

Bicentennial Reflections —

The History of the Des Moines Public Schools

1846-1976

by
Robert R. Denny
Des Moines Public Schools
Des Moines, Iowa



W. O. Riddell
Superintendent
1907 - 1913



Z. C. Thornberg
Superintendent
1913 - 1920

Newell D. McCombs
Superintendent
1941 - 1956



Cress O. Hoyt
Superintendent
1956 - 1957





John W. Studebaker
Superintendent
1920 - 1937



A. W. Merrill
Superintendent
1937 - 1941

Dr. John H. Harris
Superintendent
1957 - 1964



Dr. Dwight M. Davis
Superintendent
1965 -



Bicentennial Reflections --
History of the
Des Moines Public Schools
1846-1976

Dr. Robert R. Denny
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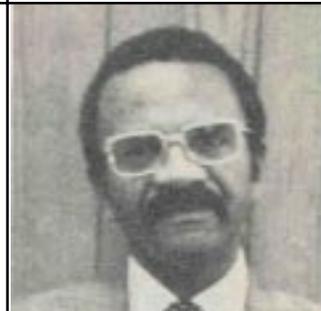
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TO THE FIFTH GRADE PUPILS:

In 1976 our nation is observing its bicentennial and for the Des Moines Schools it will mark our 130th birthday. In marking the ages of political institutions both dates note longevity. In the balance of ages of civilization, it is a short interval. Our bicentennial is a time for joy in our accomplishments and for solemn reflection on the future.

As students you will learn many things in your study of Iowa history and the geography of the state. In various books you will learn about historical events pertaining to the entire state. This supplementary booklet will provide many historical highlights of the development of schools within the city of Des Moines. This local history will give many details that could not be incorporated in books used throughout the state of Iowa.

Through the years the citizens of Des Moines have demonstrated their belief in the values of education by providing excellent school buildings, adequate textbooks and a well-educated staff of teachers.

The chances are that you have always accepted the fact that you had a school to attend. It was there. It had a name, possibly for some president such as Washington, Jefferson or Jackson, or for some local person such as Rice, Hubbell or Watrous. Did you ever stop to observe that most Des Moines Schools have had one or more sections added at one time or another? When were they built? Where did the names come from that were used for the buildings? These are a few of the questions that might be asked.

On the following pages you will find a history of the Des Moines Independent Community School District. You will find that this name is a very recent one since it was acquired only in 1957. The history on the ensuing pages covers the period 1846-1976. You will discover that the present school district includes all or part of 24 different school districts that formerly existed.

A proud school heritage is yours. There is a past filled with change and new ideas. You will find the Des Moines Schools have kept pace with the challenges of a new community, a new state, and a new nation.

-Dr. Robert R. Denny
Assistant Superintendent for Education

TO THE STUDENTS:

You are living at a special time--the celebration of the 200th anniversary of our country. The Bicentennial brings an awareness of and interest in our heritage, our past, and the men and women who provided the leadership during our early history. We study the past in order to make wise decisions in the present and hope to avoid mistakes in the future.

As you study the history of Iowa, you become aware of Iowa's heritage. As a part of Iowa's history, the history of the Des Moines Public Schools shows the heritage of a progressive and alert school system. It shows how this community met needs, challenges, and problems throughout the schools' one hundred and thirty years. People worked hard to continually improve and build upon an outstanding school system.

The future will show continued changes as they are needed to meet the opportunities and challenges of the last quarter of the twentieth century and the beginning of the twenty-first. Des Moines is a good place to live. Ours is the largest school district in Iowa, and its citizens, school people, and educational programs meet the needs of today's youth and will chart a rewarding course for the years ahead.

-Dr. Dwight M. Davis Superintendent of Schools

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Bicentennial Reflections

Schools and education have changed a great deal from 1776 to 1976. In these 200 years the schools have tended to reflect the ideas, aspirations and daily life of the American people more than any other institution. Throughout these two centuries the school boards have become the closest political subdivision to the people than any other aspect of city, state, or federal governmental agencies. Because of this proximity, the schools have been and continue to be responsive to the demands and will of the people.

During the first half of the 19th century Americans turned increasingly to education as the answer for the nation's political, social, religious, and economic problems. In 1832 during his first candidacy for the Illinois House of Representatives, Abraham Lincoln called education the most important subject which Americans as a people could be engaged. Thomas Jefferson was one who spoke out on many occasions about the importance of education. Very few persons doubted the Jeffersonian statement that a nation could not long remain ignorant and free. However, in the United States which was mainly agrarian, the common school of eight grades was deemed satisfactory and sufficient for most students. For a few who wished advanced training and would be college bound the private academies were the main route to go.

Horace Mann, secretary to the Board of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts between 1837 and 1848, was an early leader in the public school movement. Mann's often quoted statement was the education is "the great equalizer, the conditions of men, the balance wheel of the social machinery." The first high school established was the Boston English, opened in 1821, and by the start of the Civil War, Massachusetts had 103 high schools or roughly one to every three towns and cities. Historically, the popular sentiment for replacing the private academies with a new sort of institution, the public high school, first surfaced in a large measure in the 1830's and continued to spread during the next few decades.

As indicated above the first public high school began in 1821, but there were no more than 100 public high schools by 1850. The 1874 Kalamazoo decision of the Michigan Supreme Court stated that the high school was a part of the common school system and that the establishment of the high school was implied in the state constitution. Thus, it became legal to tax property to support a high school unit that would be free and open to all.

The high school had been slow in developing because of repeated challenges by taxpayers for using public monies for the education of a "small, privileged portion of the population." The Kalamazoo decision of 1874 was one of those landmark decisions which opened the way for the establishment of the high school throughout the nation and in time for its acceptance as an approved path for still higher education. The "free" high schools thus established spelled the decline of the private academies that charged tuition.

Even with the establishments of free high schools in many communities there were often relatively few high school graduates inasmuch as the labor market could absorb students who had six, seven, or eight years of schooling. Recall that the United States was basically an agrarian society and the need for skilled labor was just beginning to be required by the needs of the industrial revolution. As a more technological society emerged so was there an increased demand for more educated workers.

Contrary to general belief in its early history in the mid-1800s the high school was not popular with the working class. They tended to view it as an upper class institution, irrelevant to their aspirations and impossible for them to utilize since adolescent earnings were important to the family.

In Des Moines, the West Des Moines Public Schools inaugurated a high school in 1864. The first graduates were in 1868. High school graduating classes numbered anywhere from four to six for a number of years. The East Des Moines Public Schools launched their high school in 1866 and the first high school graduate was Elizabeth Matthews in 1871. The high schools in the West Des Moines Public School District, East

Des Moines Public School District, North Des Moines Public School District, Capital Park Public School District and Grant Park Public School District as well as the twenty other suburban districts such as Greenwood, Oak Park, Oak Dale, and Chesterfield housed grades 9-12 on the upper floor of one of their grammar school buildings for a number of years. Later in this booklet the history of the high schools is given and the buildings that were built to accommodate them. The point is that there was not a big demand by parents for high school education for their children. Those who did attend high school were mainly the college-bound students and they were attending the high school instead of the private academy.

Land Grant Colleges

The Morrill Act of 1862 was another development in liberalizing access to higher education with the establishment of land grant colleges. The Morrill Act which authorized these colleges-in Iowa, Iowa State University at Ames, for example, represented the first direction on the part of the national government to provide educational opportunity. It is interesting that this governmental action was first applied to the one community, the agricultural, which was national and which had definable needs and the power to express these needs. It was a landmark decision, too, inasmuch as it introduced a new political idea that despite the constitutional restrictions on the power of the federal government to manage and control education, the government could nevertheless support and facilitate the development of specific forms of education whenever such development was determined to be in the national interest.

Smith-Hughes Act of 1917

Another landmark piece of legislation was the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 which provided the first major federal fiscal support for schools. It was a categorical aid measure involving federal supervision over the expenditure of the authorized funds. This vocational education act was aimed at improving education in agricultural and industrial subjects, the trades and home economics in public secondary schools by the original maximum authorization of \$7,000,000 a year to be used for training teachers in these subjects, partial payment of their salaries, and research into the needs and provisions for such education. However, in order to participate, the states had to accept the law and submit specific plans for federal approval and matching federal monies.

The Smith-Hughes Act was further reinforced by the George-Deen Law in 1936 which was replaced by the George-Barten Law in 1946. This broadened the program by involving more aspects of home economics and family living and strengthened the program through teacher education.

The vocational education act of 1963 and the vocational education act of 1968 further stimulated education in the area of home economics.

Louisa Mae Alcott School,
East 12th and Lyon



Ft. Des Moines



Clara Barton School,
56th and Park Avenue



Benton School,
Southeast 12th and Shaw



A third categorical aid program was launched in 1958 and was known as the National Defense Education Act. It contained an equalization formula and allocated funds to private as well as public schools. As the name would imply, the act was based on the concern for national security as it related to American scientific and technical competence. Under Title III of the act, \$70,000,000 was authorized for the purchase of equipment and remodeling of facilities for instruction in science, mathematics and foreign languages in schools.

The NDEA was modified and expanded by subsequent legislation. Part of this change taking place was the addition of history, civics, geography, economics, English, and reading to the categories in Title III.

Three major educational revolutions have occurred in the last 100 years,

1. In the 1830s Horrace Mann's idea that a grammar school education was a right for every child.
2. In 1874 the Kalamazoo decision which authorized public funds for high schools.
3. The GI Bill of Rights of 1944. This launched a third revolution by opening higher education to millions of Americans. In 1971 it has been estimated that over eleven million persons had availed themselves of the benefits offered by this and succeeding bills.

Many historians have rated the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 as one of the most enlightened pieces of legislation ever enacted by the Congress of the United States. It made college a reality for millions who had never seen the inside of an institution of higher learning. It not only broadened their educational attainments but also raised the sights for these men and the families that they had. It set another higher rung on the educational ladder as an achievement that was within the grasp and possibility for millions more of Americans.

Even judged by strictly financial terms, investment in the GI Bill programs was an outstanding success. In general the higher a person's educational level, the higher his income will tend to be. This was a fact amply demonstrated by the experience of millions of veterans who had been assisted under the provisions of the GI Bill.

President Lyndon Johnson stated that the added taxes on the higher incomes thus made possible amounted in the year 1966 to an estimated \$60 billion. Since the cost of the two programs came to approximately \$19 billion, they had at that point already paid for themselves three times over.

Early Schools in Des Moines

The history of education in Des Moines goes back almost as far as the history of the city itself. There is some question as to who conducted the very first school. Records show that there were two established in the same year-in the fall and winter of 1846-1847. Both schools were held in cabins along Raccoon Row. Mr. Lewis Whitten was the teacher of one and Miss Mary Davis of the other. These schools were called "subscription School's, since the expenses were paid by the parents of the pupils.

The first school district was organized in 1849, four years prior to the incorporation of the town of Fort Des Moines. About sixty dollars was appropriated for the use of the school district during the 1849-50 school year. School costs were also defrayed by a tuition charge of \$2.50 per pupil for the term of twelve weeks. The Methodist Church was the meeting place of the first school, and later it was moved to the 'new' courthouse. Because the building was not yet finished, it was a cold and uncomfortable learning situation. At the end of the first term of three months the teacher, Byron Rice, suggested that school be dropped temporarily. Mr. Rice later became a prominent banker and judge.

In 1851 the sum of \$100 was appropriated to purchase a half acre of ground at Ninth and Locust on which to erect a school building. The first tax for the erection of a school building was levied in 1854. The Third Ward School (or "Brick School House," as it was called) was opened for school in 1856. It had cost the staggering sum -of \$8,000. There were four departments and four teachers when it opened. A bronze plaque has been placed on the front of the present building at 9th and Locust to commemorate the site, of the first public school in Des Moines.



Bird School,
Harding Road and Woodland - 1874-1974



Frederika Bremer School,
1st and Des Moines Street



William Cullen Bryant School,
Pennsylvania and Grand Avenue



Capitol Park High School
E. 13th and Polk

Cary School,
E. 14th and Court



Clarkson (Lake Park) School,
6th and Boston



Cooper School,
13th and Cottage



Crocker School,
6th and School



West Side Schools in 1860's

The west side enrollments of the 1860's increased so that in a few years additional space had to be rented to accommodate the pupils. In April, 1869, the school board purchased a new site at Tenth and Pleasant, to replace the Third Ward School at 9th and Locust. The new unit was later named Irving School.

Des Moines School History

On May 30, 1864, a committee in the West Des Moines schools was appointed to examine and report about the advisability of establishing a high school for the following fall. On July 1, 1864, they decided, upon a favorable report of the committee, to establish a high school and to open it in the second ward building (Crocker) at Sixth and School. Mr. Barrels, the County Superintendent, was requested to furnish a "course of study" and discipline for the same. The board elected Mr. Barrels as principal at a salary of \$100 per month. The records shows that Mr. Barrels was first, county superintendent; second, principal of the high school and thirdly, a congregational minister. Apparently the citizens of 1864 were not overly concerned with the separation of Church and State. It is recorded that when Mr. Barrels found it necessary to visit the outlying schools of Polk County that Mr. J. A. Nash substituted for him as the high school principal.

At a meeting of the Board of Education, October 1, 1864, a committee was appointed to classify the schools and draft a course of study. However, the committee recorded on October 24 that they had not been able to prepare the course of study owing to the excitement caused throughout the state by the presence of Confederate rebel raiders. They requested more time and the course of study was received November 9, amended and adopted.

