crown of the facade and on the west-facing elevation of the center block this entablature is surmounted by a limestone balustrade that both terminates the elevation and conceals the slightly sloping asphalt covered concrete roof behind it.

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The 44-foot-wide symmetrically composed west-facing side elevation of the south wing of the school is treated as a terminal pavilion and it projects outward six feet from the wall surface of the center block. This elevation has a raised basement story surmounted by three stories of equal height, but unlike the center block it also has an attic story as well. The architects gave unity to the overall west-facing facade of the school by using the same materials to face the walls of both of its principal elements. Thus, the upper stories of the side elevation are faced in buff-colored brick while the raised basement story is sheathed in limestone. Unity was also achieved by organizing the horizontal composition of the side elevation into upper and lower zones using the same methods employed on the center block. Consequently, the horizontal lines described above that were created by the raised basement story of the center block, its first floor stringcourse, the first floor entablature (or beltcourse) and the terminating entablature at the top of the building are all continued across the west elevation of the south wing as well.

The original interior of the school was designed in a utilitarian manner and represented part of a campus-wide effort on the part of the architects to provide the University with buildings that were both economical and durable. "In the construction of these buildings (including Wisconsin High) due regard has been given to wise expenditure of money without sacrificing durability or fireproof character. In interior finishing and fittings the use of wood has been steadily diminished in favor of more durable and less expensive materials so that at present the buildings represent a practical minimum as to cost."¹¹ This policy as applied to Wisconsin High resulted in a building whose interior had minimal decorative features. Walls and exposed steel beams and posts were covered in plaster over steel lathe. Rooms on the first, second, and third floors were accessed from single "L"-shaped corridors on each floor and the corridor floors were surfaced in terrazzo. Broad, simply designed baseboards were also used in the corridors, as were simple wooden picture mouldings at the crowns of the walls. These same baseboards and mouldings were then used in the classrooms as well and access from the corridors into these rooms was made through simple three-panel wood doors whose upper half consisted of a large single pane of frosted glass. These doors were each surmounted by a six-light transom, most of which were also extended horizontally by one or more similar six-light units in order to admit more light to the interior of the classrooms.

Rooms varied in size and equipment according to their function with the largest rooms being the two-story high 69 x 45 foot gymnasium in the northeast corner of the basement and first floors and the similar sized two-story high study room/auditorium directly above on the second and third floors. Other basement rooms contained manual arts and drafting classes while third floor rooms contained home economics classes and physics and chemistry classes. Regardless of size or function, however, these rooms all shared the same general features and were constructed of the same materials. The only exception to this rule is the still intact west-facing entrance

¹¹ Peabody, op. cit., pg. 344.

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vestibule that opens onto Henry Mall. This vestibule has a stair landing just inside the front doors that is placed at the base of a straight flight of stairs that opens into the first floor corridor. The floor of this vestibule and its walls (for approximately 9 feet of its 15 foot height) are covered with a very fine golden brown Kasota stone having a rubbed finish. The walls especially are laid in courses in which vertical joints are almost invisible and are subordinated to the horizontal joints.

The plans of each of the original floors of the school survived largely unchanged until 1940, when the original two-story gymnasium in the basement of the school was divided in two horizontally and the gymnasium was moved into the two-story study room/auditorium space above on the second and third floors. The new basement space was utilized for a small theater, a music classroom, a practice room, a storage room, and three offices. The new first floor space was divided into three classrooms, four offices, and four storage rooms.¹²

Following the 1940-41 remodeling the interior of the school remained generally the same until the usage of the building changed in 1964. Major remodellings followed in the wake of this change, the first of which was done in 1964 to designs by the Madison architectural firm of Law, Law, Potter and Nystrom. Subsequent remodellings were done in 1976 by the Madison firm of Charles A. Woehrl and Assoc.; in 1980 by the Madison firm of Root and Brink, architects; and in 1987 by the Madison firm of Strang Partners, Inc.¹³ Much of this work involved new electrical and heating and ventilating work, work that was necessary to modernize the building and meet the changing needs of the new occupants, but another major area of activity was the repartitioning of most of Wisconsin High's original classroom spaces into smaller rooms. In the process nearly all of the original rooms have been lost and the only interior spaces that still retain much of their original appearance are the corridors on the first, second, and third floors, the entrance vestibule, and the remodeled 1940 gymnasium.

Remodeling activity has greatly altered the interior of the school and has resulted in the replacement of all of the original windows with modern energy efficient ones. Despite these changes, however, the school building still retains enough of its original exterior to conform to the definition of a contributing resource as defined by the NPS. The building has also been the recipient of a superior maintenance program and it is currently in excellent condition.

¹² Letter from Gordon N. Mackenzie to C. Smith. Contained in the Buildings and Grounds Folder, Box 7, Series 13/7/2, School of Education, Wisconsin High School General Subject Files. University of Wisconsin Archives.

¹³ Blueprints documenting the work done on each of these occasions are to be found in the offices of the University of Wisconsin's Office of Planning and Construction.

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Henry Mall Contributing

Map No. 8

The gently sloping 50-foot-wide Henry Mall stretches for a distance of 575 feet from its northern terminus at its intersection with Linden Drive to its southern terminus at its intersection with University Avenue. The mall is laid out on a straight axis that is centered on the main entrance of Agriculture Hall (Map No. 4) and it consists of a central lawn that is edged by single lane roadways on both its east and west sides. Two cross axes centered on the main entrances of the Agronomy Building (Map No. 2) and the Agricultural Engineering Building (Map No. 3) divide the length of the mall into three unequal length sections. Each of these sections has east and west borders whose outer edges are defined by short deciduous hedges against whose inner sides are placed cultivated flower beds that are planted with a mixture of perennial and annual flowers. The north end of the northernmost section of the mall is then edged by a screen of 12 to 15-foot-tall evergreens that serve as a background for the statue of William D. Hoard (Map No. 9). The southernmost end of the mall consists of a low flagstone wall into which flagstone steps have been set. Also located at this end of the mall is a large gneiss boulder that bears a plaque that memorializes Dean Henry (Map No. 10).

The placing of flowering plants along the edges this mall have made it one of the beauty spots of the University campus and it is now one of the campus' few intensely cultivated garden plots. Henry Mall is one of only two classically inspired axial planning features on the campus, the other being the Bascom Hill Mall (NRHP, 9-12-74). It is also the only formal planning feature contained in the 1908 master plan of the campus designed by Laird and Cret that was actually built.

Hoard Statue Contributing Henry Mall

Map No. 9

One of two memorial objects that have been placed on Henry Mall is this outstanding statue of William Dempster Hoard of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. Hoard was the influential founder and publisher of Hoard's Dairyman Magazine, a major disseminator of information about progressive dairy farming techniques, and he also served as the Governor of Wisconsin from 1889-1891 and as a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin. In order to create a memorial on the College of Agriculture campus dedicated to Hoard's memory the University chose the celebrated American sculptor Gutzon Borglum (1867-1941), whose best known work is Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota.¹⁴ Borglum's finished work for the University was completed in 1922 and consisted of a simple white marble base that is comprised of two tall rectilinear marble panels that are supported by three slightly taller square plan pedestals. Each of the two panels features figures of dairy cows carved in raised relief and Borglum then crowned the center pedestal with a bronze half-length bust of Hoard.

¹⁴ The University of Wisconsin - Madison Architectural, Historical and Archeological Inventory. 1975. A copy of the inventory is kept in the offices of the Historic Preservation Division of the State of Wisconsin Historical Society.

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The completed work was centered on the north end of the principal axis of the mall and it faces south towards University Avenue. Borglum positioned the work in such a way that an onlooker sees the raised bust of Hoard silhouetted against the facade of Agriculture Hall in the background. The resulting composition is one of Madison's finest outdoor sculptures. The Hoard Statue is in excellent condition today and it is now backed by a screen of trimmed evergreen plants and a bed of flowers is placed at its foot.

Henry Boulder Contributing Henry Mall Map No. 10

This large gneiss boulder and the bronze plaque that is attached to it was placed at the south end of Henry Mall c.1924 in order to serve as a memorial to the memory of Dean of Agriculture William Arnon Henry, for whom the mall itself is also named. The inscription on the plaque reads:

"In recognition of the pioneer services of Dean William Arnon Henry the science and practice of agriculture in this University, the State and the Nation from 1880 to 1907."

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally

Applicable National Register Criteria X A _____ B X C _____ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ E _____ F _____ G

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
<u>Architecture</u>	<u>1903-1922¹⁵</u>	<u>1903¹⁶</u>
<u>Science</u>	<u>1903-1941¹⁷</u>	<u>1906¹⁸</u>
<u>Community Planning and Development</u>	<u>1908-1913¹⁹</u>	<u>1912²⁰</u>

Cultural Affiliation
<u>N/A</u>

Significant Person	Architect/Builder
<u>N/A</u>	<u>Cret, Paul Phillippe/Architect²¹</u>
	<u>Laird, Warren Powers/Architect²²</u>
	<u>Peabody, Arthur/Architect²³</u>

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Significance

The possible demolition of the former Wisconsin High School building led to the identification of it and the other buildings fronting on Henry Mall as a group of resources having potentially local significance under National Register (NR) criteria A and C as a possible historic district. Research was undertaken to assess this potential utilizing the NR significance areas of Community Planning and Development, Science, and of Architecture, all of which are themes that are also identified in the State of Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP). This research centered on evaluating the district's resources utilizing the Neo-Classical Revival and the Mediterranean Revival subsections of the Architectural

¹⁵ The period of significance for architecture spans the years between the date of construction of the earliest and the newest contributing resources in the district.