Des Moines was growing very rapidly during this Civil War period and the schools were becoming more and more crowded. The organization of the high school made more room necessary and in 1867 a proposition providing for a special tax for the erection of a school was submitted to the voters. The proposition lost. The crowded conditions continued producing much discomfort, even the window was soon became seats for students.

When a discontented parent complained to the president of the board about the crowded conditions and lack of seats, he was asked by the board president “Did you vote on the proposition for more seats or against more seats?” If the parent confessed that he had voted against this bond issue, he was told that in that case his child must continue to sit in the window.

First graduating class

The first graduating class exercises from the West Des Moines Public Schools was in 1868. There were four members of the class,, one boy and three girls. This matter of the girls outnumbering the boys continued throughout most of the 1800’s.

The old high school classes which were housed originally in a few rooms at the top of old Crocker school at 6th & School (now 6th & Freeway), were moved in the fall of 1868 to the old third ward building at the corner of 9th & Locust. This was an old building and one morning during the opening devotional exercises the plaster from the entire ceiling fell upon the heads bowed in prayer. Amidst the cries and groans that followed, it is recorded that the prayer remained unfinished. (This was a matter before supreme court decision.) With the sad state of repair of this old building the voters finally agreed to issue bonds for a new building and the resulting structure was a magnificent edifice known as Lincoln School at 9th & Mulberry. (This is the present site on which the main fire station is built today-in the 1970’s.)

Deplorable condition for a high school building.

A good idea of how difficult the school house situation was may, be gained from the following clipping from the Iowa State Register of March 9, 1865; “The third ward building is a miserable structure never adapted for school purposes and as years go by it becomes more and more unsuitable. In a very few years this place must be supplied by a new one. By using it to its full capacity with the other two schoolhouses the accommodations can be furnished to only two out of every five children in this school district”. Evidently school attendance was not mandatory in this era.

As noted above the citizens did vote for a new school and Lincoln school was described as the largest and best building



Curtis School,
E. 6th and Raccoon Street



Elm Grove,
Army Post and Indianola Road



Ralph Waldo Emerson School,
E. 16th and Maple

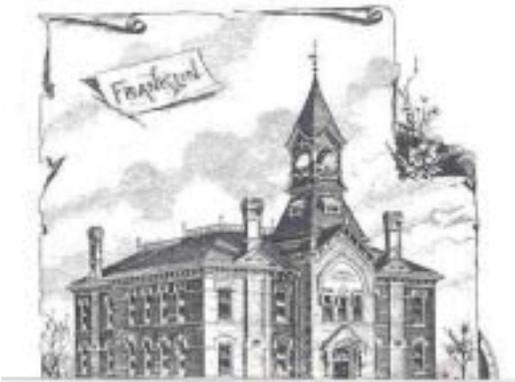


Evergreen School,
(Bly School) Evergreen Avenue

Forest Home School,
Forest and Gordon Avenue



Benjamin Franklin School,
12th and Crocker



Frisbie School,
60th and Muskogee



Ulysses S. Grant School,
23rd and Cottage Grove



of the west, costing at the time it was erected some \$80,000. Some newspaper reports point out that it was erected in the heart of one of the residential districts in the city.

The Lincoln building which is pictured here was somewhat reminiscent of castles out of England. Notice the many chimneys that adorned the building; they were not for looks but for the simple expedient of fireplaces that were used to heat this large structure. Lincoln housed all the high school students not only from the West Des Moines school district, which was that area which is basically downtown Des Moines at the present time, but also included those who lived south of the Raccoon River which is now the present southside Des Moines.

West High School had a lady principal by the name of Miss Charlotte Mann in the 1870's who was a niece of Horace Mann. The records show that Miss Mann married the president of the school board and became Mrs. Cooper. Miss Mann was principal from 1871-72. It is pointed out that there were other women principals of West High through the years; Mrs. Louise Morrow was principal 1886-1888. She was succeeded, by a Celia Ford, principal, 1888-1890. No other names of women principals appear for West High from this point on. In the same vein of recognizing outstanding women, May Goodrell, of course, was the outstanding principal of East High School for many years and in turn joined the central staff and became the director of what is now the Pupil Services Department.

A continued growth of Des Moines and the increasing school population soon made even the new magnificent Lincoln school building overcrowded. There was a demand by more and more citizens for an adequate high school building to serve students adequately. The prosperity in the nation of the 1870's, and 1880's was such that people were demanding more education for their young people. Business was booming and there was general prosperity. Just as the previous school buildings became crowded, history continued to repeat itself. Then in the year 1888 it was decided that a new building should be erected at 15th & Center and that the high school unit which was on the top floor of the Lincoln building at 9th & Mulberry should be abandoned. A splendid three-story red brick building was dedicated April 19, 1889, with imposing

ceremonies, music, speeches and, of course, a flag presentation by the Grand Army of the Republic. One of the speakers remarked: "We have now a new building capable of furnishing room enough for the next twenty years." The magnificent structure was West High. The original West High had a large bell tower and called for a huge clock that would strike every quarter hour. However the neighboring residents in the fashionable homes that were in the area strenuously objected and the works to the clock were never installed. Nevertheless the four sides of the huge timepiece were adorned with the idle faces of the clock until after a fire in the teens caused the entire tower structure to be razed.

The architects, Foster and Liebe, visited schools in Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul in order to secure ideas and information regarding the most modern methods of heating, lighting and ventilation for this new structure. The office of the superintendent and the board offices were all included in the new West High when it opened. All the rooms were beautifully and luxuriously furnished with fashionable woodwork, furniture and "rugs of good quality". The most modern and complete science equipment was installed, \$1,000 being spent upon chemical apparatus alone. Reports state that noteworthy among these was a Kershoff and Bunson spectroscope and Becker balance made in Rotterdam. The new building was the showplace of the state and hundreds of visitors and educators came from all over to look at the building and to get ideas to take back for schools they were constructing in their home areas. The library, for example, had a collection of some 460 volumes.

It is interesting to notice that they called this West High and Industrial School. Courses of study offered were, English, Latin, scientific, classic and business. All of these with the single exception of the business course required four years of study and led to a diploma of graduation. The business course demanded only two years of endeavor of work and upon completion of their hard work the student received a special certificate but no diploma. The classical course was the regular college preparatory course and included Greek.

In the fall of 1889 manual training and home economics were added to the curriculum. These two subjects were introduced to the schools by Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Miller who had been recruited from a similar position where they had taught in Toledo, Ohio, prior to coming to Des Moines. Also in 1889 shorthand and typewriting were introduced to the curriculum by Mr. Clay Slinker.

History of East Des Moines School District

The schools of the city of Des Moines were first under the control of one board of education. Among the items in the reports of the officers of the district appear claims that they settled for rent and fuel for rooms "used in East Des Moines." Children of the East Side were accommodated with school facilities in rented rooms. The first house in East Des Moines for school purposes of which we have definite information was a small frame building that stood near the corner of East 9th & Grand.

The records also show that there were also several private schools operated in the eastern part of Des Moines. One of the private or subscription schools of the city of Des Moines was first under the control of one district on land now occupied by the Jewett Lumber Company.

Independent District Organized

The Independent School District of Des Moines, East Side, was organized in 1859. The organizational meeting was held at the state capitol building. Facilities were rented in the Griffith block in the East Des Moines central district and operated there for several years, then it was moved to a building south of the Northwestern Depot on East Fourth. After being there for a year or two the school went back to the Griffith Block where it remained until a school building could be financed and erected

First Building for East High

The East Des Moines School District remained without a separate schoolhouse of its own until the year 1866. For many years the interested citizens of East Des Moines were active in trying to get the taxpayers to vote bond money with which to build a school house, however, they did not have good response from the voters.

It is important to recall that in those days school districts had to tax themselves directly on an annual budget for the money with which to construct school houses. There was no authority or way for raising money by issuance of bonds. Thus a district that wanted anything in the way of a good-sized school building had to tax themselves for a series of years and let the funds accumulate for that purpose. In the East Des Moines district there was a constant struggle year after year to get the money for a school house, however, the voting of one year's tax gave no assurance that another time the people would feel the same way.

Bryant School at Pennsylvania and Grand Avenue was the first school built in East Des Moines. A picture of this building is given below. When Bryant School was completed it was said to be the largest and finest school house in the western half of the state. In 1975 it is difficult to visualize the problems that they had in even securing materials in Des Moines for this school building. The lumber had to be hauled by horse-drawn wagon from Nevada, Iowa, since that was the nearest railroad shipping point from which to secure the materials. Similarly, cement and other items of this nature, nails and anything to be used in construction, that came by railroad from the East or from other points, had to be left in Nevada, and then laboriously and slowly hauled by teams to the building sites. The records show that before Bryant was completed, however, that the Des Moines Valley Road had begun to run trains into Des Moines. This small footnote in history points up the value and importance of railroad transportation in the last century. It was a vital link to the out- side world and greatly affected the cost of materials used in construction as well as items used in everyday living. The 1881 annual report of the Board of Trade gave the following figures in the increase of population in Des Moines:

1846 — 127	inhabitants	1870 — 12,035
1850 — 502		1875 — 15,782
1860 — 3,965		1880 — 22,696
1865 — 5,650		1881 — 25,397

From these statistics it can be seen that there would be a tremendous growth in the number of school population of students. Admittedly from the records we know that there was not a great deal of pressure for students to attend school for any great length of time, but it was becoming more and more important

to serve those youngsters in those families who demanded and wanted education. Thus the East Des Moines schools began to grow and the need for more buildings became apparent.

In 1874 the East Des Moines District built a second school at the corner of East Sixth and Raccoon with four rooms. It was greatly enlarged afterwards to serve the students there. This building incidently was utilized until the 1950's when Dunlap School was built at Southeast 11th and Railroad Streets to serve the students in the southeast area.

In 1875 they built Lucas School at East 16th and Capitol. In 1877 the demands of the school population of the east side became so urgent that the board asked the district to authorize a loan of \$30,000 for the construction of a school at the corner of E. 12th and Lyon. This proposal carried.

Names for the school buildings

It had been the custom of both the East Des Moines District and the West Des Moines District to name their schools by wards and indeed it appeared that the school directors probably were elected from the various wards within a school district. Finally, in 1880 the East Des Moines board decided that the school buildings should be named and that this would be a more fitting and proper way to refer to them. The first one that they had built at Pennsylvania and Grand was called Bryant after the poet, William Cullen Bryant. The second or seventh ward school was named Curtis. The name Curtis was selected because of the fact that General Curtis had been a somewhat extensive owner of property in the east side. The school constructed at 16th and Capitol was called Lucas after the first governor of Iowa and the building on East 12th and Lyon was called Webster for the famous lexicographer of the nation. A rented room in the southeastern portion of the East Des Moines district, commonly called the "porkhouse" school because it was intended to accommodate the children of the men who were employed in the packing houses, was given the name of Benton in honor of Thomas H. Benton, for several years the head of the State Department of Public Instruction. A picture of Benton School is given below.



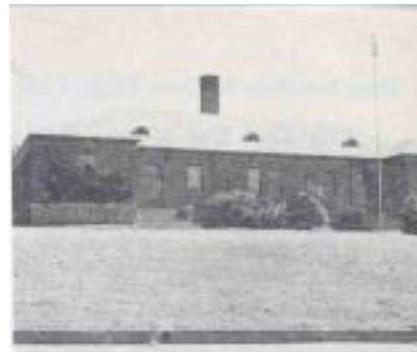
Grant Park High School,
E. 30th and Dean



Grand View School,
E. 12th and Hull



Howe School,
S.E. 7th Street



Jefferson School,
30th and Park Avenue

Kirkwood School,
27th and Clark



Lincoln School,
9th and Mulberry



Longfellow School,
E. 7th and Maple



Logan School,
E. 17th and Garfield



In the fall of 1880 the board rented a room in the basement of a Swedish church which stood at the corner of Des Moines and E. 2nd Avenue and started a school there. The prevalence of the Swedish nationality in that part of the city at that time was the reason for the board naming the new undertaking after Sweden's author and traveler, Frederica Bremer.

East High School

East High was started on the top floor of Bryant School at E. 9th and Grand.

In chronological order East High has existed as follows:

1861-1877 - Bryant School, top floor, E. 9th and Grand

1877-1891 - Webster School, top floor E. 12th and Lyon

1891-1911 - East High, E. 12th and Court

1911 to present at E. 13th and Walker

In 1887 the freshman class of East High was moved back to Bryant due to overcrowding. In 1890 the East Des Moines School Board obtained authority from the voters for the erection of a special high school building to be located in the corner of E. 12th and Court Avenue. East High was dedicated March 5, 1891. This magnificent building is pictured below.

The East High building was planned and carried out under the supervision of the most popular superintendent of the East Des Moines District and the one with the longest tenure-Superintendent Amos Hiatt. Superintendent Hiatt assumed his duties in 1885 and continued for almost two decades (1895-1903).

The great new building at E. 12th and Court continued to serve as a high school until overcrowding became a real problem. By this time the East Des Moines schools had merged with the West Des Moines schools to form the Des Moines Independent School District and the third and final location of East High School occurred in 1911 when a new East High School was built at E. 13th and Walker.