¹⁶ The date of construction for the Agriculture Hall building (Map No. 4). Copies of the original blueprints, dated June, 1903. In the possession of the University of Wisconsin's Office of Planning and Construction. Copies as Attachment A.

¹⁷ The period of significance for science spans the years between the date of construction of the earliest contributing resource in the district and the current 50 year limit of potential significance.

¹⁸ The date of construction of the Agronomy building (Map No. 2). Copies of the original blueprints are in the possession of the University of Wisconsin's Office of Planning and Construction. Copies as Attachment A.

¹⁹ The period of significance for Community Planning and Development spans the years between the inception of the General Design for Future Constructional Development and the construction of the Wisconsin High School building, which defined the mall.

²⁰ The date of construction of the Wisconsin High School building (Map No. 7). Copies of the original blueprints are in the possession of the University of Wisconsin's Office of Planning and Construction. Copies as Attachment A.

²¹ Signed blueprints in the possession of the University of Wisconsin's Office of Planning and Construction.

²² Ibid.

²³ Ibid.

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Styles study unit of the CRMP's Architecture theme section and intensive research undertaken in the University of Wisconsin's Archives. The results of this research is detailed below and supports listing of this district to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) using both criteria A and C. An architectural survey of the University of Wisconsin campus completed in 1978 by the Department of Planning and Construction under the direction of the Gordon D. Orr, Jr., the Campus Architect, identified a number of potentially eligible historic districts on the campus, including Henry Mall, and summarized its findings as follows:

Other potential nominations (besides the Bascom Hill Historic District and the Observatory Hill Historic District) captured the attention of the study group. The approach to Agriculture Hall, looking up Henry Mall, provides a studied planning composition that is almost complete. The southernmost buildings, Agricultural Chemistry (now biochemistry) and the Wisconsin High School (now named for its address, 425 Henry Mall) commence the design in a Beaux Arts classicism. While not of the magnificence that Paul Phillippe Cret created for the Folger Shakespeare Library or for the Pan American Union Building, both in Washington, the fact that his talents were utilized in establishing the design for these two buildings testifies to the Regent's determination to provide handsome architectural statements for the campus. The terminus of the Mall, Agriculture Hall, dates earlier than Cret's work (in association with Warren Powers Laird and Arthur Peabody, the State Architect) and represents one of J. T. W. Jennings's finest works. Mr. Jennings was the supervising architect for the University of Wisconsin from 1899 to 1906, on a part-time appointment.

Other buildings on the west side of the Mall, Dairy Science (now Agricultural Journalism) and Agricultural Engineering complete the essential buildings for the composition. Neither Genetics nor the Stovall Laboratory of Hygiene, on the east side of the Mall, were included as their designs did not appear to relate to the other buildings considered of importance, yet their scale and placement makes them important visual limits to the Mall's plan.

Important historical discoveries in agricultural chemistry (now biochemistry) add further reasons for considering the importance of Henry Mall and its buildings as a keystone in an Agricultural Historic District, recognizing both the significant architectural developments and the importance to Wisconsin's, the Nation's and the world's food and health improvements centered within this area.²⁴

Individually, the contributing buildings within the district are, for the most part, fine, largely intact and representative examples of the Period Revival and Neoclassical Revival styles that were in widespread use for institutional buildings, both in Wisconsin and elsewhere in the nation in the early decades of this century and three of them (Agriculture Hall, Agricultural Chemistry, and Agricultural

²⁴ Orr, Gordon D., Jr. Perspectives of a University. Madison: University of Wisconsin Department of Planning and Construction, 1978, pgs. 46-49.

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Engineering) are already listed on the NRHP. These buildings are also individually significant for being associated with the early period of modern research into the biological and other agricultural sciences at the University, research that has led to discoveries and practices that have been of worldwide importance. The resources within the district are also collectively significant as an early expression of the University's attempt to meet its future needs by hiring nationally known planners and architects to create an orderly plan for campus growth.

History

Excellent overviews of the history of the development of agriculture in Wisconsin and the role of the University in this development are contained in the ten study units that comprise the CRMP's Agriculture Theme section.²⁵ Consequently, the history of these subjects will not be included in this discussion except insofar as they have a bearing on the buildings within the district. The same is also true of the early history of the University of Wisconsin, which is exhaustively chronicled in Curti and Carstensen's The University of Wisconsin: A History 1848-1925.²⁶ Because the development of Henry Mall is directly related to the growth of the University's College of Agriculture, the following history deals primarily with the efforts of the University during the tenure of the William A. Henry, its first dean of agriculture, to establish the study of agriculture at the University. The resources within the district will then be discussed in the several subsequent significance sections as they relate to this earlier effort.

The College of Agriculture had its origins in the earliest days of the University.

As early as 1851 Chancellor Lathrop had urged that the University provide agricultural education. Lathrop's proposal, which embraced both the desire to bring the emerging sciences of chemistry, botany and zoology to the service of agriculture and a noble if somewhat vague aspiration for the social improvement of farmers, won the approval of the Board of Regents, the mild support of the press, and even the endorsement of a legislative committee or two. But the legislature itself voted no money for the purpose. The chancellor had to be content with a few brief lectures on agricultural chemistry. Meanwhile Michigan, in 1857, and Iowa, in 1858, made provisions for state colleges of agriculture.

²⁵ Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.) Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin. Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 1986. Vol. 2 (Agriculture).

²⁶ Curti, Merle and Carstensen, Vernon. The University of Wisconsin: A History 1848-1925. 2 vols. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, 1949. Note especially Chapters 11 and 17 on the College of Agriculture and on the University Extension Division in Volume 2.

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In 1866 the legislature had adopted the bill which enlarged the functions of the University to include the teaching of agricultural and mechanical arts. The land grant received under the Morrill Act of 1862 was appropriated to the university for this purpose. ... Although acknowledging a public prejudice against "industrial education" the Board (of Regents) proceeded to arrange for the purchase of a farm, to organize a department of agriculture within the College of Arts, to create a professorship of agriculture and chemistry, and to begin searching for a man for the post. After considering various sites the Board purchased approximately one hundred and ninety-five acres of land contiguous to the original campus and lying directly west of it. ... The purpose of the farm was to provide the place where "agriculture is to be practically taught by experimenting on different soils and location of the land, and not a model farm where the best kind and largest quantity of particular products are sought to be obtained from a particular piece of land."

The task of finding a professor proved to be more difficult than getting an experimental farm. ... It was not until 1868 that the Board was able to announce an appointment. ... In 1867 the University announced its intentions of providing agricultural education, but no courses were offered. ... A year later the establishment of a school of agriculture was announced along with a three-year course of study drawn mostly from the general science course.²⁷

The years that followed were not productive however, since there was general disagreement, both inside and outside the University, as to what agricultural education was and how and to whom it should be taught.

The grand announcements of the offerings of the department of agriculture fell into a void. However much the professors might argue about what should constitute proper agricultural education, such discussion was essentially without point. The department had no students. Indeed, not until 1878 was the first student graduated, and many years passed before another followed him.²⁸

The reasons for this lack of attendance were rooted in part in the deep conservatism of the farming community of the state.

The accumulated learning of his (the farmer's) craft, unlike that of the professions of law, medicine, and theology, were less in books than in what a father taught his son. To win the farmer the college must find other than the bookish devices used for the instruction of lawyers, ministers and doctors, but largely during the early and ineffective years of agricultural instruction, the farmer was wooed with promises of "mental discipline" and "theoretical knowledge."²⁹

²⁷ Curti and Carstensen, op. cit., Vol. 1, pgs. 459-463.

²⁸ Ibid, pg. 463.

²⁹ Ibid, pg. 465.

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Before new devices for practical instruction in farming could be offered, however, the University had to find new sponsors and new faculty who could spearhead a renewed and revitalized department. In 1878 the State Agricultural Society asked Governor Rusk to appoint a farmer as a member of the Board of Regents. Rusk responded by appointing Hiram Smith, a successful dairy farmer from Sheboygan Falls, and two years later Rusk appointed a second farmer as well. This led in turn to the establishment of a "a professorship devoted solely to agriculture and the election in June, 1880, of William A. Henry to the chair."³⁰ In Henry, who would soon become the director of the agricultural experiment station and later the first dean of agriculture, the Board finally found the right person to advance the interests of agriculture within the University and within the state as a whole. "A man of great energy, a vigorous correspondent, an active and effective publicist, Henry worked closely with the farm leaders of Wisconsin and the farmer's associations, seeking to to find out what the farmers wanted from the department and trying to devise the means of giving it to them."³¹ The first fruit of his tenure was a \$4000 appropriation by the legislature in 1881 to carry on experiments "in the cultivation of amber and other varieties of sugar cane, and the manufacture of syrup and sugar therefrom."³² This was the first specific appropriation by the legislature for research of any kind at the University and the successful publication of the results of this research was quickly matched by an appropriation to fund the University farm, which was renamed the University experiment station. These two acts laid the foundations for the research activities of the College of Agriculture, activities that soon brought the College worldwide attention.

Henry and others then began to seek ways to bring the expertise of the College to the aid of Wisconsin's farmers while bringing the sons of the farmers to the College to study.

Wisconsin set herself earnestly to the task of taking to the farmers of the state the best prevailing agricultural practices. In the year [1885] that the move to set up a separate agricultural school failed, provision was made for farmer's institutes. Such [two-day] meetings at which college staffs offered popular instruction in agriculture had been launched about 1870 in both Kansas and Massachusetts, and the movement had spread to other states. Closely knit to the agricultural group at the university and successful from the very start [50,000 attended in 1886, the first year] the institutes offered a down-to-earth way of serving farmers through popularizing new knowledge and superior practices.

In 1886 it was decided, again in deference to the champions of practical training, to offer a [twelve-week] short course at the University each winter. Here

³⁰ Curti and Carstensen. op. cit., Vol. 1, pg. 467.

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

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Wisconsin was truly pioneering, for this was the first course of its kind in the country. The short course was to be open to any young man who had attended the common schools and was intended to be as practical as possible.³³

With a research program begun, increased student enrollment, and a University outreach program in place, Henry and his allies were able to persuade the legislature to increase departmental funding and in 1889 the department of agriculture was reorganized as the College of Agriculture. Henry was made dean of the new College in 1891 and in the fifteen years that were to follow before his retirement in 1907, he and the many other exceptional faculty members that he brought to Wisconsin were instrumental in transforming the College into one of America's outstanding centers of agricultural study.

At first, research was carried out at the experimental station and in makeshift laboratories housed in South Hall (Bascom Hill Historic District, NRHP-9/12/74). While it does not lie within the scope of this discussion to fully enumerate the enormous number of scientific discoveries and practical innovations that emanated from the College during Henry's years, a short account of some of the more significant accomplishments can suggest the variety of its achievements.

In many respects, including the inauguration of agricultural physics, it [the station] broke new ground. Franklin H. King's early efforts to apply the principles of physics to agriculture contributed both to the establishing of courses for the study of soils and to a new type of engineering. ... Coming to the college in 1888 as the first American professor of agricultural physics, King inaugurated investigations of round silos, a greatly improved means of providing barn ventilation, and soil studies which made available solutions to problems posed by the long dry spells which had continued into the early 1890s. ... The station horticulturist, Emmett S. Goff, like King, combined scientific investigations with practical applications. In his efforts to promote vegetable and fruit culture in as direct a manner as possible, he tested varieties, surveyed the economic aspects of fruit growing, tried out insecticides and sprayers, examined means of preserving orchards, and grew thousands of native plum seedlings in his search for a variety suitable to the Wisconsin climate. ... Goff's most important theoretical contribution was his observation of the formation and differentiation of the flower buds of fruit trees. These observations not only impressed botanists but were welcomed by horticulturists, for they materially reduced the amount of guesswork in orchards.

More spectacular, more commercially profitable, and in some ways more significant from the point of view of lasting results was the work in feeding and dairying in which Henry, [Fritz W.] Woll, [Edward H.] Farrington, [Harry L.] Russell, and [Stephen M.] Babcock collaborated. ... Henry was among the earliest

³³ Curti and Carstensen, op. cit., Vol. 2, pgs. 374-375.

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agriculturists to investigate the effects of proteins and minerals on the growth of farm stock. His studies, in which he was aided by a young chemist, Fritz W. Woll, included the effects of silage, dairy by-products, and other materials in feeding stock. In 1898 his Feeds and Feeding was published, ... a notable achievement. Russell, after taking his first two degrees at Wisconsin, worked in Europe and returned in 1893 to accept an assistant professorship in bacteriology. Before the decade was over his publications in agricultural bacteriology won him nationwide recognition.

The most spectacular and widely publicized contribution was, of course, the development of an efficient milk-fat test. ... Dean Henry urged the new agricultural chemist, Stephen M. Babcock, to try his hand at devising something [a test that was] more practicable. Babcock standardized the acid and the measurement of the milk sample, selected the proper characteristics for a simple test, and in so doing displayed the qualities of a great laboratory technician. ... The significance of the Babcock test is clear. For the first time the dairy industry possessed an adequate standard by which fair payment for milk could be determined. The manufacture of butter and cheese by factory methods was given a great boost. ... All this was followed by a far-reaching study of the methods of extracting cream from milk. In the course of his investigations Babcock discovered that the order of milking, stable conditions, and an expeditious procedure were important factors in high production.

The pasteurization of milk was not of course, new, but satisfactory procedures had not yet been developed. ... Working with the station's bacteriologist, Harry L. Russell, Babcock attacked the problem. ... As a result of these and other studies the first American apparatus was devised for the thorough pasteurization of milk and cream. ... The combined attack of the chemists and the bacteriologists on the problem of cheese making led to results of great economic significance. ... They [Babcock and Russell] isolated the enzyme which possessed a digestive action on proteid substances and which they named galactase. This discovery, which was reported in 1897, and the related observation of the coordinate influence of the rennet enzyme, pepsin, provided the answers for which the cheese makers had been looking and led to a revolution in the industry. For the discovery of galactase, together with empirical findings in the temperature of curing rooms, enabled cheese to be produced satisfactorily in temperature as low as twenty-five to thirty degrees. The new cold-curing process permitted the marketing of a product, the quality of which did not vary with temperature in cold storage plants and stores.³⁴

Other landmark research activity centered around Russell's work in the testing of cattle herds for tuberculosis, "which pointed the way to the establishment of the state laboratories in the interest of improving the [dairy] herds and safeguarding the public."³⁵ Russell "also laid the foundations for the study of soil

³⁴ Curti and Carstensen. op. cit., vol. 2, pgs. 384-392.

³⁵ Ibid. Pg. 393.

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bacteriology by initiating experiments with nitrogen-fixing bacteria."³⁶ All of this research helped lay the groundwork for the modern agricultural sciences and it was also of enormous practical importance to the farm industry in Wisconsin and elsewhere. This led to an increased acceptance of the premise of scientific agricultural practices throughout the state and to a substantial increase in the student enrollment of the College, and this in turn convinced the legislature to honor Henry's steadily escalating budget requests for the College.

Henry was chiefly responsible for the special legislative appropriations which resulted in a far more generous budget than that of any other department in the University. In addition to barns, greenhouses, the residence of the dean (1896, 10 Babcock Drive, NRHP-9/20/84), and a heating plant (1901, 1535 Observatory Drive, NRHP-3/14/85), Henry's administration saw the construction of eight buildings (including: Hiram Smith Hall and Annex, 1891 & 1901, 1545 Observatory Drive, NRHP-3/14/85; Horticulture and Agricultural Physics, and Soil Science Building, 1896 & 1915, 1525 Observatory Drive, NRHP-3/14/85). Among these was the stately Agricultural Hall (Map No. 4), unrivaled anywhere at the time of its completion in 1903.³⁷

This building activity created a new group of buildings on the western end of the University campus which, while lacking in the formal dignity of the setting of the buildings of the College of Letters and Science on Bascom Hill to the east, formed a complimentary and increasingly important part of the University whole.

Community Planning and Development

William A. Henry's administration as dean saw the emergence of the University's College of Agriculture as a research and teaching institution of nationwide importance. This success can be partially measured by the new buildings Henry caused to be erected. Another measure is the increase in students that resulted from the expansion of the College's physical plant. This success, however, had another aspect, which is that the more the College and its programs expanded, the greater was the need for still more facilities for these expanded programs. In this the College was no different than the other Colleges of the University.

Rapid increases in student enrollment, which had become pronounced in the 1890s continued into the twentieth century. By 1900 the student body exceeded two thousand; ten years later it had passed four thousand and notwithstanding the slump that occurred during the first World War, by 1920 it had reached seven thousand and within the next decade, ten thousand.³⁸

³⁶ Curti and Carstensen. op. cit., vol. 2, pg. 393.

³⁷ Ibid. Pg. 379.

³⁸ Ibid. Pg. 497.

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As the twentieth century began, the rapid expansion of the Colleges of the University, both as to programs and students, made it clear to the Board of Regents that some type of master plan that would give order to the buildings that would house them had to be established. Precedent for such planning and for seeking expertise from outside the campus and the state already existed in the form of a general plan for the improvement of the roads and the grounds of the campus that had been developed by the prominent Chicago landscape architect Ossian C. Simmonds. This plan was apparently instigated under the presidency of Charles K. Adams and was brought to fruition by the Regents after Adams' retirement in 1901. The execution of the plan was put into operation between 1904 and 1905 and resulted in the landscaping of much of the university grounds under the administration of Prof. E.P. Sandsten.³⁹ The Board then decided to commission a more ambitious plan that would serve to give direction to the future construction on the campus.

The great diversity and seemingly unplanned development in the style and placement of the buildings in the early 1900s apparently worried the Board of Regents of the University. At their meeting of October 16, 1906, they recommended that architects Warren P. Laird and Paul P. Cret of Philadelphia be retained to report upon the future constructional development of the University for a fee of \$5000 with an additional \$2000 to be available to cover the necessary expenses of their work. ... While documentation does not establish completely the manner in which Laird and Cret were initially selected to work for the University of Wisconsin, there is evidence to suggest how it happened. In 1903, the Madison Library Board, headed by Edward A. Birge, then dean of the College of Letters and Sciences, held a competition for a new library and chose Warren P. Laird as their professional advisor to assist in selecting the winning design and administering the program. Laird's public library in Winona, Minnesota, his home town, was most likely known to the library board, and his stature as dean of the School of Fine Arts at the University of Pennsylvania must have been an influence. The common ties to the University and to President Charles K. Van Hise resulted in Laird's initial hiring as a design critic for a dormitory group (unbuilt) on the campus in 1903.⁴⁰

It may well have been this last service to the University that resulted in Laird's being asked to serve as a consultant by President Van Hise on the choice of an architectural firm to develop a master plan for the campus. In a personal letter to Van Hise dated May 18, 1906, Laird made the following comments:

The four architectural firms I commended for the general plan of the University have all done work of importance and have demonstrated their experience and capacity. In each case this work has been of superior architectural quality as

³⁹ Biennial Report of the Regents of the University for the Years 1904-5 and 1905-6. Madison: Democrat Printing Company, 1906, pgs. 20-21.

⁴⁰ Orr, Gordon D., Jr. and Dorothy E. Steele. "Warren Powers Laird and Paul Phillippe Cret: Their Plans for the University of Wisconsin." Wisconsin Academy Review, XXIV (March, 1978), pgs. 11, 13.