The East Des Moines School District continued to expand through the years with a number of other buildings being built. These are touched on very briefly as follows:

In 1882 a large school building was erected on Pine and called Longfellow School. That same year Lucas School was enlarged. In 1884 Emerson School was built at E. 16th and Maple. Benton School at S. E. 12th and Shaw was greatly enlarged to accommodate the students in that area. There was a large addition built for Bremer School at Second and Des Moines. With the continued population in and around the Webster School site a separate three-room school house was erected on the Webster grounds. This was called the Louisa May Alleott building for the popular authoress of the day.

The East Des Moines schools hired subject area supervisors to assist in the improvement of instruction. They maintained a special teacher in drawing as well as a supervisor of physical culture who was also an accomplished gymnast. They also had a supervisor of music on the staff. Some of the old reports reflect the stress that was laid upon school attendance for those enrolled, as well as the matter of punctuality. The following figures were reported: The percentage of attendance to number belonging was in 1886-90.30 and in 1896—95.80. The percentage of punctuality was in the former year--99.4 and the last year--99.8.

Other Suburban Districts

It was recognized that the West Des Moines School District was the largest of the so-called urban districts serving this area. The second largest, of course, was the East Des Moines School District. In addition there were a number of other neighborhood school districts and indeed many of these were separate political entities that were later merged into the forming of the City of Des Moines.

One of these districts was the Capitol Park School System which was organized April 4, 1874. It was the area in and around Union Park and Grand View College, to give a general geographical location. Its property consisted of the Capitol Park High School which is still retained in the old part of the present Wallace School at E. 13th and Polk (now Washington). The high school was located on the top floor of the building. This building is pictured below. Also in the Capitol Park School System were these units: Whittier School at E. 14th and Washington; Grand View School at E. 9th and Hull; (Cattell) and Logan School E. 17th and Garfield as well as a wooden school known as Pleasant Corner.

A report states as follows about this district:

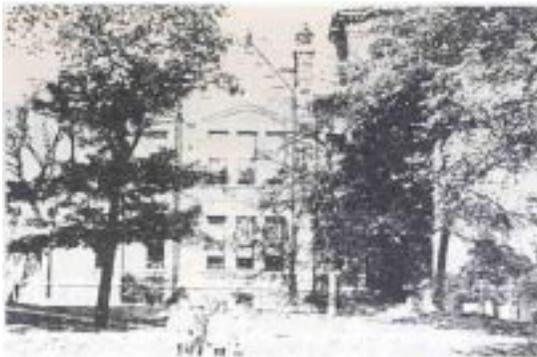
“Probably no district in the state of the size and wealth of Capital Park can make a better showing. Many of the best citizens of the Park have served on the board of education and given freely of their time and services.”

Capital Park High School was accredited by the NCA in 1905. Certainly this was no small indication of the educational institution that they maintained.

In football Capital Park High School had an outstanding record. They played the usual high schools in Des Moines, East High and West High. They also ranged out over the state and played Waterloo High School and Ottumwa High School plus a high school in Chicago, as well as Highland Park College. Unfortunately when they played Highland Park College in 1903 the College score was 33 and Capital Park was 6. They fared somewhat better when they played the Ft. Des Moines cavalry troop team. This was the regular U. S. Army stationed at Ft. Des Moines. The score in 1905 was Capital Park High School, 86 and FL Des Moines Cavalry, 0. A report from that game was as follows: “The cavalry men were much heavier but were unskilled in the art of football.”



Lucas School,
E. 16th and Capitol



Olive McHenry School,
17th and Crocker



Maple Grove,
S.W. 9th and Army Post



Nash School,
15th and Forest

Duties of Early Board Members

A note should be said in passing about the duties of the early members of the board of education in the 1300's and continuing into the early 1900's. This was an era in which the school superintendency had not emerged as a strong leadership role for the piloting of the school system, as it were, over the rough shoals of controversy. The superintendent's role of updating programs and carrying out curriculum improvement that we now have in the last half of the 20th century had not been perceived. Board members of these early times participated vigorously, enthusiastically and directly in the affairs of running the school district. They had committees in which they took charge of the affairs of that area. Typical of the standing committees in most of these districts were those that are listed in the 1897 report of the East Des Moines School District. The standing committees were:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Buildings and grounds | 2. Instruction |
| 3. Finance | 4. Supplies |
| 5. Janitors | 6. Printing |

The duties of these committees are as follows: The committee on buildings and grounds shall have general supervision of the property of the district. The committee on finance shall examine and audit the accounts of all school officers, make estimates of the expenses of the school year and have general supervision of the financial affairs of the school district.

The committee on instruction in connection with the superintendent shall have the general supervision of teachers, textbooks, and the school work and shall recommend to the board such changes as the welfare of the schools may demand. The committee on supplies shall be in charge of all purchasing of all supplies and apparatus for use for the schools. The committee on printing shall give orders pertaining to the school district's printing. The committee on janitors shall have general supervision of the janitors, heating and ventilation. In other words, school board members took a very active role in visiting school personnel, both certified and noncertified, making suggestions for

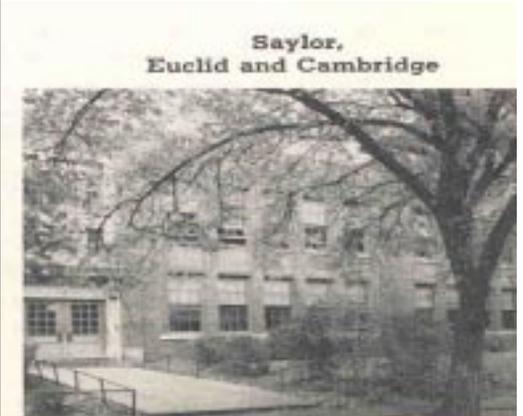
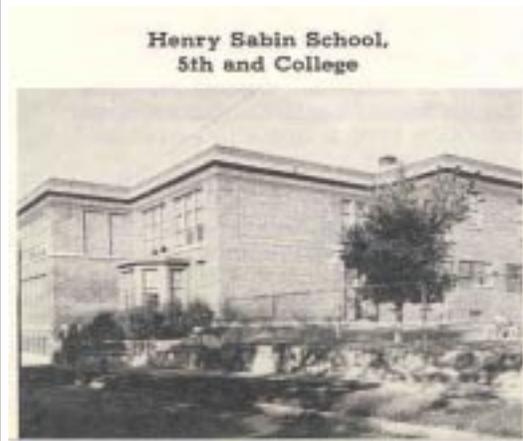
improvement, buying supplies, equipment, and in general running the schools. In time, these burdens became too time consuming. Also the public sought professional leadership for these jobs. The matter of hiring a full-time superintendent plus assistants in special areas to run the school district on a businesslike basis came to be the custom.

However, there was great influence in these smaller districts by a vigorous board member. A particular board president might best be illustrated by George N. Prink who was elected to the board of education in the Capital Park District in 1898. He was chosen president in 1901 by the members of the board and held that position for three consecutive years. He worked diligently at getting the Capital Park System operated so that they could be accredited by NCA. He brought in winning coaches since the game of football was a fairly new one. He worked faithfully for the interest of the Capital Park Schools and the affluent area that it represented. He promoted the sentiment against consolidation with the East Des Moines Public Schools and sought to maintain a strong, vigorous, academic school system. The school yearbooks from Capital Park were dedicated to President George N. Frink which indicated that the students, and faculty appreciated his dynamic leadership.

Grant Park School District

Grant Park School District was located in the Grant Park subdivision at the eastern edge of the urban area of Des Moines. Grant Park School was located at 30th and Dean on the present site of Willard School. The original building which housed the high school unit is pictured below, There were several other small school units that fed into this area on the east side. We have pictured here the original Grant Park School which faced east at the time. (Please recall that the present viaduct along the eastern edge of the Willard School grounds was not constructed until much later.)

The year of consolidation (1907) of some 20 school districts to form the Independent Community School District of Des Moines, saw the inclusion of the Grant Park High School District. The Grant Park building that is pictured was continued as a K-8 unit after the consolidation. A disastrous fire broke out on December 14, 1923, and





**Scott School,
S. E. 25th and Maury**



**Slinker School,
15th and Center**



**Summit School,
21st Street between Forest and Clark**



**Noah Webster School,
E. 12th and Lyon Street**

burned most of the original Grant Park building. However, the firemen were able to save part of the eastern portions of that building. Part of the first floor of the original structure is now incorporated in the present Willard School. It may be identified on the first floor as the lunchroom space that is now used by elementary school children. At one time it was a small gymnasium in the old Grant Park high school unit. It was regrettable that the fire in 1923 destroyed all of the records in the building. Very little exists today to give the history of this area. As of this date, we cannot find that any high school annual was published by the Grant Park High School. These old annuals that have been found for some of the other high schools had proved to be a valuable source of data concerning the life, time, and school offerings of the older high school units. When such annuals exist, it is suggested that individuals contact the administration office at 1800 Grand in Des Moines with this assistance. It was along these lines that in February, 1975, we were finally able to get a picture of the original Grant Park building through the courtesy of one of the graduates of the high school who had this among her memorabilia. All such contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

North Des Moines School District

The growth of the city to the north ultimately required a North Des Moines School District to be formed. This was organized in 1875 in the Forest Home Building at 13th and Forest. Ultimately there were five buildings. Forest Home School held in the top floors the beginnings of North High School before it was moved to a new building at 7th and College. Other school houses included Lake Park School, later renamed Clarkson School at 6th and Boston; Oakland School, 5th and College, later this was renamed Sabin School; Summit School on the west side of 21st between Forest and Clark. Summit was later renamed Given School and torn down in the 1930s. The motto of the North Des Moines High School in 1898 was indicative of their feeling- "Third in size, second to none." A new high school building for the senior high school was occupied in 1896. This red brick structure located at 7th and College is pictured below. In passing, it is pointed out that the first principal of North High School was Miss Louise Patterson and the last woman principal who sat at the

principal's desk was Miss Amelia Morton in 1905. (Historical Notes for the Women's Movement of the 1970's).

The North Des Moines District came into the greater Independent School District of Des Moines in 1907 along with the others.

Oak Park School System

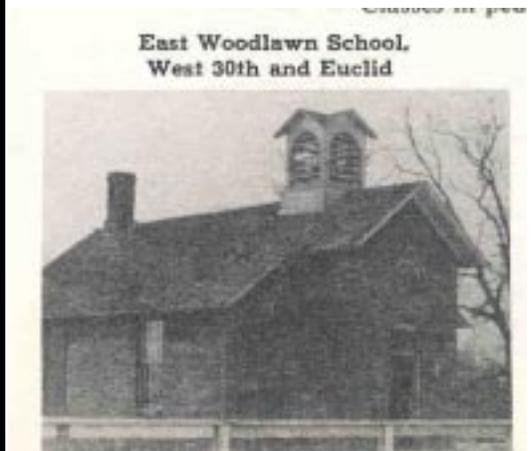
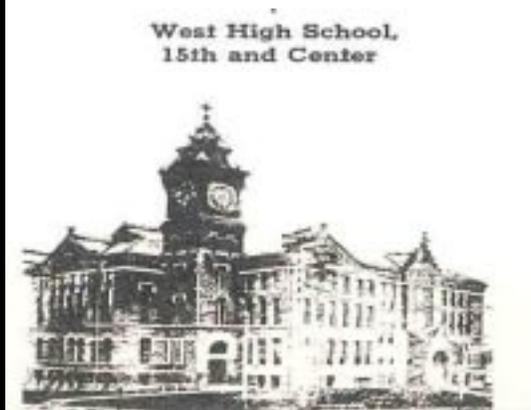
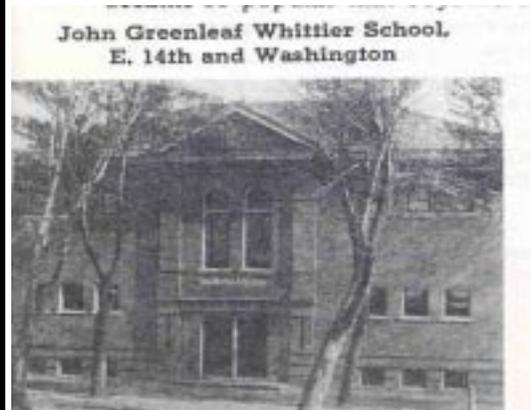
Continuing on to the north was another independent school district -the Oak Park Independent School. This district included, in 1864, what is now Capital Park, Canary Lake, and Center districts. Owing to the trouble over the location of a new school house, it was divided into the above named Independent School Districts. The Center District becoming known as the Oak Park School District. The school house that was erected at 6th and Madison was a K-12 unit. The original construction cost \$10,000 and had additions within the next few years. It is interesting to note that Mr. Z. C. Thornburg was elected superintendent of Oak Park School District in 1894. He also had been superintendent of the Capital Park High School District and was later to serve as superintendent of the Des Moines Independent School District.

The original Oak Park School building is pictured below. The third floor that housed the high school and the tower were removed in the 1930s. As this history is being written there have been structural problems with the original building and the present indications are that the old section of oak park might be torn down in 1976.

Need for Merger

In doing research for this Bicentennial history one finds remarks about the inefficiency of running many small independent school districts. There was debate as to the efficiency of these separate units. However, others pointed out that the boards act "much more intelligently, not always much more wisely, however, than boards whose information comes to them from other than personal acquaintances-the patrons of (small) schools are able to assert their rights much more easily than in a large system of schools."