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to general product. ... You were good enough to ask if I could not, with Professor Cret, undertake this work. Having fully commended other men to your attention I can frankly say that I can and would be very glad to do it as suggested. While I feel that I could perform one of the two functions of the Commission with great interest and thoroughness you must be the judge as to my eligibility. But I can say for Mr. Cret that no architect in the country today is his superior in the design of just the sort of work you have in mind. He has had experience in it and has thus no less than in his general work, shown qualities of great strength and brilliancy. I feel confident that with his talent engaged on the design of the project and competent and thorough attention to the general study of the conditions you would produce a result not to be excelled under any conditions.⁴¹

Van Hise communicated this information to the Board of Regents and the result was that on October 16, 1906, the Regents appointed an Architectural Commission composed of Laird, Cret and Arthur Peabody, the campus supervising architect, to make a report on the future constructional development of the campus. A given of the charge to the Commission was that certain existing buildings of artistic and historic merit such as Bascom Hall and North and South Halls (Bascom Hill Historic District, NRHP-3/14/73) would be incorporated into the new plan along with other buildings that had recently been constructed or that were then actually under construction.⁴² The commission was expected to do more than simply draw up a master plan, however. In addition, the Commission was to prepare plans for new buildings for which there was an immediate need and for which prior authorization had been granted. Thus, the Commission was to work both upon the design of specific buildings and also upon the larger project of the future constructional development of the campus as a whole, with the design of the former subordinated to the design of the latter.

The first buildings Laird and Cret worked on was a group designed to augment Chadbourne Hall (non-extant). This building was located on the northwest corner of Park Street and University Avenue and had been constructed as a dormitory for women students, then the only students for which the University actually provided housing. Extensive surviving correspondence between Laird and Cret and various University administrators and faculty shows that Van Hise and Peabody served both as the principal sources of information about the various colleges and departments and also as active critics of and commentators on the work. Information regarding the future needs of the University was sometimes sent directly to Pennsylvania by the

⁴¹ Letter from Laird, Warren P. to Charles R. Van Hise dated May 18, 1906. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 6, Folder 82 (Warren Powers Laird) May 18, 1906-January 6, 1908. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1. The four firms mentioned were Carriere and Hastings, Cass Gilbert, Palmer and Hornbostel, and Lord and Hewlett.

⁴² Among the latter were the Agricultural Engineering Building (Map No. 3) and the Agronomy Building (Map No. 2), both designed by Peabody and then just beginning construction.

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various University departments but it was as often assembled by Peabody and Van Hise first and then sent on with their comments and evaluations. An early letter from Laird to Van Hise describes the general plan of the work:

Professor Cret and I are making progress in the initial study of the general plan and the data which comes from time to time is immediately available as received. The special work which Mr. Peabody and I are doing upon the design for dormitories traverses the general work of the Commission at certain points and we may find that the general plan of the dormitories can be improved if the plan scheme of the latter, which Mr. Peabody and I roughed out last summer [1906], can be modified. I am therefore asking Mr. Peabody to provide me with a detailed statement of the requirements of these buildings, and would ask your permission to allow freedom in design.⁴²

Steady progress was made by Laird and Cret on both of these projects and preliminary proposals that incorporated information already received and that were designed to elicit more were produced during 1907 and early 1908. By March of 1907, Cret, who was working within the rough framework of the 1906 plan mentioned above, had produced a study for the first portion of the eventual plan; the Preliminary study for the West part of the University Grounds, including the College of Agriculture, Athletics, etc. Included in this study was the first proposal for what would eventually become Henry Mall.

The ensemble, formed by the Agricultural Building at the head, on one side [west] by Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy and the proposed building for Agricultural Chemistry and Bacteriology and on the other side [east] by the future Men's Dormitories, is, however, incomplete, if the fourth side is an unsightly fence surrounding the athletic field and placed in an oblique direction with regard to the axis of the ensemble. It seems that this group of buildings could be made very beautiful and comparable only to one of which Bascom Hill is the focus, if fourth side were formed by the imposing mass of the new Gymnasium, preceded by an approach arranged as a Court or Honor with a flag pole in the center. The slope of 50 ft. between the Agricultural Building and the new Gymnasium is graded naturally and allows a full view of the mall, 150 feet wide and more than 900 feet in length.⁴³

One month later, on April 23, 1907, Cret sent Peabody a second Preliminary study, this one for the central part of the University. The principal features of this study were: 1. Improvement of the Main Campus; 2. Creation of a monumental centre;

⁴³ Letter from Cret, Paul P. to Arthur Peabody dated March 8, 1907. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 5, Folder 38 (Paul Cret) December 22, 1906-March 31, 1908. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1. The Gymnasium Building would have been located just south of Henry Mall across University Avenue but it was never constructed.

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3. Grouping of Departments by affinity as far as practicable within existing conditions; 4. Improvement of the Thoroughfare System.** Like the previous study, this one provoked considerable discussion among the affected departments and the administration and many refinements resulted from these discussions. The basic principles remained unchallenged, however, the most notable and far-reaching of which was the assumption that buildings associated with specific Colleges and with specific student and research activities should be grouped together when possible. Even at this stage, though, it could clearly be seen that the Commission was endeavoring to bring a grand, classically inspired Beaux Arts style sense of order and scale to the hilly site with which it had to contend.

While their work on the general plan progressed, the satisfaction of the Regents with Laird and Cret's work on the design of the new women's gymnasium (Lathrop Hall, 1050 University Avenue, NRHP-7/11/85), a nearby women's dormitory complex (later to be Barnard Hall, 970 University Avenue) and also on the new Central Heating Plant at 1225 University Avenue resulted in a second group of commissions for designs for a new biology building (proposal completely redesigned on a new site by Jarvis Hunt as Birge Hall, 430 Lincoln Drive) and a new animal husbandry building (Stock Pavilion, 1675 Linden Drive, NRHP-7/11/85).⁴⁵ Finally, on December 16, 1908, Laird presented the preliminary draft of the report of the Commission to the Board of Regents. In the preface to this report Laird stated its underlying conditions to be as follows:

Thus, the University was placed [originally] facing east toward the city on whose outskirts it lay, with the open country to the west in which its indefinite expansion was possible. When the first buildings were constructed the character and extent of the expansion could not be predicted. Higher education generally had then hardly extended, from the earlier classical scheme, beyond the professions of law, theology and medicine. At Wisconsin the building requirements, whether for general or technical instruction, administration or residence were simple in character and limited in extent. But with advancing years and rapidly increasing growth the University found itself taking part in the remarkable enlargement of the fields of education which has led to the wide range

** Letter from Cret, Paul P. to Charles R. Van Hise dated April 23, 1907. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 5, Folder 38 (Paul Cret) December 22, 1906-March 31, 1908. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1. One feature of this plan was that the proposed site for the Model School (Wisconsin High School) was originally to have been at the foot of Bascom Hill and Park Street where it would have necessitated the removal of the old library building (925 Bascom Mall-now Music Hall).

⁴⁵ Letter from Laird, Warren P. to Charles R. Van Hise dated January 6, 1908. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 6, Folder 82 (Warren Powers Laird) May 18, 1906-January 6, 1908. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1.

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and diversity of today. The period of consequent transition from small and simple things to those of magnitude and complexity was marked, as generally elsewhere, by attention to individual necessities as they arose and without adequate forethought to their future relationships. As a natural result, the University plan, growing within a narrow compass about the original campus, became congested and impossible of expansion without the scattering of departments and the sacrifice of buildings. The resulting confusion has rendered it impossible to make proper use of the site, either for present or future purposes, without a comprehensive plan.

In view of these difficulties it was believed that their careful study by a commission of architects would give to the University a plan for its future constructional development which would provide for:

First, A proper relation of departmental groups to the whole system, permitting facility of administration;

Second, A suitable inter-relation of the buildings of each departmental group, ensuring the greatest efficiency of instruction;

Third, A complete and well-ordered system of thoroughfares by which all parts of the University will be knit together and connected with the thoroughfares of the town in a manner most likely to minimize time and energy in travel to and from the University and between its parts;

Fourth, Attention to the orientation of the buildings with a view to their lighting and exposure to mild and protection from inclement weather conditions;

Fifth, The minimizing of practical difficulties of construction and inter-communication arising from a hilly surface; and,

Sixth, The considerable savings of money to be effected through all time to come because of the avoidance of alteration, reconstruction or abandonment of old buildings unavoidable without such a comprehensive plan.

Thus the task set for your Commission has been the production of an organic plan for the whole future development of the University in which each newly added part would find its proper and final place, securing its own greatest individual usefulness while contributing to that of the whole, thus ensuring that every addition shall mark a step toward the ultimate completion of the whole.⁴⁶

⁴⁶ Laird, Warren P. (Chm.). Preliminary Draft of the Report of the Architectural Commission on the General Design of the University of Wisconsin, December 16, 1908, pgs. 4-5. Secretary of the Board of Regents Papers. Papers, Meetings of the Board of Regents, October 21, 1908-October 20, 1909. Box 22, Folder: December 16, 1908. University of Wisconsin Archives, Series 1/1/3. Although much correspondence in the Van Hise Papers and elsewhere relating to this report and its development survives, only three of the extensive original photos and drawings that accompanied it have been found in Madison.

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The report then set out the general scheme of the physical plan and noted that:

The site is divided by the natural configuration of the ground into a series of well defined regions, each with an individual character widely differing from that of the others, the whole thus requiring development as a scheme of distinct but correlated units. To these there are assigned the chief organic divisions of the institution as follows:

1. THE EASTERN SECTION: From the Approach to the Crest of Academic Hill. PUBLIC FUNCTIONS AND THE LIBERAL ARTS. Library, Vilas Theater, Administration. Liberal Arts including both North and South Flanks [of the main mall].
2. THE NORTHERN SECTION: Comprising the Lake Shore and North Slope of Observatory Hill. RESIDENCE AND ATHLETICS.
3. THE UNIVERSITY AVENUE SECTION: The Southern Hill Slopes and Westerly Levels. PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE. Physics, Chemistry, Pharmacology, etc., Engineering and Other Professional Schools, Agricultural, Technical, and Experimental
4. THE SOUTHERN SECTION: Randall Field and Contiguous Territory to the East. APPLIED AND MILITARY SCIENCE AND SERVICE. Shops of the Engineering Department, Power Plant and Military Science.
5. THE WESTERN SECTION: Lying Beyond the Scope of the Plan. AGRICULTURE. (The University Farm.⁴⁷

The portion of the Southern section allocated to the Applied Science Groups was bounded by Charter Street, University Avenue, Lesser (or Henry) Mall and the extension of the Main Mall. The Western section was described by Laird as being:

Best understood by considering it as composed of two parts, technical and practical. The first requires contact with departments of pure science to the east, the second with the farm to the west. The Lesser Mall, separating Agriculture from the other great divisions of the plan, affords also the natural frontage for these technical buildings whose work is most closely related to pure science. The first of these is the present.

A. Agricultural College. Situated in a commanding position on rising round at the head of the lesser mall which has been created to give it a proper setting, it also forms part of the ensemble of the Great Mall and lies within a working

⁴⁷ Laird, Warren P. (Chm.). Preliminary Draft of the Report of the Architectural Commission on the General Design of the University of Wisconsin, op. cit., pg. 6.

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radius of all divisions of instruction, theoretical and practical, which enter into the scheme of work of this great department. Opposite, fronting the western side of the Lesser Mall, is the group for

B. Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy and Agricultural Chemistry and Bacteriology. The east portion of the first two is now built and the plan provides considerable future capacity for all three. Behind them is a track of ample area for the demonstration of farm machinery.⁴⁸

These two large sections were thus delimited in part by the placement of the Lesser Mall, which became a planning feature of the first importance in the overall scheme. Fortunately, a perspective rendering of the whole plan has survived and shows that the Commission envisioned a grand Beaux Arts-style plan for the campus.

The proposed plan as Laird and Cret presented it to the regents displayed a great Renaissance composition, developing an elliptical terrace at the foot of the campus where Park and State Streets intersect, creating a transition that minimized the angle between the axes that existed then and that remain today. ... A pair of buildings to be built just above [the Old Library and Science Hall] on the mall would have duplicated the original North and South Halls and initiated a symmetrical procession up the mall, culminating in a large Court of Honor in front of University (Bascom) Hall with large museum buildings on either side. Thus, existing buildings such as the Engineering Building and Science Hall would have remained. The symmetry of the new buildings would have minimized their intrusions into an otherwise classical Renaissance composition.⁴⁹

Following Laird's presentation the Regents voted unanimously to accept the report of the Commission, which was then placed on file. Further action to finalize the General Plan was not taken and the Architectural Commission was not instructed to work further on the general plan. Neither was the report officially published, even though correspondence exists that shows this was originally intended. This may not have been a surprise to any of the parties involved, however. In a letter Laird wrote to Van Hise in 1910 he states quite frankly that "General plans, such as this, are practically never adopted, being in effect proposals for future guidance."⁵⁰

Never-the-less, the impact of the report was felt immediately in new construction and in the implementation of parts of the plan. Just two months prior to the letter from Laird quoted above, Harry L. Russell, the newly elected dean of the College of Agriculture, was writing to Van Hise regarding the new Lesser Mall.

⁴⁸ Laird, Warren P. (Chm.). Preliminary Draft of the Report of the Architectural Commission on the General Design of the University of Wisconsin, op. cit., pg. 29.

⁴⁹ Orr, Gordon D., Jr. and Dorothy E. Steele, op. cit., pg. 14.

⁵⁰ Letter from Laird, Warren P. to Charles R. Van Hise dated May 6, 1910. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 19, Folder I-M, July 1909-July, 1910. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1.

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The plaza which is to connect the Linden Mall with University Avenue, needs attention, in my judgement, especially as to the south end, where a large cellar hole is left since the removal of the building (1426 University Avenue) purchased by the Regents; also a number of trees. ... My judgement would be to remove these trees and fill up the hole, taking the surplus earth and distributing it back of the Agronomy building, so as to present a smooth, open plaza. ... It is to be hoped that as soon as conditions will permit, the two houses in front of the Agricultural Engineering building will be secured, so that this whole plaza may be opened up.⁵¹

At the same time that the University was beginning the lot by lot purchase of the land that would eventually house the Applied Science Groups, President Van Hise was again corresponded with Laird and Cret regarding a report that they were to make to him and to the Committee on Constructional Development of the Regents regarding the proper siting of buildings for the University Extension, Demonstration and Practice School, Home Economics, Agricultural Chemistry, and Women's Dormitory. To this list Van Hise then added:

It is my understanding that as soon as the regents have acted upon your report and sites are determined, that you are to act as consulting architects in the preparation of plans for these buildings. You also are to take up the further construction of the chemistry building and are to consider whether to a large extent Madison sandstone can be used instead of Bedford stone so that this building shall in color be more in harmony with its surroundings.⁵²

This letter was subsequently confirmed by Laird and Cret's appointment as the University's architect for these buildings, a confirmation that also amounted to an endorsement of their previous work and of the 1908 plan as well. Soon thereafter the University completed its acquisition of the existing buildings and lots that made up the Lesser Mall and construction was begun on Laird and Cret's Agricultural Chemistry Building (Map No. 1) and on the first phase of the Wisconsin High School Building (Map No. 7), which faced the former building across the mall. This construction served to define the size and the position of the mall as well, although the mall was not actually completed until the construction of the Genetics Building (Map No. 6) in 1961.

⁵¹ Russell, Harry L. to Charles R. Van Hise dated March 23, 1910. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 20, Folder (Harry L. Russell), September 17, 1909-June 27, 1910. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1.

⁵² Letter from Charles R. Van Hise to Messrs. Laird & Cret dated June 26, 1911. Charles R. Van Hise Papers. Box 21, Folder 314 (Records of the Regent's Executive Committee, January 4, 1911-July 5, 1911. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1.

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The subsequent growth of the University campus in the years since the completion of the General Plan in 1908 would probably have amazed those who were responsible for drafting it. The General Plan, after all, was designed to guide the construction of a campus that was to be "completed" when it served a student population of 20,000. Today, however, the student population stands at just under 40,000. Whole groups of buildings now serve needs that the General Plan envisioned as being satisfactorily served by a single building and disciplines now exist that were undreamed of when the plan was made. In light of these developments, it is perhaps fortunate that so few of the buildings and building groups proposed by Laird and Cret in 1908 were actually built, since their more modest scale would now have rendered them hopelessly inadequate to fulfill today's needs. The most lasting legacies of the General Plan were general concepts; the idea that similar disciplines and needs should be grouped together and that certain natural features of the campus' incomparable location should be respected. These concepts gave the University the necessary flexibility to meet changing needs as they arose and their existence also instilled within the institution the habit of anticipating future needs and making long range plans to meet them. Retired campus architect Gordon D. Orr, Jr. summed up the Laird and Cret legacy well when he wrote that:

Laird and Cret's plan laid important groundwork in establishing an ordered pattern for growth. The regent's decision in 1906 to seek the best available help in programming the University's future was sound and has since paid dividends. Their plan proved to be a milestone in the history of the physical development of the campus.²³

The significance of the Henry Mall Historic District as it relates to Community Planning and Development is that it is the largest and the most completely realized ensemble of buildings and landscape features on the University of Wisconsin campus that was actually designed by the members of the Architectural Commission. Smaller groupings of buildings on the campus that were designed by these men exist (Barnard Hall and Lathrop Hall, for example), but they do not exhibit the use of an axially planned composition with the axis lined by symmetrically disposed buildings; an especially noteworthy element of the General Plan of 1908 that is also a typical feature of such Beaux Arts-inspired plans. Consequently, Henry Mall is now the only place on today's campus where one can fully experience the original intent of the Architectural Commission and this experience is not lessened by the presence of the two later and non-contributing buildings on the mall.

Architecture

The architectural significance of the Henry Mall Historic District lies in its being the University of Wisconsin's most notable grouping of classically inspired early twentieth century buildings, two of which (the Agricultural Chemistry building and

²³ Orr, Gordon D., Jr. and Dorothy E. Steele, op. cit., pg. 16.

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the Wisconsin High School building) are also the works of nationally known architects Warren P. Laird and Paul P. Cret. All the contributing buildings within the district belong to two related styles, the Italian Renaissance Revival and the Neoclassical Revival, and have (or were intended to have) symmetrical main facades featuring centered principal entrances. In addition, both of the buildings designed by Laird and Cret emulated the imposing colossal order portico of the excellent earlier Neoclassical Revival style Agriculture Hall building by having pilastered facades. Three of the district's contributing buildings have already been individually listed on the NRHP and the nomination forms for these buildings treat their architectural significance in detail.⁵⁴

The Agricultural Chemistry building and the Wisconsin High School building are two of the nine buildings on the University of Wisconsin campus that resulted from a collaboration between University of Pennsylvania colleagues Warren P. Laird and Paul P. Cret and the University of Wisconsin's supervising architect, Arthur Peabody. This collaboration began when Laird and Cret were chosen by the Board of Regents in 1906 to develop a master plan for guiding the growth of the campus in association with Peabody. The three men worked under the collective name of the "Architectural Commission" and a preliminary draft of the plan was presented to the Regents in 1908 and was called the "General Design for Future Constructional Development."