However, others pointed out some of the disadvantages of small school units. They countered "there is a great loss of



No pictures available of:

- Lower Agency School
- Plum Gove School, Southwest Des Moines
- Rawson School (frame) 43rd and Frankling
- Sand Hill School, S.W.
corner Grandview Park
- Walnut School, 49th and Grand
- West Woodlawn School, Beaver and Madison

supervisory talent. For example, a supervisor of kindergartens could give attention to 30 schools about as well as to 15. At one time West Des Moines paid \$1,200 for the supervision of eight kindergartens and North Des Moines paid \$900 for the supervision of four kindergartens. Now, it seems that one supervisor could attend to the 12 schools and thus saving a large amount of money.” The argument continued that the same things could be said of the supervisors of music, drawing, physical culture, and primary work.

They continued to argue that the city was not too large for all of the teachers to assemble in a grade or general teachers’ meeting yet they pointed out that five superintendents were employed. They pointed out that present arrangements led to needless multiplication of high school units and there was no reason for more than three or four high schools in Des Moines, rather than the six or seven doing high school work in early 1900’s. They further pointed out that the high schools in the distant suburbs were cut off from all contact with supervisors and yet were within easy access of the teachers’ meetings in the city.

Oakdale School District

Oakdale was a separate school district in the northwest part of Des Moines. The first building was a log school house at the corner of 30th and Hickman near the site of the present Monroe elementary school. The next school house was one 16 x 18 and built on Beaver Avenue. Further additions in the Oakdale School District included building of a building in the north- west part of the district named Pleasant Hill.

The main buildings in the Oakdale District were Elmwood School at 31st and University and Kirkwood School at 27th and Clark. Rawson at 43rd and Franklin was another building designed for lower grades. The establishment of Drake University in 1885 was a great stimulus to the Oakdale District and the many homes built in this district required additions to the various school facilities.

Greenwood Park School

A separate school district and a small one was the Greenwood Park School located on West Grand. A picture of the small building is given. Very little is known about the early history.

Jordan School was a frame structure near the present Merrill Jr. High School.

Curriculum

Beginning in 1870 and continually through the 1970’s there is a continuous adding to the curriculum. New courses are added; others are changed, modified or dropped. Here are some highlights of some of the additions of courses to the high school curriculum.

Various electives and new subjects added to the curriculum

- 1870 - Geology
 - Drawing (an elective for botany)
 - Moral Philosophy - an elective for astronomy
- 1871 - Moral Science
 - National History

Political Economy
 Rhetoric - an elective for chemistry
 Bookkeeping - an elective for botany
 Ancient History - an elective for astronomy

1873 - Elocution

Physiology
 Physical Geography
 Science of Government General History Caesar
 English Literature
 Virgil
 Mental Philosophy Advanced Algebra

1875 - Zoology

Higher arithmetic

1879 - 1880 Cicero

English Composition

1880 was the first year that a teacher of business was made a regular member of the high school core of teachers. At this time Mr. Clay Slinker was engaged to teach business subjects-drawing, penmanship, physiology and civil government. To fill in his spare moments he taught club swinging, fencing, etc.

1882 - Science became an elective for the Latin course

Bookkeeping was a second elective and students wishing to take the subject were required to remain after the regular school hours in order to take it and also to pay extra tuition.

1884 - 1885 German was an elective for Virgil and Cicero

American Literature and commercial arithmetic were also electives. Physics
 Etymology Greek
 French
 Ancient Geography
 Illiad

1884 - Kindergarten established in Des Moines

In the fall of 1886 Mr. J. M. Meham, instructor in a business college in Des Moines, was engaged to come to West High to give instruction in bookkeeping.

1888 - Solid Geometry

Stenography
 Commercial Geography - An elective - banking

1888 - Physical culture classes established (forerunner of P.E.)

1889 - Drawing classes established (art)

In 1889, Mr. Clay Slinker with the cooperation of Mr. C. S. Dahlburg introduced shorthand and typewriting. West High School was the first high school in the country to establish permanently a course in shorthand and typewriting. Domestic science was first placed in the curriculum in 1889. Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Miller of the Toledo Public School were employed by the Board of Education to introduce their new methods. Domestic science became so popular that boys were admitted to this department.

1890 - Manual Training classes established 1891 - English History

1892 - Music classes began

1893 - 1894 Office Practice and Bookkeeping Advanced Stenography

1896 - Modern and Medieval History

1897 Advanced Shorthand and Advanced Typewriting 1897 - East Des Moines Schools Voted free textbooks

1899 - West Des Moines Schools voted free textbooks. Free texts are voted by the people and can be changed only by vote of the people.

1901 - College Preparatory Course based on Latin was offered and Greek was discontinued.

1901 - Stone part of West High was added. 1905 - A requirement was made that all students must take English each year in high school. The Latin Department enrollment showed that over 50% of the students took Latin. Music was conducted on a more systematic basis and was counted as a regular recitation for which credit was given. A course in physical culture was more complete in 1905 than in previous years since their work had been expanded. Courses consisted of running, work with dumbbells and clubs and calisthenics. This department also gave both boys' and girls' gymnastic training.

1907 - Big consolidation resulted in the Des Moines Independent School District.

1909 - Business Organization based on the economics of business was added to the commercial course.

1913 - Clay Slinker, first director of Business Education in U.S.

1913 - Office Practice and Shorthand and a two-year course in Business English were added.

1914 - Salesmanship

1914 - 1915 Normal training department was established. Classes in pedagogy were given.

1915 - Open Air School (at old North High site)

1916 - Spanish was added to the curriculum, taking the place of German which was taught in the schools up until the time of the declaration of war with Germany.

Military training was given as a course for boys. The same credit was given for this course as for all other athletic courses. During WWI two new subjects were added to the commercial department. These were intensive stenography and bookkeeping.

1917 - Telegraphy

1919 - School for Deaf (Clarkson) 1920 - School for Crippled

1920 - Original Howe School for slow learners

1921 - Single salary schedule adopted

1922 - Detailed school budgets launched

1921 - 1927 - \$6,630,00 bonds for Roosevelt and Lincoln

1928 - \$1,975 - teacher salary
 Depression - \$1,600-1,200 average salary

1925 - Junior high established (three year)

1925 - Sub-junior classes for slow learners

1930 - Developmental B classes for slow learners 1930 - Annual testing program

1932 - High -School Day inaugurated (students in businesses and industries - an early form of Career Education)

1932 - Home Economics curriculum included course in Family Relations

1933 - Public Forum Movement in U.S. Began by Henry Wallace, one of the first leaders before he joined President Roosevelt's cabinet.

1933 - Eight-year study to determine how important college requirements for high school courses - 30 colleges and high schools involved.

1937 - Distributive Education established at North High.

1940 - Office Co-op established at East High

1941 - Vocational Home Economics introduced into the secondary schools. 1941 - 42 - Tech High established.

1947 - Senior high classes for slow learners.

1957 - September-Board authorizes a formal program for gifted students in two elementary schools.

1957 - Modern foreign languages available to 9th graders. 1957 - German reintroduced to curriculum.

1957 - October 4 - Russian launched Sputnik 1.

1958 - Only teachers with BA degrees hired in Des Moines Schools. Board offices moved to first floor of Tech High from 629 Third Street.

1958 - Phonetic approach to reading introduced in seven elementary schools.

1959 - Classes for trainable (IQ under 50) established at Slinker School, 15th and Center.

1959 - Russian introduced.

1959 - Food Services reorganized "satellite" food service began.

1960 - Distributive Education extended to all high schools.

1960 - Library philosophy changed to have central libraries and certified librarians in all secondary schools. Plans made for elementary libraries with aides.

1960 - One unit of science and one unit of mathematics required for graduation.

1961 - Notehand introduced in senior high.

1961 - Spanish available to qualified 7th grade students.

1961 - Foreign language labs opened at Roosevelt and Lincoln. 1961 - Large class instruction began in grades 9-11-12.

1962 - Three track system adopted for all students, grades 7-12, in English and Social Studies. The tracks were labeled 'basic, general, and advanced.'" 1962 - Board approved public acknowledgment of students finishing in the top 3% and top 15% of each graduating class. Special superintendent's awards also were presented to students for exceptional work in certain fields.

1962 - Spanish, a compulsory course for 6th grade students, introduced as part of educational television via KDPS-TV.

1962 - Four area elementary bands and an all-city senior high band organized since 1957.

1962 - Language lab at East High School.

1962 - a 50% student increase in senior high foreign language from 1957-1962.

1963 - All elementary schools use the phonetic approach to reading.

1965 - Federal Programs launched-ESEA, Title 1, 11, 111.

1966 - Head Start pre-school program launched by Federal government.

1970 - Office Education extended to all high schools.

1970 - Dropped tracking (Advanced, general, basic) in 9-12.

1972 - Dropped one-year requirement of mathematics and one year of science in grades 9-12 for graduation

1972 - Career Education coordinator appointed

1974 - Vocational agribusiness program started at Tech High and McCombs Junior High

1864 - High School Course of Study

The very first course which was offered in the school consisted of

Grade D-

Reading
Definitions
Arithmetic
Geography
Grammar
U. S. History
Penmanship
Declamation
Composition
Singing

Grade B-

Algebra
Geometry
Natural Philosophy
Latin
Botany

Grade C-

Spelling
Reading
Definitions
Arithmetic
Grammar
Algebra
Penmanship
Declamation
Composition
Singing

Grade A-

Trigonometry
Astronomy
Latin
Surveying
Composition
Composition Rhetoric

1888 - High School Curriculum

BUSINESS COURSE

First Year

First term

Bookkeeping
Arithmetic
Penmanship
Rhetoric
Physiology

Second term

Bookkeeping
Arithmetic
Penmanship
Rhetoric
Physiology

Third term

Bookkeeping
Arithmetic
Penmanship
Rhetoric
Civil Government

Second Year

Commercial Arithmetic
Commercial Law
Algebra
Penmanship
American Literature

Commercial Arithmetic
Commercial Law
Algebra
Penmanship
Physical Geography

Commercial Arithmetic
Commercial Law
Algebra
Penmanship
Physical Geography

ENGLISH COURSE

First Year

First term

Physiology
Algebra
German
Rhetoric

Second term

Physiology
Algebra
German
Rhetoric

Third term

Botany
Algebra
German
Rhetoric

Second Year

Plane Geometry
German
Botany
American Literature

Plane Geometry
German
Physical Geography
American Literature

Solid Geometry
Trigonometry
German
Physical Geography
American Literature

Third Year

Bookkeeping
German
General History
Chemistry
Etymology

Bookkeeping
German
General History
Chemistry
Zoology

Bookkeeping
German
Civil Government
Chemistry
Zoology

Fourth Year

Physics
English Grammar
English Literature
Rhetoric
Commercial Law

Physics
Geology
English Literature
English History
Commercial Law

Physics
Geology
English Literature
Arithmetic Review
Commercial Law

SCIENTIFIC COURSE

First Year

First term

Algebra
Rhetoric
Physiology

Second term

Algebra
Rhetoric
Physiology

Third term

Algebra
Rhetoric
Botany

Geometry

Botany

Latin

German

Geometry

Physical Geography

Latin

German

Geometry

Physical Geography

Latin

German

Chemistry

Etymology

General History

Latin

German

Chemistry

Zoology

General History

Latin

German

Chemistry

Zoology

Civil Government

Latin

German

Fourth Year

Physics

Latin

German

English Grammar

English Literature

Physics

Latin

German

Geology

English Literature

Physics

Latin

German

Geology

English Literature

LATIN COURSE

First Year

First term

Latin
Physiology
Rhetoric

Second term

Latin
Physiology
Rhetoric

Third term

Latin
Botany
Rhetoric

Latin

Algebra

Botany

Latin

Algebra

Physical Geography

Latin

Algebra

Physical Geography

Third Year

Latin

Geometry

General History

German

Latin

Geometry

General History

German

Latin

Geometry

Trigonometry

Civil Government German

Fourth Year

Latin

German

English Literature

Physics

Rhetoric

Algebra Review

English Grammar

Latin

German

English literature

Physics

Geometry Review

English History

Latin

German

English Literature

Physics

Arithmetic Review

Trigonometry

CLASSICAL COURSE (Preparatory for College)

First year

First term

Latin
Algebra
Physiology

Second term

Latin
Algebra
Physiology

Third term

Latin
Algebra
Botany

Caesar

Geometry

Greek

Ancient History

Caesar

Geometry

Greek

Ancient Geography

Caesar, or Cicero

Greek

Ancient History

Ancient Geography

Third Year

Cicero

Anabasis

Higher Algebra

French

German

Cicero

Anabasis

Higher Algebra & Geometry

French

German

Cicero, or Virgil

Anabasis, or Iliad

Higher Geometry

French

German

Fourth Year

Virgil

Iliad

Algebra Review

French

German

Virgil

Iliad

Geometry Review

French

German

Latin Reviews

Greek- Reviews

Arithmetic Review

French

German

The Studies Offered in the Des Moines High Schools 1922-1923

The studies offered in the Des Moines high schools are arranged in groups of related subject. The table below gives the semester and year in which each subject is offered and the group to which it belongs.