All three of these collaborators were men of high standing in the architectural profession of their day. Paul Phillippe Cret (1876-1945) was a native of Lyons, France who came to America in 1903 to take the position of Professor of Design at the University of Pennsylvania after studying and teaching at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He afterwards devoted his time to his own architectural career and became nationally known for his ability to translate his Beaux Arts training into institutional buildings of note. His first important commission was for the Pan American Union Building in Washington, D.C., done in 1907-1910 in association with Albert Kelsey. Many other outstanding public buildings came from his hand in the ensuing years, including: the Detroit Institute of Arts (1921-in association with Zantinger, Borie, and Medary); the Rodin Museum (1932), and the Federal Reserve Bank in Philadelphia; and the Folger Shakespeare Memorial Library (1932) and the Federal Reserve Bank (1935-37) in Washington, D.C. The great respect that the architectural profession felt for Cret was ultimately reflected in his being awarded the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Architects in 1938.⁵⁵

⁵⁴ These buildings are: the Agricultural Chemistry Building, NRHP-6/19/85 (Map No. 1); the Agricultural Engineering Building, NRHP-6/27/85 (Map No. 3); and the Agriculture Hall, NRHP-3/14/85 (Map No. 4).

⁵⁵ Withey, Henry F. and Withey, Elsie Rathburn. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). Hennessy and Ingalls, Los Angeles, California, 1970. pg. 149.

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Cret met Warren Powers Laird (1851-1941) when both were serving on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. Laird was born in Winona, Minnesota in 1851 and after study in America and in Europe he was asked to head the newly formed School of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, a post he assumed in 1891. He retained this position until 1920, when he assumed the newly created post at the University of Dean of the School of Fine Arts and he held this position until his retirement in 1932. Most of his professional work outside the University consisted of nationally recognized consulting on planning and design, much of which was done in collaboration with Cret.⁵⁶ Cret was the principal designer of the two while Laird apparently had the principal responsibility for the organizational and functional aspects of the designs and for the business side of the collaboration.

The third member of the Commission was the supervising architect of the University, Arthur Peabody. Peabody (1858-1942) was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and he attended the University of Illinois, studying architecture and engineering there until his graduation in 1882. He practiced architecture in his own firm in Chicago until 1905, when he accepted the position of Architect of the University of Wisconsin. In that position and in his subsequent position as State Architect Peabody is said to have designed or collaborated in the design of over 60 buildings on the University (34 major buildings are identified) and the various state college campuses, most of which were expertly done in a variety of Period Revival styles.⁵⁷ Although the nature of Arthur Peabody's contribution to the Commission is not perfectly understood, the surviving correspondence in the University of Wisconsin Archives shows that he was much more than just Laird and Cret's supervising architect. In a letter to Van Hise in which he discussed his and Cret's fee for an unused design for the new Biology building, Laird gave this description of the work of the Commission members.

The service [for the design of the biology building] was identical in character with that for the Animal Husbandry Building [Stock Pavilion]. We gave extended study to the designing of the exterior treatment of the entire Biological building in conjunction with the work of the supervising architect, who prepared the floor plans and sections. This involved considerable consultation by correspondence and a good deal of study before the design could be brought to a suitable form.⁵⁸

The nine designs for individual buildings on the University of Wisconsin campus that were produced by these three fine architects include several of the best of the Madison campus's buildings dating from the first two decades of this century. Two of these buildings are located on the Agricultural portion of the campus just west

⁵⁶ Withey, Henry F. and Withey, Elsie Rathburn. Op. Cit., pg. 360.

⁵⁷ Ibid. Pgs. 461-462.

⁵⁸ Letter from Laird, Warren P. to Charles R. Van Hise dated May 11, 1910. Papers, Meetings of the Board of Regents. Box 23, Folder January 25, 1910. University of Wisconsin Archives, Secretary of the Board of Regents Papers, Series 1/1/3.

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of Henry Mall and they are atypical in being designed in a free adaption of the Tudor Revival style. These buildings include the outstanding Stock Pavilion (1908, NRHP-07/11/85) located at 1675 Linden Drive, and the Soil Science Building Addition (1915) to the Horticulture and Agricultural Physics Building (1896, NRHP-03/14/85) located at 1525 Observatory Drive. The other seven buildings represent various aspects of the Italian Renaissance Revival style and several of these are also strongly influenced by the colonnaded aspect of the Neoclassical Revival style as well. The best of the Italian Renaissance Revival style designs are among the University's finest buildings and include the outstanding Lathrop Hall (1910, NRHP 07-11-85) located at 1050 University Avenue, the neighboring Barnard Hall (1912) located at 970 University Avenue, and the excellent Home Economics and University Extension Building (1912) located at 1300 Linden Drive. Another fine design is the Neoclassical Revival Agricultural Chemistry building (1913, NRHP-06/19/85) located at 420 Henry Mall. The remaining three buildings are each plainer, somewhat less successful designs. These buildings include the basilica-like Central Heating Station (1908) located at 1225 University Avenue, Sterling Hall (1914) located at 475 N. Charter Street, and the Wisconsin High School.

The last-mentioned building, the Wisconsin High School, is a special case. The composition of the main facade of the building, as originally proposed, was similar in many respects to the other Italian Renaissance Revival style and Neoclassical Revival style buildings on the campus that resulted from the Laird and Cret/Arthur Peabody collaboration. Each of these designs has a symmetrical three-part main facade that features a flat-roofed central mass flanked by hip-roofed end wings. These three elements rest on a raised basement story and the principal entrance to each building is placed in the center of the first story of the main block at the top of a flight of stairs. The basement story and the first story are then demarcated horizontally from the upper stories by a prominent beltcourse or by the use of rusticated surfaces, creating facade designs whose three major elements are also organized into marked upper and lower zones as well.²⁹

One of the identifying hallmarks of these designs is their symmetry. The Wisconsin High School, however, suffers by comparison with the rest of the Laird and Cret/Peabody designs because its overall design, while dependent on symmetry for success, was never completed; the north third of the original design was never built. Thus, the Wisconsin High School that exists today does not truly represent

²⁹ The most notable examples are Lathrop Hall and Barnard Hall. A more Neoclassical design was given to the Agricultural Chemistry Building (1912, NRHP 06-19-85) located at 420 Henry Mall directly across from Wisconsin High. The main facade of this building features a centrally placed pedimented portico that gives it a more central emphasis than the Italian Renaissance examples just listed. A fourth building, the Home Economics and University Extension Building, combines a center block having a pedimented center portico with flanking end wings, creating a five-part composition that is more Palladian in its inspiration.

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the Architectural Commission's original intent. Wisconsin High also suffers from the loss of its original windows and much of its original interior. As a consequence, it is believed that the Wisconsin High School does not have the same degree of significance that most of the other University designs by these architects possess. Even so, Wisconsin High appears to meet the NPS definition of a contributing element within the district because it was present during the period of significance and possesses the requisite historic integrity.

Laird and Cret's choice of the Renaissance Revival style as a unifying factor for the campus represented a carefully thought out decision to blend the new with the old. In a letter from Laird to President Van Hise late in 1906 in which Laird discussed the proposed dormitory group for women he makes the statement that "It is assumed that in the treatment of the exterior of these buildings any style of architecture more in consonance with the best of the older present buildings, would be acceptable."⁶⁰ Van Hise replied in the affirmative two days later, stating that "In reference to the style of architecture: You know the position of the women's building with reference to University Hall (Bascom Hall), South Hall, and Chadbourne Hall. These are all constructed of the Madison sand stone. I had supposed that this material would be the natural one to use for the women's quadrangle, but in this matter I again make the suggestion for your consideration."⁶¹ Arthur Peabody also joined in this discussion, writing to Laird that: "I wish to suggest only in addition that whatever style of building is adapted it should be one which will lend itself easily to the abrupt and changing contours of the ground without too great modifications."⁶²

By the time the General Design was submitted to the Regents in December of 1908 these ideas had crystallized around the architecture represented by the designs of the North and South Halls.

Architectural Style of Buildings. Although the project must be treated as a series of related compositions, it may be given a unity or singleness of character by consistency of architectural "style" and uniformity of color. The key note of style should be taken from the oldest, which are also the best, of the University buildings--North and South halls. These afford a good suggestion of

⁶⁰ Letter from Laird, Warren P. to Charles R. Van Hise dated December 20, 1906. Charles R. Van Hise Papers, Box 6, Folder (Warren Power Laird) May 18, 1906-January 6, 1908. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1.

⁶¹ Letter from Van Hise, Charles R. to Warren P. Laird dated December 22, 1906, Ibid.

⁶² Letter from Peabody, Arthur to Warren P. Laird dated December 26, 1906. Charles R. Van Hise Papers, Box 7, Folder (Arthur Peabody) June 26, 1906-May 28, 1906. University of Wisconsin Archives, Chancellors and Presidents Papers, Series 7/10/1.

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classical Renaissance architecture which should be required to be the pervading character of future construction.⁶³

This style was then reflected in the design of the large body of work on the University of Wisconsin campus designed by the Laird and Cret and this in turn set the pattern for the design of future campus construction until after World War II. This was due in part to the fine design of these buildings and also to the lasting relevance of the General Plan of 1908. Laird and Cret's legacy was also protected and enhanced by the many subsequent campus buildings designed by Arthur Peabody. Peabody was appointed the State Architect in 1915 and he was thus in a position to oversee all of the construction on the campus until his retirement in 1938.

Science

All the buildings within the Henry Mall Historic District except for the Wisconsin High School have important associations with the significance area of science and those buildings that have already been placed on the NRHP have had these associations detailed in their respective nomination forms.

With the exception of the district's two non-contributing buildings, those buildings within the district that are associated with the work of the College of Agriculture were all built between the years 1903 and 1912, a period that spans the close of Dean Henry's administration and the early years of Dean Russell's. This was an enormously important and fruitful period in the history of the College in terms of the research that was being done there, during which the College ended the early phase of its development that is detailed earlier in the history section of this discussion, and began the transition to the mature phase that was to follow. "The pattern of activities which developed at the college during Dean Henry's administration (1891-1907) admirably exemplified the Van Hise ideal of a union of academic and practical interests. With Henry's retirement the pioneer era had passed."⁶⁴ Under Dean Russell, the rapid development of new departments within the College begun under Dean Henry's administration such as plant pathology, agricultural education, agricultural economics, genetics (formerly experimental breeding), poultry husbandry, economic entomology, and agricultural bacteriology was greatly accelerated. This led to the hiring of many new faculty members who, through a combination of ability, fortuitous timing, and able administration and encouragement were soon to produce revolutionary discoveries in their various fields.

⁶³ Laird, Warren P. (Chm.). Preliminary Draft of the Report of the Architectural Commission on the General Design of the University of Wisconsin, December 16, 1908, pg. 13.

⁶⁴ Curti and Carstensen, op. cit., Vol. 2, pg. 406.

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Even a cursory listing of the achievements of the departments listed above would be too large a task for the purposes of this discussion. Instead, what follows is a condensation of the achievements of the more important departments taken from the lists included in the 1978 survey Perspectives of a University, which lists the architectural, historical, archeological and memorial resources of the University undertaken by the Department of Planning and Construction.⁶⁵ This list is organized according to the building(s) within the district that housed these activities. The various departments that each building has housed are then listed below, along with the more important accomplishments associated with them from the time of their first occupancy up to 1941.

Agriculture Hall Note: Also see the applicable NR form for this building.

Agricultural Economics: Department housed here since formation in 1903. Prof. H.C. Taylor founded the department and was the first professor in this field in the U.S.

Bacteriology: Housed in this building from 1903-1955. Department renamed Agricultural Bacteriology in 1913. Edwin B. Fred and Edward J. Graul discovered that partial neutralization of the acidity of soils by the addition of liming was more effective than the complete change of the chemical condition. Fred, who joined the department in 1913, continued and expanded the world famous pioneering work of Conrad Hoffman in soil bacteriology. The investigation led to preparation of an encyclopedic work which was quickly recognized as the standard on the subject. Fred and William Peterson conducted investigations of fermentation yielding acetone and butanol, also, study of root nodule bacteria and production for farmers.

Genetics: Housed here from 1910-1920. Program initiated in 1910 by W.D. Hoard and named Experimental Breeding at first. Subsequently renamed Genetics, the first genetics department in the U.S. Prof. L.J. Cole was the first department chairman and in 1912 undertook a classic study of inheritance in cattle through experiments in crossbreeding. E.W. Lindstrom led studies in plant as well as in animal inheritance that led to important discoveries in the field.

Poultry Science: Department housed here from 1909-1917. L. Kahlenberg, J. Halpin and C.A. Ripsom conducted research on poultry diseases and developed a treatment and cure for coccidiosis.

Veterinary Science: Department housed here from 1903-1924. Burr Beach here isolated the organism responsible for causing Johnes disease in cattle.

Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene: Department housed here from 1903-1915. H.L. Russell was first director and led statewide effort of testing for tuberculosis in cattle. Became the state center for laboratory testing.

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Agronomy

Agronomy: Department housed here from 1907-1931. Prof. Ransom A. Moore founded the department, originated the world famous Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Association, developed important grain strains suitable for short growing seasons. George Briggs introduced the soybean crop to Wisconsin. R.G. Shand conducted important plant breeding and disease research and H.L. Shand developed Vicland oats.

Genetics: Department housed here from 1932-1963. M.R. Irwin was responsible for the creation of immunogenetics, used techniques of blood analysis to study genetics problems. Irwin, with R.D. Owen and W.H. Stone developed standardized systems of blood typing reagents for characterizing the cellular antigens of animals. Also, in 1958, J. Lederberg received the Nobel Prize for his work demonstrating that bacteria possess mechanisms for sexual recombination.

Agricultural Engineering Note: Also see the applicable NR form for this building.

Agricultural Engineering: Department begun here in 1907 and still housed here, and in other buildings as well. F.W. Duffee originated the forage harvester idea, and with A.H. Wright of the Agronomy department developed the seed corn dryer in 1928. The department also developed a safe high-voltage limited current leakage type transformer and electric fence in 1936 and initiated the first farm safety programs in the U.S. in 1943.

Wildlife Ecology: The department was begun in this building and was housed here from 1933-1935. Its founder was world famous ecologist and author Aldo Leopold who also advocated the designation of primitive or wilderness areas within the confines of the National Forest system and who was instrumental in the development of the University Arboretum.

Agricultural Chemistry Note: Also see the applicable NR form for this building.

Biochemistry: Department housed here from 1913 to the present, first called the Agricultural Chemistry department. Edwin B. Hart discovered copper, zinc, and manganese as the essential elements for mammals, advocated iodized salt for the prevention of goiters. E.V. McCollum, between 1914 and 1917, discovered fat soluble vitamin A and water soluble vitamin B. Harry Steenbock, between 1907 and 1925, discovered the vitamin A activity of yellow pigments and its importance in animal nutrition. Steenbock also developed the irradiation process for the production and storage of vitamin D, thus providing a cure for rickets. Conrad A. Elvehjem directed the majority of work on the vitamin B complex and Elvehjem and F.M. Strong discovered niacin as a cure for black tongue in livestock and human Pellagra in 1937. Karl P. Link and M.A. Stahman conducted research leading to the synthesis of the anti-coagulant Dicumarol in 1941.

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The preceding information is only a brief summarization of some of the scientific discoveries of the College of Agriculture during the years between 1903 and 1941, discoveries that have been "of immense importance to the state, the nation, and the world." Equally important discoveries continue to be made in these same buildings today and also in the new Genetics building (Map No. 6), which, while ineligible for the NR because of its late (1961) date of construction, is the center of world famous research in this field. Of lesser significance is the Stovall Laboratory of State Hygiene (Map No. 5) which is also ineligible for the NR by virtue of its late date of construction (1951). This laboratory is run by the University for the State of Wisconsin and it was set up to test the tens of thousands of public health specimens that are generated statewide each year. Such testing is one of the end products of the theoretical research conducted in the other buildings on the mall and thus the laboratory is an appropriate, if less significant resource within the district.

The same cannot be said of the Wisconsin High School (Map No. 7), however, which is an anomaly on the mall, having been built in 1913 as a training school that was intended to play an integral part in the mission of the University of Wisconsin's School of Education. The school was intended to aid in the execution of that School's two primary missions: to train and prepare secondary school teachers; and to conduct research that would enhance both the theoretical and the applied study of education. Still, as the model laboratory school of the University, the Wisconsin High School could potentially be eligible for inclusion in the NRHP for its associations with the area of education. As a consequence, extensive research was undertaken to confirm this potential, if possible. Much of this research involved searching through the extensive historic materials deposited by the School of Education in the University of Wisconsin Archives. Other research was also undertaken and involved interviews with School of Education faculty and staff, literature searches, and the reading of various published works pertaining to the work of the School of Education. All of this research was undertaken with the intention of concentrating on the period of the school's history prior to 1941 although every effort was made to identify information that might also pertain to events in the history of the school after that date that could be considered to be of "exceptional importance" in the sense used by the NPS. The result of this research indicates that while the Wisconsin High School did indeed play a role in both of the School of Education's primary missions, evidence is not available that supports the contention that these roles were of such significance as to warrant placing the school on the NRHP as a result.

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Significance in the area of Science

All of the contributing buildings in the Henry Mall Historic District are significant in the area of science (except for the Wisconsin High School building) because of their association with important scientific advancements, especially in the field of agriculture. In 1866, the Wisconsin Legislature approved a bill which expanded the function of the University to include classes in agricultural sciences. Consequently, an experimental farm was established just west of the original campus. However, the farming community of the state was very conservative and skeptical of the idea of learning about farming in a classroom rather than in the fields themselves, so the school grew very slowly. It was not until 1886, when the department began to offer a twelve-week short course at the university during the winter, that the general attitude of the farmers of Wisconsin began to change. With this pioneering program, enrollment in the school increased significantly, and by 1889, the Legislature had added enough funds to the program to reorganize the department into the College of Agriculture, and expand the school both physically and philosophically. William A. Henry was made the first Dean of the new College in 1891 and by the time he retired fifteen years later in 1907, he and many other exceptional faculty members that he brought to the school, had begun the transformation of the College into one of America's outstanding centers of agricultural study. Over the following century, many significant advancements in the field of agriculture were made in the buildings along Henry Mall, a very abbreviated list of which includes: the discovery of the partial neutralization of the acidity of soils; a seminal study of inheritance in cattle through crossbreeding experiments; the development of a cure for coccidiosis in poultry; the isolation of the organism responsible for causing Johnes disease in cattle; the development of grain strains suitable for short growing seasons; the creation and advancement of the field of immunogenetics; the development of a safe, high-voltage limited current leakage type transformer and electric fence; the discovery of fat soluble vitamin A and water soluble vitamin B; and the association with ecologist Aldo Leopold who founded the Wildlife Ecology Department at the university. A more comprehensive list of important events, persons and advancements associated with the contributing buildings of the Henry Mall Historic District can be found in Perspectives of a University.