FIRST YEAR.						
	1 st Semester	Sem.	Unit	2 nd Semester	Sem.	Unit
ENGLISH	English	E1	.5	English	E2	.5
SOCIAL SCIENCE	Com. Civic	H1	.5	Vocations	H2	.5
	Am. History	H1	.5	Med. History	H2	.5
LANGUAGE	Latin	LI	.5	Latin	L2	.5
	French	F1	.5	French	F2	.5
MATHEMATICS	Algebra	MI	.5	Algebra	M2	.5
NATURAL SCI.	Elem. Sci	SC1	.5	Elem. Sci.	SC2	.5
COMMERCIAL	Bookkeeping.	BK1	.5	Bookkeeping	BK2	.5
HOME ECONOMICS	Home Economics	HE1	.5	Home Economics	HE2	.5
INDUSTRIAL (East)	Cabinet Making	MT1	.5	Cabinet Making	MT2	.5
	Drawing & Furniture Design			Drawing & Furniture Design		
INDUSTRIAL (West and North)	Cabinet Making	MT1	.5	Cabinet Making	MT2	.5
	Drawing & Furniture Design			Drawing & Furniture Design		
MUSIC	Chorus Singing	Ch	.1	Chorus Singing	Ch	.1
	Glee Club	GC	.1	Glee Club	GC	.1
	Band	Ba	.2	Band	Ba	.2
	Orchestra	Or	.2	Orchestra	Or	.2
	El. Theory	Th	.3	El. Theory	Th	.3
	Applied Music	Mu	.3	Applied Music	Mu	.3
NORMAL TRAINING						
ART	Art	A1	.5	Art	A2	.5
Physical Education	Phys. Education	PE1	.5	Phys. Education	PE2	.1

EXPLANATIONS AND NOTES

A unit means five hours per week for one year of prepared work or ten hours per week of unprepared work.

Three units in any one group constitute a major, two units in one group, a minor.

One major must be in the English Group. One unit of American History is required. A second year of Social Science which must be H7 and H8 after June, 1926, is also required. No credit toward graduation is granted for one semester's work in a subject which continues for a full year.

All work should be chosen after careful consideration. The advice of parents and teacher should be taken.

Pupils who are preparing for college should decide as early as possible upon the college they will attend in order to follow the requirements for admission.

SECOND YEAR

	1 st Semester	Sem.	Unit	2 nd Semester	Sem.	Unit
ENGLISH	English	E3	.5	English	E4	.5
SOCIAL SCIENCE	Mod. Histroy	H3	.5	Mod. History	H4	.5
LANGUAGE	Latin	L3	.5	Latin	L4	.5
	French	F3	.5	French	F4	.5
MATHEMATICS	Pl. Geom.	M3	.5	Pl. Geom.	M4	.5
NATURAL SCI.	Biology	Sc3	.5	Biology	Sc4	.5
	Physiology	Sc3	.5	Agriculture	Sc4	.5
COMMERCIAL	Bookkeeping	Bk3	.5	Bookkeeping	Bk4	.5
	Shorthand	Sh1	.5	Shorthand	Sh2	.5
	Typewriting	Ty1	.25	Typewriting	Ty2	.25
HOME ECONOMICS	Home Economics	HE3	.5	Home Economics	HE4	.5
INDUSTRIAL (East)	Forging	MT3	.5	Auto Mechanics	MT4	.5
	Mech. Draw			Mech. Draw		
	Printing			Printing		
INDUSTRIAL (West and North)	Wood Turning	MT3	.5	Wood Turning	MT4	.5
	Drawing & Furniture Design			Drawing & Furniture Design		
MUSIC	Chorus Singing	Ch	.1	Chorus Singing	Ch	.1
	Glee Club	GC	.1	Glee Club	GC	.1
	Band	Ba	.2	Band	Ba	.2
	Orchestra	Or	.2	Orchestra	Or	.2
	Harmony	Ha	.3	Harmony	Ha	.3
	Applied Music	Mu	.3	Applied Music	Mu	.3
NORMAL TRAINING						
ART	Art	A3	.5	Art	A4	.5
Physical Education	Phys. Education	PE3	.5	Phys. Education	PE4	.1

THIRD YEAR

	1 st Semester	Sem.	Unit	2 nd Semester	Sem.	Unit
ENGLISH	English	E5	.5	English	E6	.5
SOCIAL SCIENCE	Am. Histroy	H5	.5	Am. History	H6	.5
LANGUAGE	Latin	L5	.5	Latin	L6	.5
	French	F5	.5	French	F6	.5
	Spanish	S1	.5	Spanish	S2	.5
	French	F1	.5	French	F2	.5
MATHEMATICS	Algebra	M5	.5	Solid Geometry	M6	.5
NATURAL SCI.	Physics	Sc5	.5	Physics	Sc6	.5
	Home Hygiene	Sc5	.5			
COMMERCIAL	Bookkeeping	Bk5	.5	Bookkeeping	Bk6	.5
	Shorthand	Sh3	.5	Shorthand	Sh4	.5
	Typewriting	Ty3	.25	Typewriting	Ty4	.25
	Com'l Geography	CG	.5	Com'l Arithmetic	CA	.5
HOME ECONOMICS	Home Economics	HE5	.5	Home Economics	HE6	.5
INDUSTRIAL (East)	Cabinet Making	.	.5			
	Wood Truning		.5	Continuation of		
	Pattern Making		.5	fifth semester		
	Moulding		.5			
	Forging		.5			
	Auto Mechanic		.5			
	Mech. Drawing		.5			
Printing		.5				

INDUSTRIAL	Cabinet Making		.5			
	Wood Turning		.5			
	Mech. Drawing		.5			
MUSIC	Chorus Singing	Ch	.1			
	Glee Club	GB	.1	continue fifth		
	Band	Ba	.2	semester election		
	Orchestra	Or	.2			
	Harmony	Ha	.3			
	Hist. & Appre.	Ap	.1			
	Applied Music	Mu	.3			
NORMAL TRAINING	Rural Education		.5	Elem. Psychology		.5
ART	Art	A5	.5	Art	A6	.5
Physical Education	Phys. Education	PE5	.5	Phys. Education	PE6	.1

FOURTH YEAR

	1 st Semester	Sem.	Unit	2 nd Semester	Sem.	Unit
ENGLISH	English	E7	.5	English	E8	.5
	Journalism	Jr1				
SOCIAL SCIENCE	Soc. Prob (Civics)	H7	.5	Soc. Prob (Econ.)	H8	.5
LANGUAGE	Latin	L7	.5	Latin	L7	.5
	Spanish	S3	.5	Spanish	S4	.5
	French	F3	.5	French	F4	.5
MATHEMATICS	Algebra	M7	.5	Trigonometry	M8	.5
NATURAL SCI.	Chemistry	Sc7	.5	Chemistry	Sc8	.5
COMMERCIAL	Bus.Org.	BO	.5	Accounting	Bk7	.5
	Com'l Law	CL	.5	Salesmanship	Sls	.5
				Office Practice	OP	
	Bus. Eng.	BE1	.5	Business Eng.	BE2	.5
	Intensive Steno.	IS	2.0	Intensive Steno.	IS	2.0
	Intensive Bkkg	IB	2.0	Intensive Bkkg.	IB	2.0
HOME ECONOMICS						
INDUSTRIAL (East)	continuation of sixth semester			continuation of seventh semester		
INDUSTRIAL (North & West)						
MUSIC	Chorus Singing	Ch	.1			
	Glee Club	GC	.1			
	Band	Ba	.2			
	Orchestra	Or	.2			
	Harmony	Ha	.3			
	Counterpoint	Co	.2			
	Hist. & Appre.	Ap	.1			
	Applied Music	Mu	.3			
NORMAL TRAINING	Review Arith.		.5	Review Grammar		.5
ART	Art	A7	.5	Art	A8	.5

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

2 majors	6 units
2 minors	4 units
2 years Physical Education	.4 units
Electives	<u>5.6 units</u>
	16 units

1925
Requirements for Graduation
Junior High Schools

The following is the schedule of subjects offered in the junior high schools. (7th, 8th and 9th grades).

Required Subjects	Group Sym	No. Periods & Per Week					
		7B	7A	8B	8A	9B	9A
1. English Composition	EC	5	5	5	5	5	
2. English Literature	Lit.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5		5
3. US History and Civics	H	5	5	5	5		
4. Geography & Elementary Sci.	G	5		5			
5. Arithmetic	M		5		5		
6. Art	A	2.5		2.5			
7. Music	Mu		2.5		2.5		
8. Health	PE	5	5	5	5	2.5	2.5
9. Home Economics (Girls)	HE	5	5	5	5		
10. Manual Training (Boys)	MT	5	5	5	5	5	
11. Home Hygiene (Girls)	HH					5	
12. Vocations	Voc						5
13. Algebra or Business Arithmetic	M or BA					5	5
14. Music or Art	Mu or A					2.5	2.5
Choose any two from the following subjects in the 9th grade:							
15. Business Training and Penmanship	B Tr					5	5
16. Latin	L1&2					5	5
17. General Science	Sc1&2					5	5
18. Ancient and Medieval History	H1&2					5	5

ENGLISH

<u>9th Grade</u>		<u>10th Grade</u>		<u>11th Grade</u>		<u>12th Grade</u>	
English	1(E1)	English	3 (E3)	English	5 (E5)	English	7 (E7)
English	2(E2)	English	4 (E4)	English	6 (E6)	English	8 (E8)
						Review Grammar	
						Reading	
						Bus. Eng. (BE7)	
						Bus. Eng. (BE8)	

LANGUAGE

<u>9th Grade</u>		<u>10th Grade</u>		<u>11th Grade</u>		<u>12th Grade</u>	
Latin	1 (L1)	Latin	3 (L3)	Latin	5 (L5)	Latin	7 (L7)
Latin	2 (L2)	Latin	4 (L4)	Latin	6 (L6)	Latin	8 (L8)
German	1 (G1)	German	3 (G3)	German	5 (G5)		
German	2 (G2)	German	4 (G4)	German	6 (G6)		
				Spanish	1 (S1)	Spanish	3 (S3)
				Spanish	2 (S2)	Spanish	4 (S4)
				French	1 (F1)	French	3 (F3)
				French	2 (F2)	French	4 (F4)
				Swedish	1 (Sw1)	Swedish	3 (Sw3)
				Swedish	2 (Sw2)	Swedish	4 (Sw4)

MATHEMATICS

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Algebra I (MI)	Plane Geom. (M3)	Algebra 3 (M,5)	Algebra 4 (M7) Algebra
2 (M2) PlaneGeom. (M)	Solid Geom. (M6)	Trigonometry (M8)	

SOCIAL SCIENCE

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Anc. History (H1)	Med. History (H3)	Economics (H5)	U.S. History (H7)
Anc. History (H2)	Med. History (H4)	Eng. History (H6)	U.S. History (H8)
	Gen. History (GH1)	Commerical History	Civics
	Gen. History (GH2)		

NATURAL SCIENCE

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Gen. Science (Sc1)	Botany (Sc3) Physics (Sc5)	Chemistry (Sc7)	
Gen. Science (Sc2)	Agriculture (Sc4)	Physics (Sc6) Chemistry (Sc8)	
	Zoology (Sc3)		
	Physiology (Sc4)		

COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Bookkeeping (Bk1)	Bookkeeping (Bk3)	Shorthand (Sh3)	Salesmanship
Bookkeeping (Bk2)	Bookkeeping (Bk4)	Shorthand (Sh4)	Bus. Organization
Penmanship (pn1)	Shorthand (Sh1)	Typewriting (Ty3)	Office Practice
Penmanship (pn2)	Shorthand (Sh2)	Typewriting (Ty4)	Commerical Law
	Typewriting (Ty1)	Commerical Geography	
	Typewriting (Ty2)	Commerical Arithmetic	

MANUAL TRAINING SUBJECTS

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
MT1	MT3	MT5	
MT2	MT4	MT6	
	A1(*)	A3(*)	A5(*)
	A2(*)	A4(*)	A6(*)

MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECTS

<u>9th Grade</u>	<u>10th Grade</u>	<u>11th Grade</u>	<u>12th Grade</u>
Gymnasium 1	Orchestra 3	Orchestra 5	Orchestra 7
Gymnasium 2	Orchestra 4	Orchestra 6	Orchestra 8
Chorus 1	Chorus 3	Glee Club 3	Glee Club 5
Chorus 2	Chorus 4	Glee Club 4	Glee Club 6
Bible 1	Glee Club I	Chorus 5	Chorus 7
Bible 2	Glee Club 2	Chorus 6	Chorus 8
Journalism 1	Bible 3	Bible 5	Bible 7
Journalism 2	Bible 4	Bible 6	Bible 8
Orchestra	Journalism 3	Journalism 5	Journalism 7
	Journalism 4	Journalism 6	Journalism 8
	Swimming		

1925

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL SUBJECTS BY GROUPS

Groups	10th Year	1st Sem	2nd Sem	11th Year	1st Sem	2nd Sem	12th Year	1st Sem	2nd Sem
1. English	English (Required)	E3	E4	English (Required) Public Speaking	E5	E6	English Lit. Adv. Eng. Comp. Adv. Journalism	E7	E8
2. Social Science	Anc. & Mod. History Modern History World History	H1 H3 H3'	H2 H4 H4'	American Hist. (Required)	H5	H6	Civics Economics (Required after 1926)	H7	H8
3. Languages	Latin French	L1 L3 F1	L2 L4 F2	Latin (Cicero) French French Spanish	L5 F3 F1 S1	L6 F4 F2 S2	Latin (Vergil) French French Spanish	L7 F5 F3 S3	L8 F6 F4 S4
4. Mathematics	Algebra Geometry Plane	M1 M3	M2 M4	Algebra Geometry Solid	M5	M6	Algebra Adv. Trigonometry	M7	M8
5. Natural Sciences	Biology	Sc3	Sc4	Physics	Sc5	Sc6	Chemistry	Sc7	Sc8
6. General Commercial	Bookkeeping	Bk1	Bk2	Bookkeeping Com'l Geography Com'l Arithmetic Salesmanship	Bk3 CG	Bk4 CA Sts	Accounting Com'l Law Bus. Organization Business English	Bk5 CL	BO BE2
7. Stenographic Commercial	Typewriting and Business Practice	Ty1	Ty2	Typewriting Shorthand	Jy3 Sh1	Sh7	Typewriting & Secretarial Tr. Shorthand Business English	Ty4 Sh3	Ty5 Sh4 BE2

Senior High School Subjects by Groups (Continued)

8. Home Economics	Domestic Science Domestic Art	HE1	HE2	Domestic Science Domestic Art	HE3	HE4	Household Management	HE5	
9. Industrial West & North	Wood Working Mechanical Draw.	WW1 MD1	WW2 MD2	Continuation of 10th year			Continuation of 11th year		
Lincoln & East	Wood Working Metal Working & Auto Mechanics Mechanical Draw, Printing (East)	WW1 MW1 MD1 Pt1	WW2 MW2 MD2 Pt2						
Roosevelt	Mechanical Draw.	MD1	MD2						
10. Art	Art	A1	A2	Art	A3	A4	Art	A5	A6
11. Music	Band 2 days Orchestra 3 days Glee Club 3 days Hist. & Appreciation 2 days Chorus 2 days El. Theory 3 days *Applied Music	Ba Or GC App Ch Th Mu	Ba Or GC App Ch Th Mu	Same as 10th year Harmony		Ha Ha	Same as 11th year		
12. Physical Education	Required of everyone. No credit given toward graduation.								