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Significance in the area of Community
Planning and Development

The Henry Mall Historic District is also significant in the area of Community Planning and Development. As the student body in the School of Agriculture grew in the early twentieth century, it was clear that more buildings would be necessary to accommodate the constantly and rapidly growing disciplines. At the same time it was becoming evident that there was little unity to the buildings that had already been erected on the western edge of campus. Nationally known architects William P. Laird and Paul P. Cret of Philadelphia, were hired to conduct a study and report on the future construction and development of the campus. Out of this came a final plan to direct future growth at the University. A key to their plan was the grouping of buildings of each school or department together. They divided the campus into five sections: the eastern section for public functions and liberal arts; the northern section for residence halls and athletics; the University Avenue section (which included Henry Mall) for agriculture and the pure and applied sciences; the southern section for applied and military sciences and engineering workshops; and the western section for the experimental farm. While their recommendations were not followed to the last detail, the general theme of grouping associated buildings together was adopted and is clearly recognizable on the campus to this day. In addition, their plan for Henry Mall itself is largely intact. Laird and Cret envisioned a beautiful campus mall that would be comparable only to the Bascom Hill Mall. To achieve this, they suggested that new buildings that were constructed there (and in all other areas of campus) have similar designs and construction materials as existing buildings in the area. The architects designed the two anchor buildings on the south end of the mall with this in mind; the Agricultural Chemistry building and the Wisconsin High School building were both designed in the neoclassical style. The Agricultural Chemistry building was constructed of red brick to blend with the other existing buildings on the west side of Henry Mall; and the Wisconsin High School was constructed of cream brick to act as a transition from the buildings on the east side of campus that are largely of Madison sandstone or cream brick. Laird and Cret's plan for Henry Mall (and the campus as a whole) is important as a significant example of coherent and rational community planning and development. The plan, which is largely intact, provides a unified collection of buildings that allows, by use of different building materials, a smooth visual transition from the eastern portion of the university.

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Significance in the area of Architecture

As noted above, Architects Laird and Cret wanted to create a more visually cohesive, unified campus. Previously built areas at the University of Wisconsin had shown little regard for continuity or harmony of style, materials, scale and design. The result was great architectural diversity, which proponents of the City Beautiful movement such as Laird and Cret found to be unharmonious and haphazard. Therefore, when the two architects were commissioned to design two of the buildings on Henry Mall, they did so keeping in mind the already existing buildings. The Agriculture Hall building (1903), the Agronomy building (1906), and the Agricultural Engineering building (1907), were constructed in either Italian Renaissance Revival or Neoclassical Revival style. The Agricultural Chemistry building (1912) and the Wisconsin High School building (1913) were later designed in the Neoclassical Revival style by Laird and Cret, so that Henry Mall would have a unified appearance. Although there are other buildings of this style on the University of Wisconsin campus, nowhere else is there such a large concentration of them. The buildings of Henry Mall are therefore architecturally significant as the University of Wisconsin's most notable group of early twentieth century classically inspired buildings.

Archeological Potential

The fact that these large buildings largely cover their individual sites and the probable damage caused by the excavation of their extensive basements makes it extremely unlikely that any archeological artifacts are to be found within the district.

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Madison: Democrat Printing Company, 1906,

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Previous documentation on file (NPS): X See continuation sheet
 preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
 X previously listed in the National Register (Map Nos. 1, 2 & 4)
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:
 State Historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 X University
 X Other
Specify repository:
 Form Preparer

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 8 acres

UTM References

A	<u> 1/6 </u>	<u> 3/0/3/8/3/0 </u>	<u> 4/7/7/1/8/4/0 </u>	B	<u> 1/6 </u>	<u> 3/0/3/5/8/0 </u>	<u> 4/7/7/1/8/4/0 </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> 1/6 </u>	<u> 3/0/3/5/8/0 </u>	<u> 4/7/7/1/6/8/0 </u>	D	<u> 1/6 </u>	<u> 3/0/3/8/3/0 </u>	<u> 4/7/7/1/6/9/0 </u>

 See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Part of the SE¹/₄ of section 15, township 7N, Range 9E: Beginning at a point on the NW curblineline at the corner of Hnery Mall and University Avenue, then W along the north curblineline of University Avenue for 390 feet, thence WNW along the Northerly curblineline of Babcock Drive for 108 feet, thence N 350 feet, then east 165 feet, then N 175 feet to a point located on the south curblineline of Linden Drive, then N across Linden Drive 30 feet to a point on the north curblineline of Linden Drive, then N 288 feet, then east 250 feet, then SSE 160 feet, then S 170 feet to a point on the north X See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundaries enclose all that portion of land historically associated with the buildings and other resources within the district.

 See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Timothy F. Hegqland/Consultant: for Hammel Green and Abrahamson, Inc.
 135 West Wells Street
organization Milwaukee, WI 53203 date May 16, 1991
street & number 1311 Morrison Street telephone 1-608-251-9450
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General View looking north

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Resource #1 looking NNW

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Resource #2 looking west

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Resource #3 looking NNW

Photo 5 of 8
Resource #4 looking north

Photo 6 of 8
General View looking south

Photo 7 of 8
Resource #7 looking west

Photo 8 of 8
Resource #9 looking north

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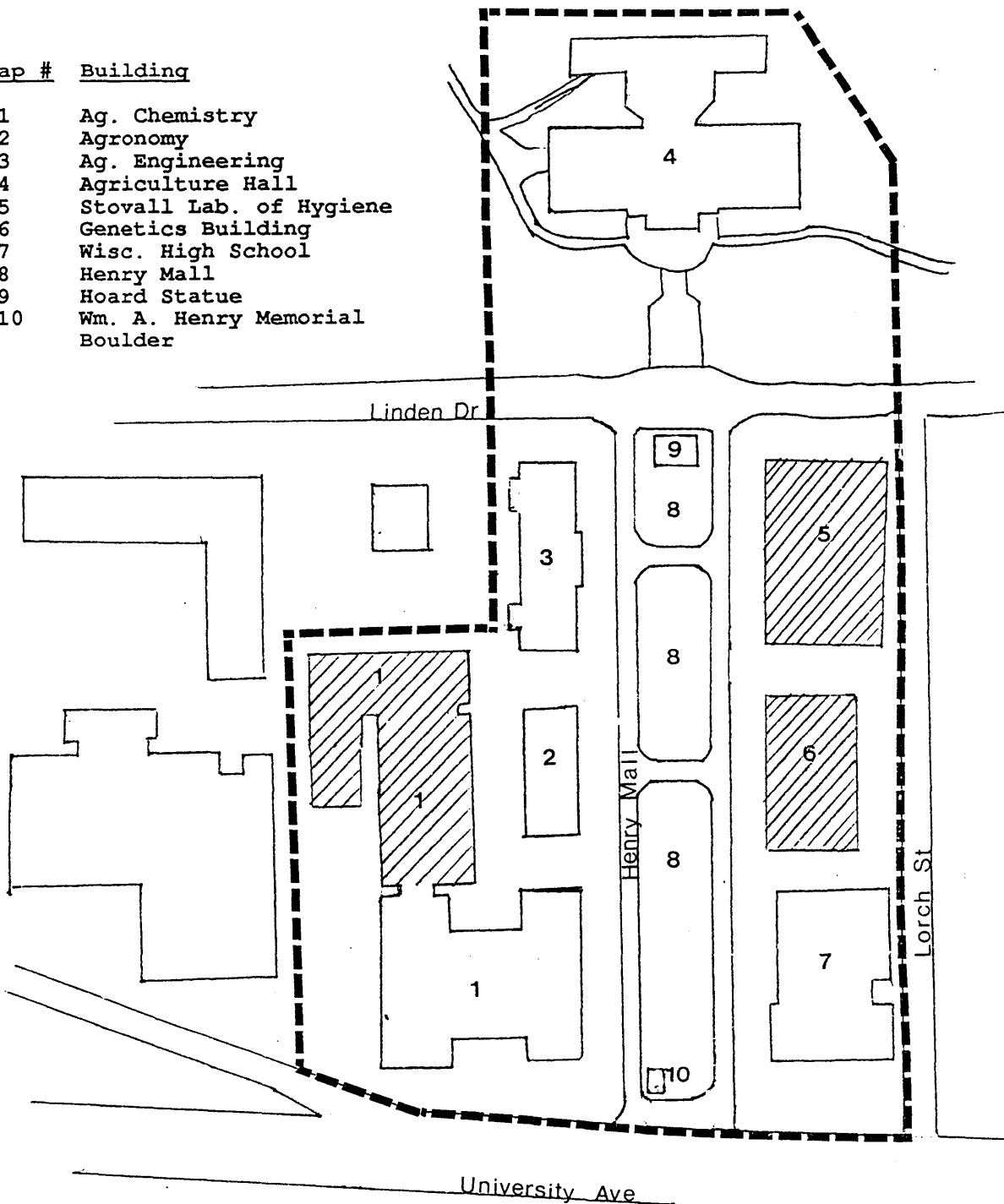
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


Boundary Description Continued

curbline of Linden Drive, then S 30 feet across Linden Drive to a point on the south curbline, then S 600 feet along the westerly curbline of Lorch Street to a point on the NW corner of Lorch Street and University Avenue, then W along the N curbline of University Avenue 225 feet to the POB. The boundaries enclose a plot measuring approximately 8.45 acres.

HENRY MALL HISTORIC DISTRICT
 Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin

<u>Map #</u>	<u>Building</u>
1	Ag. Chemistry
2	Agronomy
3	Ag. Engineering
4	Agriculture Hall
5	Stovall Lab. of Hygiene
6	Genetics Building
7	Wisc. High School
8	Henry Mall
9	Hoard Statue
10	Wm. A. Henry Memorial Boulder



	Contributing		District Boundary
	Non-contributing		Not to Scale