*Pupils desiring credit for music taken under private instructors must file an application with the high school music teacher at the beginning of each semester.

The Growth of Des Moines

As we can look at the growth of the school district of Des Moines and see how it has evolved into its present single status from the consolidation of more than twenty separate districts, we must look at how the city of Des Moines has grown. In the accompanying map you can see the relative small space that was encompassed in the city of Ft. Des Moines in 1853. In 1857, the boundaries are delineated and at that time it became the city of Des Moines.

The city was first incorporated January 18, 1853, as the city of Ft. Des Moines. On March 7, 1857, the city of Des Moines was organized and the city limits extended, giving the city an area of 8 square miles. This change can be seen on the map. The population in 1857 was approximately 4,000.

As Des Moines continued to grow, a number of incorporated towns and cities began to surround the core area of downtown Des Moines. These included University Place, Greenwood Park, Sevastapol, Gilbert, Capitol Park, Grant Park, Easton Place, and North Des Moines. It is interesting that neither Highland Park nor Oak Park were incorporated. All of these incorporated areas voted in 1889 to merge into the city of Des Moines. This was a large consolidation move and the city limits remained fixed for the next 60 years.

Earlier in the booklet the consolidation process of the school district was set out in detail. The accompanying map will help give some idea of the areas involved.

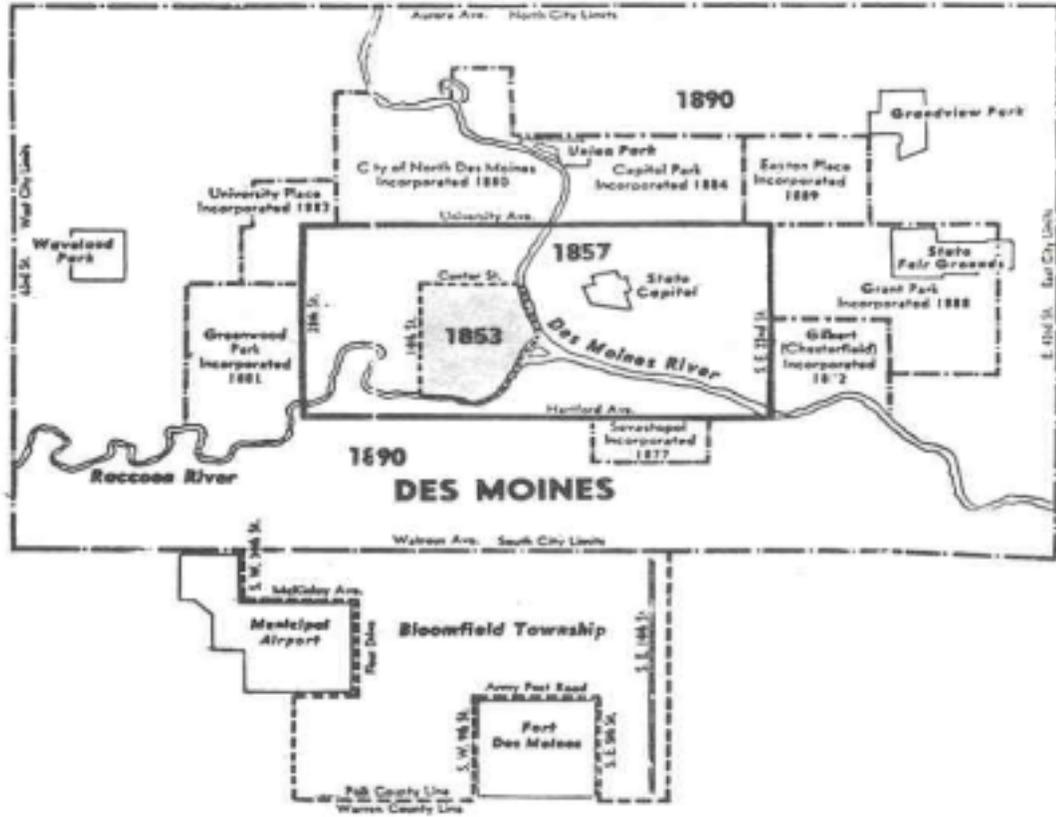
The city annexed, on June 2, 1955, the Des Moines Municipal Airport which was outside of the city limits in Bloomfield Township. This action was taken as a defensive measure since there had been some discussion on the part of Bloomfield Township's residents to incorporate as 'Rose City' and of course to include the airport. The Bloomfield Township area was incorporated into the city later in 1955. In 1976 the city incorporates about 64 square miles and the school district has within its limits approximately 84 square miles.

As a sidelight on school district mergers within Polk County it is pointed out that there were 52 separate school districts in 1952. The steady decline of the many rural school districts across the county assisted in the merger of many of these districts. In 1962 there was a total of 27 separate school districts and this was reduced to 15 by action of the Polk County school board.

The reorganization of a number of school districts to form the Southeast Polk district as well as those to form the North Polk district as well as certain other mergers such as the Clive school district merging with the West Des Moines school district resulted in further reduction.



How Des Moines Has Grown



ADAMS SCHOOL Grades K-5
East 29th and Douglas
Site-4.1 acres

The first Adams School was located at East 27th and Douglas. This three room wooden building was moved to the present site and subsequent construction is listed above. This school was named for John Quincy Adams.

A complete history of Adams School, teachers, principals, P.T.A. officers and minutes of P.T.A. meetings has been compiled and is in a bound book at Adams School. This book contains pictures of the buildings, teachers, pupils and PTA. officers. It also contains many newspaper clippings including an obituary of Mr. Jordan, the principal who died in 1937.

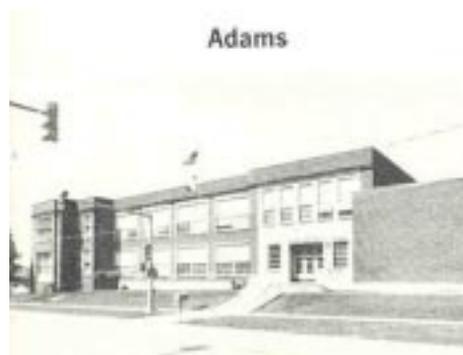
P.T.A. minutes record that at the September meeting in 1937, "about 40 were present and very sad, as Mr. Jordan, our principal for twenty years was very ill in the hospital. Flowers were voted to be sent him." Then at the October meeting the following notation was made; "October 13 about 49 members met in the evening for our regular meeting. Members were very sad as Mr. Jordan had passed away."

The obituary of Mr. Jordan states that at one time he had charge of the following ten schools: Perkins, Adams, Barton, Bly, Jefferson, Monroe, Riley, Windsor, Douglas and Meredith. More recently he was principal of a group of five schools including Adams.

When the first frame building was opened in 1917 there were two teachers, Miss Marguerite Hanke and Miss Genevieve Schultz. Mr. J. O. Mitchell was principal

In the first brick building built in 1924 there were four rooms, in addition to a frame building. The enrollment was 183. Mr. W. L. Jordan was principal. From then through two additions to the original four rooms. Adams has continued to grow and expand. Through these many years more and more new homes have been built each producing boys and girls to be educated. As mentioned above, more detailed history of Adams will be found in the bound book kept in the school office.

In 1971 an addition of two rooms was added to the west wing of the building. This cost was \$57,000. New housing developments have enabled Adams to keep a substantial enrollment in contrast to the declining population in many schools.



Dates of construction-

- 1917 frame building (3 rooms)
- 1924 first wing of present building
- 1951 first addition
- 1961 second addition
- 1971 addition of 2 classrooms

Principals of Adams School-

- 1917-1919 J. O. Mitchell
- 1919-1937 W. Lee Jordan
- 1937-1939 Edna L. E. Petersen
- 1939-1944 Ruth Pritchard
- 1944-1945 Almeda Nelson
- 1945-1964 Edith Patterson
- 1964- Mildred Shay

Brooks



BROOKS SCHOOL Grades K-6
East 21st & Des Moines St.
Site-3.6 acres

Brooks School was named for Dr. Thomas K. Brooks. Dr. Brooks was the first physician and postmaster in Des Moines. He lived near Brooks Lake, and it was his earnest desire that the county seat of Polk County would be located near the present site of Brooks School.

The 1970's presented a challenge to Brooks School to change the format of the educational program in order to more nearly meet the academic needs of each individual student.

In 1971, an individualized approach to learning was begun in the upper grades. Children of grades 4-5-6 were mixed and thus an ungraded program was begun. With this concept, a child could progress as fast as he is able in the areas easiest for him and still take the time he needs in areas he finds more difficult. Upper unit teachers specialized in areas of their teaching strengths and developed a totally departmentalized program. The development of behavioral objectives and the concept of teaching to them became a reality and a basic part of the program.

In 1972, Brooks became officially one of the thirteen IGE schools in the district and our goals for an individualized approach for teaching children were enhanced. The school was divided into four units and a team leader for each unit was appointed. Children were assigned to units rather than grades and the total school became dedicated to meeting the needs of each child.

Our program has since then progressed and now includes as a part of every subject, Career Education. During the 1974-75 year we were able not only to combine career education with all subject areas but in addition to provide actual learning experiences that afforded the children a way 'to actually see how the skills they were learning in school would be a necessity for operating in the world of work.

The Brooks program is concerned with not only individualization but also with the humanizing influence. Activities which promote positive human relationships have become an integral part of the over all plan.

Title I Reading and Math program began in September 1973. In 1975, two Learning Disability self contained classrooms were added as well as one Learning Disability resource room. On March 4, 1975 the Board of Education awarded a bid to Jorge Construction Company for \$74,000 for a physical education facility addition at Brooks Element-

Dates of constructional

- 1909 One half
- 1914 First addition
- 1925 Second addition
- 1975—New gymnasium

Principals of Brooks School-

- 1910 - 1913 Mr. Warren
- 1913 - 1918 J. O. Mitchell
- 1918 - 1937 Minnie Walker
- 1937 - 1939 James B.
- 1939 - 1957 Clarence I. Pease
- 1957 - 1964 Frances Meneough
- 1964 - 1968 Harry Elder
- 1968 - 1974 Donald Williams
- 1974- Marly Davis

tary School. The total of the other contracts for mechanical and electrical brought the total construction cost to \$105,409. This addition made possible a full gymnasium facility for Brooks School and eliminated the need for the use of the small gymnasium that had originally been a part of the old building.

CASADY SCHOOL Grades K-6
16th Street and Jefferson
Site-4.2 acres

This building honors the memory of Phineas M. Casady who was appointed postmaster in 1847 by President Polk. At this time, the name of the post office was changed from - 'Raccoon Forks' to "Fort Des Moines." There were 31 houses, 23 families and 107 people in residence in the town.

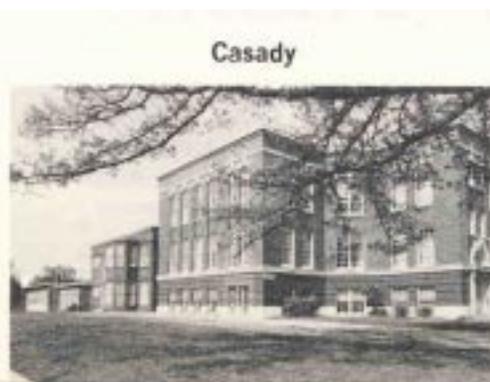
Mr. Casady was a lawyer, state senator in the Second General Assembly, school fund commissioner for Iowa and a banker. He lived to be 92 years old and was one of the grand men of Iowa.

The south end of the school building was built in 1905. There were three more classrooms in the original Casady School than in the present south section. The southwest corner of the building was torn down because it was sinking and thus tilting the rest of the structure. The sinking was attributed to either quick sand or a former coal mine in the vicinity. An old report states that there were ten teachers when Casady opened in 1905. The neighborhood was an 'elite' area at that time.

In February, 1948, Casady suffered an extensive fire in the south wing. At the time workmen were remodeling the toilets. The fire was first noticed when it became dark enough for the neighbors to see the reflections of the flames. The south part had to be completely rebuilt.

The newest section to the north was opened for classes in January, 1953. The very latest ideas in construction were incorporated into this addition. Television classes were added in the 1960's. In 1965 a hot lunch program was begun.

Casady in the mid-1970's had an underdepartmentalized program, This is the only school in the system participating in the U.S. Office of Education's Right to Read Program that began in 1972-73. The highlight of that year was the visit by Mrs. Patricia Nixon, wife of the President. Her visit was preceded by the usual secret service inspection of the building and the posting of guards at all entrances and on the roof during the official visit of the first lady to this elementary school. Mrs. Nixon had taken a personal interest in the Right to Read program that is run nationally.



Dates of construction
1905 One-third
1926 One-ninth
1953 Five-ninths

Principals of Casady School-
1905 - 1914 Clara Funston
1914 - 1945 Gertrude Murphy
1945 - 1952 Almeda Nelson
1952 - 1959 Kathryn Christian
1959 - 1961 Sarah Page
1961 - 1964 Ronald Sterrett
1964 - 1967 Daniel Priest
1967 - 1971 James Pierson
1971 - 1972 Dale Jacobus
1972 - 1973 James Mitchell
1973 - Robert Hyde

CATTELL SCHOOL Grades K-6
East 12th and Hull
Site- 2.1 acres



Dates of construction-

- 1980 Two-ninths
- 1910 Two-ninths
- 1915 Two-ninths
- 1925 Three-Ninths

Principals of Cattell School-

- 1894 - 1898 Mae Koker
- 1898 - 1906 Minnie Guthrie
- 1906 - 1908 Belle Swope
- 1908 - 1924 Laura R. Moiltoii
- 1924- 1933 Mabel A. Otis
- 1933 - 1945 Anna Stohlgren
- 1946 - 1963 Edna L. E. Petersen
- 1963 - 1967 Jack Gibbons
- 1967 - 1972 James Reese
- 1972 - 1975 Don Shaw

Cattell School bears the name of Jonathan Wright Cattell who was all outstanding pioneer of early Des Moines days. Prior to 1909, Cattell School was known as Grand View Grade School.

Mr. Cattell was born in Pennsylvania and lived there until about twenty years of age. He married and moved to the Territory of Iowa about 1845, settling in Cedar County. He was a state senator from that county and quite an active legislator.

In 1858 he was elected auditor of Iowa. In regard to his election, the State Register says: "It was a fortunate thing for Iowa that a man of his Roman simplicity, Spartan courage and inflexible honesty that arose above every temptation was in that position at that particular time." He introduced improvements into the manner of conducting monetary transactions of the state as well as in the system of bookkeeping. During his incumbency, which covered the entire civil war era, the expenditures were very heavy and the work greater than ever before. Twice he was re-elected to the office.

While a member of the General Assembly, Jonathan Cattell and other State House officials and citizens sponsored a school at East Ninth and Des Moines Streets. It was a community later served by Bryant School. Though built and supported by private contributions, there was no intention of making it a private school. When two colored children were admitted, the wealthiest contributor withdrew his children as well as his contributions. Mr. Cattell and others doubled their payments and the school went on. He was one of the first men in Des Moines to support minority groups by insisting on equal educational opportunity for all.

After his retirement, Mr. Cattell remained a resident of the city and for a short time was out of political life. In 1866 he was nominated by the Republicans of Polk County as their representative in the State Senate. He served two terms and again retired from public office. However in 1885 he was appointed by Governor Sherman as auditor of the state, to fill out a term. Physically Mr. Cattell resembled Abraham Lincoln.

In 1967, the School District began purchasing, for future needs, the properties north of the present school grounds -- north to Tiffin between East 12th and East 13th. All but one property has been purchased.

To support and enrich a strong basic skills program, the

following areas are noted:

1. A phonetic approach to reading continues to be used in the primary grades.
2. A career education program, integrated with the curriculum areas, was implemented.
3. There has been emphasis on the use of supplementary materials and instructional media materials and equipment. The auditorium is being converted to a media center.
4. There has been assistance from resource and support personnel. The most recent programs have been in the areas of reading and learning disabilities.
5. Cooperative planning and teaching to meet the needs of individuals.

To enhance the "Community School" concept, the following areas have been utilized:

1. School-Community Council
2. Classes for children and adults through the district's Community Education Department.
3. Recreation program sponsored by the City Parks and Recreation Department.
4. Working relationship with Grandview College.
5. Involvement of community in the Career Education Program.

In the mid-1970's Cattell had a departmentalized primary unit with a grade 4-6 modified six-unit program for the older students.

COWLES SCHOOL Grades K-6
64th and College
Site-9.3 acres

This building was named in honor of Florence Call Cowles, wife of Gardner Cowles, Sr., and mother of Gardner Cowles, Jr. owner of the Des Moines Register & Tribune, LOOK magazine, and KRNT radio and television stations.

The primary wing of kindergarten, six primary rooms and an all-purpose room was opened September, 1958 with 200 pupils. The wing of ten class-rooms, art room, library, and gymnasium was opened in September, 1961. The total cost for both wings was \$622,483.

Grades kindergarten through third filled the building from 1958 until 1961 when grades four through six were included. In 1963 some 250 pupils from the Debra Heights area were bussed to Cowles and remained there until June, 1965 when Samuelson was opened.

Cowles School was one of the original suburban buildings to be a receiving school under the Equal Education Opportunity volunteer transfer program. Black students from the inner-city schools of Moulton and Nash had elected to attend Cowles instead of their local attendance unit. In the mid-1970's this building also has two learning disabilities satellite groups as well as a special assistance for the visually impaired students.

In addition to the regular educational program the director of library services has his office in this building along with two rooms used by the cataloging division of the school



Cowles

Principals of Cowles School-
1958 - 1960 Almeda Nelson
1960 - 1963 Jeaii McClintic
1963 - 1972 Lorene Lightfoot
1972 - 1975 Tom Stokes
1975 - Lester Rees

system. Yet another room is used by the music education division to store and circulate the music to all elementary and secondary schools. Cowles also houses the elementary consultants and the student teaching supervisor from the University of Northern Iowa. Beginning in Sept. 1975, Cowles and Elmwood will be paired and share the same principal.

Progress of Cowles School during the 1970's.

Community and parental involvement have been emphasized in recent years. An average of 50 parents volunteer their services weekly to help individual students, do clerical work, operate the "open" library, and be of assistance where needed. Over 100 parents volunteer to assist during the annual Cowles Track Meet; an extravaganza that features both track and field events.

Community education classes are offered for both parents and students. From 6 to 8 courses are offered each session to meet the requested desires of the community.

Career Education was implemented as part of the curriculum in 1973. Students in grades K-6 have been involved in various career related projects and have interviewed most parents regarding their chosen profession.

Music education is an integral part of the regular school curriculum with over 70% of all 4-6 grade students involved with private or group lessons.

Cowles was a pilot school for the Waupum project. This project screens, evaluates and places all Kindergarten students so the teacher can best meet the individual needs, developing the weaker areas and enhancing the strong.

School spirit was enlivened through the selection of school colors, song and mascot. An active student council pursues student interests and desires. This K-6 organization is in the process of completing a student center.



Douglas

Dates of construction --

- 1910 Three rooms
- 1920 Three rooms
- 1965 Sixteen rooms

Principals of Douglas School

- 1911 - 1915 Ann Howland
- 1915 - 1916 Mr. Evralls
- 1916 - 1919 Alice White
- 1919 - 1937 W. Lee Jordon
- 1937 - 1939 Edna Petersen
- 1939 - 1944 Ruth Pritchard
- 1944 - 1946 Almeda Nelson
- 1946 - 1954 Edith Patterson
- 1954 - 1958 Lorraine Kimball Reed
- 1958 - 1964 James E. Wise

DOUGLAS SCHOOL Grades K-5 East 38th and Douglas Site-5.7 Acres

Douglas school was named because of its location on Douglas Avenue. The first P.T.A. was organized in 1912. Douglas was a small primary unit for many years. Gradually the empty farmland was subdivided by home developers.

Booming housing developments made it necessary to build a 15 room addition in 1964 at a cost of \$506,958.00. Before the addition was completed many children were bussed to Longfellow School for several years.

When the addition was completed and ready for use in August 1965, the enrollment had grown so much there were 160 Kindergarten children- 40 children in each session which necessitated hiring 2 full time teacher associates, and it was necessary to have 5 - 1st grade classrooms of 34 each.

In 1967, Hoyt Elementary school was built as a Primary School. This helped alleviate some of the large sized classes for several years.

In 1972 Hoyt was changed to a Middle school so the sixth graders from Douglas could attend there, that made Douglas a K - 5 school.

DUNLAP SCHOOL Grades K-6
S.E. 11th Street and Railroad Ave.
Site-2.5 acres

Dunlap School was constructed in 1952 as a replacement for the old Curtis School located at S.E. 6th and Raccoon, and for Benton School, a frame building at S.E. 12th and Shaw. Benton was razed in 1963 and the site has been sold. Curtis was put on the inactive list since it was a relic of the old East Des Moines School District having been built in 1874. The Curtis School and site were sold in 1965.

The Dunlap School was named in honor of Flora B. Dunlap who was a veteran social worker in the southeast section of Des Moines. Some high- lights of Miss Dunlap's life are given below:

Flora Dunlap was born February 27, 1872, in a log cabin on the banks of Deer Creek near Circleville, Ohio, of early American pioneer ancestry. She attended public schools in Ohio and was graduated from Cincinnati Wesleyan College.



Dunlap

Past principals of Dunlap include:
1952 - 1960 Florence Weisbrod
1960 - 1962 Pherrin Dowell
1962 - 1968 Patience Guthrie
1968 - 1971 Dale Jacobus
1971 - Robert Langbehn

Miss Dunlap's forty-year career in Des Moines began in 1904 when she became director of Roadside Settlement House, one of the first in the country, located at Eighth and Mulberry Streets. As the flood-ridden south- east section of Des Moines came to be the city's biggest social and sanitation problem, the need for a social settlement house in the area became apparent, so Miss Dunlap took the initiative in planning a new Roadside building at S. E. Seventh and Scott Streets.

For twenty years Flora Dunlap served as director of Roadside. During World War I she served two years with the War Camp Community service —the U.S.O. of that time. Retiring as director of Roadside in 1924, she continued to serve on the board until leaving Des Moines in 1943.

But Flora Dunlap's interests were much broader than her immediate job at the settlement house. Her influence was great and beneficial to the community in the fields of education, women's rights, politics, and public health. Her service to the community reflects this wide influence.

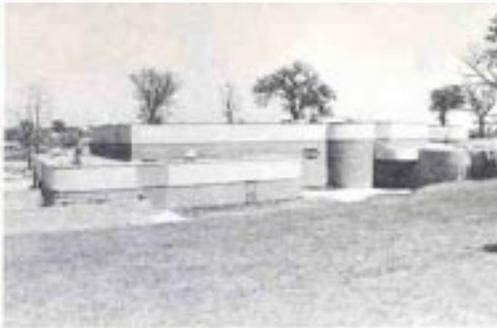
In 1909 she became a charter member of the board of the Public Health Nursing Association and in 1912 she was the first woman to be elected to the school board in Des Moines. During the years from 1913 to 1915 Miss Dunlap was president of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association and was legislative chairman of the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs. From 1919 to 1921 she served as the first president of the Iowa League of Women Voters. For ten years, from 1933 to 1943, she was busily engaged serving her community as chairman of the women's division of the WPA in Iowa, and she also served as a member of the Polk County Social Welfare Board, again being the first woman to hold such a position. She also was a member of the Community Chest board of directors from 1932 to 1938. In 1922 and again in 1940 she was president of the Polk County Women's Democratic Club, and in 1936 she served as a member of a state committee to study social welfare legislation for Iowa, and then worked on a committee of five to draft social welfare bills for the state.

In 1943 Miss Dunlap returned to her girlhood home in Circleville, Ohio. On August 26, 1952, death interrupted her service to the people she loved.

The Flora Dunlap Elementary School, at S.E. Eleventh Street and Railroad Avenue, was completed before her death.

In the mid-1970's Dunlap elementary school has the undepartmentalized program. With the closing of Scott elementary school at E. 25th and Maury, those youngsters are now brought by school bus to Dunlap which is

their new attendance center. In the mid-1970's Dunlap has the following compensatory programs for students: Title I Reading, K-6; Title I Math, K-4; Follow Through, K-3 as well as Head Start classes. There are also classes for the educable mentally retarded. Dunlap is a school in the community action program that involves a great deal of participation by parents in after-school activities. One of the innovative programs that has received nation-wide recognition has been the family learning center. It is an active participant in the community cultural recreational activities program.



Edmunds

Date of construction-1974

Principals of Edmunds School include:

-1973 - Don Brubaker

EDMUNDS SCHOOL Grades K-6
1601 Crocker Street
Site-3 acres

For the 1973-1974 school year, Edmunds School was housed in two former elementary schools that were forerunners of Edmunds. These were Bird School at Harding Road and Woodland and Grant School at 23rd and Cottage Grove. Bird School was demolished in 1975.

Grant School was one of the oldest school units in the district having been built originally in 1885 with additions in 1895 and 1910. Grant was sold in 1974. Each of these had been K-8 units in the old West Des Moines school district that existed until 1907 when the general merger of school districts took place.

Thus, these two former schools possessed a proud heritage that formed the background for a striking new educational unit that was soon to be built-Edmunds, which was based upon an open-space philosophy of education. Along with this educational idea was the philosophy that the school board used for all of the schools in the 1970's and that was, input from the school community as to the type of school facility that the individuals who lived in that neighborhood wished to have built. In the case of Edmunds and King, a unique planning process called the Educational Charrette was utilized. It was the first one in the State of Iowa and in the midwest. The idea was espoused by the U.S. Office of Education and endorsed by the State Department of Public Instruction.

The history of Edmunds School goes back to two elementary schools- Bird School at Harding Road and of these two buildings that were to become Edmunds School.

In 1968, plans were beginning to take form which would eventually result in a new, single educational facility to

replace Bird and Grant. The Board of Education and other concerned citizens were taking a new look at processes used for new school development.

In 1971, a Charrette was held to begin the final stages of planning for the single facility. Charrette was defined as a vehicle including parents, senior citizens, students, teachers, administrators, businessmen, agency representatives, religious leaders, university personnel and special consultants.

Dr. Charles Link and Dr. Donald Brubaker served as coordinators of the Charrette process and were responsible for the developmental team selected to interpret the educational findings of the Charrette participants from the Bird/Grant community.

From the Charrette came a humanistic, multi-cultured direction to program development and facility planning. The process produced an educational facility which was to:

(1) provide a curriculum of relevancy. (2) provide for development of self-worth and pride through the educational programs. (3) serve the recreational and health needs of the total community. (4) draw students from other communities in an effort to create a multi-cultured educational setting. The school was to be an open-spaced building with an individualized approach to learning. The learning design was to serve adults as well as children.

The citizens of the Des Moines Independent Community School voted bonds for the construction of the new building and in 1972 began to build this fine new structure. Edmunds School opened its doors in September of 1974.

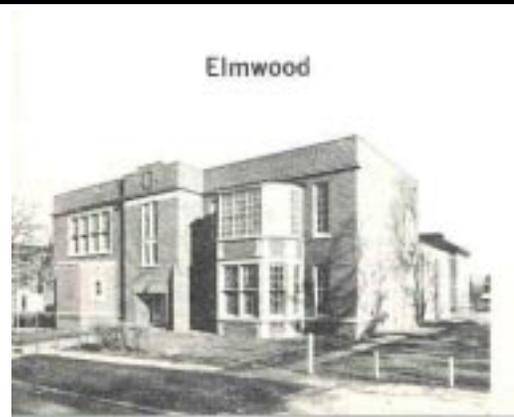
ELMWOOD SCHOOL Grades K-6
31st and University
Site-1.7 acres

The north part of Elmwood was built in 1886 when it was a part of the Oakdale School District. About 1900 the Oakdale District merged with the West Des Moines Schools, and the high school students housed in Elm, wood were sent to the West High building at 15th and Center. Elmwood then became an elementary school with kindergarten through the eighth grade.

In 1901 there were six teachers employed as the Elmwood faculty. In 1910 some old records indicate that there were 179 pupils and eight teachers. With the development of University Place and the western part of Des Moines iii general, the school population increased. Citizens then, as now, were faced with the problem of school housing. In the Spring, 1921 issue of Elmwood Scraps we note that the Independent School District of Des Moines had definite plans for more rooms:

“The process of the house moving is interesting to all ages. The pupils at Elmwood are having the opportunity to see this done since the houses at the south of the school on Brattleboro Avenue are being moved to make room for the new building.”

The dedication exercises for a new two-story brick building south of the old Elmwood structure were held on Tuesday, January 15, 1924. Both buildings were separate and complete. However, a wooden shed was placed on the east side to join the two schoolhouses. The shed or covered corridor was an



Dates of construction:
-1886 One-fourth
1900 One-fourth
1923 One-half

Principals of Elmwood School-
1886 - 1900 Mr. Carter
1900 - 1902 J. W. Hayman
1902 - 1913 Elizabeth Robb
1913 - 1933 E. Gertrude Burt
1933 - 1952 Blanche V. Toohey
1952 - 1953 Pearl Leander
1953 - 1959 Robert Denny
1959 (6 months) Kenneth Rankin
1959 - 1963 Carl Fehrle
1963 - 1967 Irene Perkins
1967 - 1972 Bernard Miller
1972 - Lester Rees

icy tunnel during the winter and pupils had to put on winter coats and hats before passing from the old building to the new one. As might be anticipated, this runway was noisy. It was no small inconvenience to walk from the second floor of the old building down to the shed and up to the second floor of the new one. In 1937 the present brick corridors were constructed to make the present day Elmwood building that begins on University and extends to Brattleboro.

In the 1920's Des Moines embarked upon an ambitious program of building separate junior high school building. In 1928 the seventh and eighth grade classes at Elmwood were sent to Callanan and the present elementary school of kindergarten through sixth grade emerged.

The first record of Elmwood participating in the organization which later became known as the P.T.A. was notes found many years later by Hazel Hillis, daughter-in-law of Mrs. Isaac Hillis, founder and first president of Iowa Congress of Mothers. One note stated:

“In 1900 was organized the Des Moines City Union of Mother Clubs which I served as President for five years. The seventeen clubs of the union included two W.C.T.U. units, one kindergarten ,association, two churches and twelve public school groups.”

In another note we know that Elmwood was one of the members since it read:

“City Union met Saturday, May 19, 1900 -- Oakland, Bird, Elmwood, Kirkwood, Cooper, Oak Park, Webster, Longfellow. Cary, Capitol Park, Bremer, Forest Home and Washington.”

Many achievements were made by the City Union and the State Congress so it must be assumed that Elmwood parents had a very definite part in all of the progress. For example, a free ward was established at the new Methodist Hospital, which was a forerunner of the State University of Iowa Hospital.

During this period the mothers were trying to influence legislation for compulsory education, Child labor laws and conditions surrounding women and children in city, county and state institutions were being investigated.

Former Vice-president Henry A. Wallace attended Elmwood in the early 1900's. In 1955 he wrote the following letter to the Elmwood P.T.A.

September 28, 1955

Dear Mrs. Kernahan:

“Replying to your letter of September 21 about my connection with Elmwood School, I recall that I first attended the school in the fall of 1898 or the spring of 1899 when we moved to 38th and University.

“I entered the fifth grade. Graduated from the 8th grade in June, 1902. The boy of my class whom I most vividly remember was Cole McMartin who is still living but very sick. His grandfather, old judge Cole, would sometimes come to the school to give us talks. Perhaps the best student in our class was Vesta Peak who I believe is an aunt of George Peak who is active in Des Moines business circles.

“About 1900 or 1901 we moved from 38th and University to 38th and Cottage Grove. Cottage Grove was a dirt road and in the spring was an almost impassable quagmire with signs in it on figures upside down saying “He hasn't found bottom yet.”

“All the time I was at Elmwood I milked a cow every night and morning and after 1900 pumped all the water in a storage tank in the attic, that was required by a family of eight. Of course I walked back and forth to school twice a day. It was in 1901 that I first saw an auto- mobile along a road out our way. Occasionally my mother would have a party for the teachers at our house at 38th and Cottage Grove (where the Grace Methodist church now stands.)

“For a time the U.P. church which is the progenitor of the present Westminster held meetings in Elmwood. It must have been about 1900 or 1901 just before the church at 35th and Cottage Grove was erected. I remember well attending religious services in the Elmwood School on Sundays.

Sincerely,

Henry A. Wallace”

During the 1920-1921 school year Elmwood maintained a Milk Station. Four pupils from each class took turns presiding during the morning recess. Over two hundred under-weight pupils received nourishment which helped build their health. By spring the percentage of underweight children in Elmwood had dropped from 40% to 25%.

War stamps were sold during W. W. II and in the years that followed. During the 1950's Elmwood pupils used the radio programs broadcast by KDPS-FM. In the 1960's some of the classes began to use television programs from KDPS-TV. A satellite lunch program was inaugurated in the fall of 1964.

Elmwood in 1975 - 76

Elmwood's enrollment has shown a continuous decline during the period of 1970-75. The school enrollment now stands at 282. Among the reasons for this decline are the following:

1. The purchase of property by Drake University in the area which in turn has either been turned into parking lots or rented to students more than families with children.
2. The continual decline of the area as the central core of the city spreads north and west.
3. Being an older neighborhood, there are more older people living in the area who at one time sent children to Elmwood.
4. An unusually large number of apartments in the area which are mostly rented to singles or newly-married couples.

Programs:

1. **Title I Reading**

Designated as a Title I school for the 1974-75 year, Elmwood had the services of a reading resource teacher and associate. Boys and girls in grades K4 profited much from this additional help.

2. **Headstart**

A Headstart class was begun in September of 1974. There were 27 youngsters, mostly from the adjacent areas who had a great year and a good send-off to kindergarten.

3. **Specific Learning Disabilities**

In the fall of 1972 a half-time teacher for learning disabilities was added to the staff. Teachers identified boys and girls in K-6 who would need additional help for periods up to 45 minutes with a special teacher.

4. **Satellite Resource Room**

In January of 1975 a specific learning disabilities room from Madison School was moved to Elmwood. These boys and girls in grades K-3 spent most of their day in their own room. As their ability and control permitted they are sent out to various rooms for periods of time ranging up to half a day.

5. **School Community Council**

A School Community Council was begun in September of 1972. It meets once a month and discusses problems of concern to parents and faculty in regard to school and/or community problems.

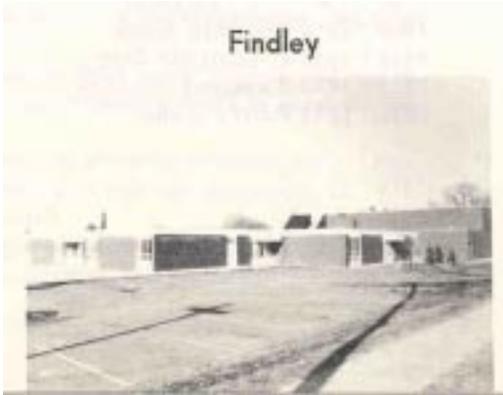
6. **1975-76**

Because of a further drop in enrollment, Elmwood moved to a self-contained organizational pattern for the 1975-76 school year. A special music planning time teacher was added and boys and girls in grades 3-6 have a physical educational teacher, thus retaining some of the benefits of the fused program formerly used.

FINDLEY SCHOOL

3000 Cambridge

Site 2.1 acres



Principals:

1967 - Nadine Machesney

The first wing of Findley elementary school was opened in 1966. It was a primary unit of nine rooms situated on land on 3000 Cambridge that had been cleared of houses only a short time before. The school was named for William C. Findley, long-time assistant superintendent in the Des Moines Public Schools.

Biographical sketch of Mr. Findley:

Mr. Findley was born in 1894 on the Winnebago Indian reservation twenty-five miles southwest of Sioux City. His father was a home missionary to the Indians who made up about a third of the area population. The future educator spent the first five grades in a country school where he sat side by side in a double seat with a little Indian boy named Pete.

After his father's death the family moved to Bellevue, Nebraska, where he finished his elementary schooling and entered Bellevue Academy. He later graduated from Bellevue College now joined with Hastings College.

During the next nine years he was teacher and principal in several schools beginning in Fullerton High and in 1916 was superintendent at Beemer, Nebraska. In fact, the first twenty-nine years of his life were spent in his native state of Nebraska.

Mr. Findley was superintendent at Rushville in September, 1917 but his tenure was interrupted in December when he was called to the U.S. Coast Artillery Corps. Training in American camps was followed by an assignment to France as a Lieutenant in World War 1.

Upon his return to civilian life in 1919 he became superintendent of Gordon and Gering public schools. Four years later he went to the State University of Iowa where he did graduate work and attained his Master's degree. Then he had two additional years of experience as teacher and principal in Iowa City elementary schools.

In 1925, John W. Studebaker, Des Moines Superintendent of Schools, and later United States Commissioner of Education, impressed with the administrative and mathematical skills of the young school man, invited him to the Des Moines school system for a thirty-nine-year stay. For three years Mr. Findley assumed the principalship of Clarkson, Saylor, Barton, and Bly Schools. From 1928 to 1933 the post of Mathematics Supervisor was added to his responsibilities.

Meanwhile Mr. Findley was performing a service to the educational publishing world. Scott Foresman's Study

Arithmetic needed primary texts and workbooks. Mr. Findley provided the textbooks, workbooks and his name to the nations' most widely used elementary arithmetic series. The Study Arithmetic, authored by Knight, Studebaker, Ruch and Findley was perhaps the most popularly acclaimed arithmetic text in American and Canadian schools in the decade of the 30's and early 40's.

The position of Director of Elementary Education was assigned to Mr. Findley in 1933 and he took his place in the central office as a member of the administrative staff. Eight years later he was made Assistant Superintendent of Schools and remained in that capacity until his retirement in 1964.

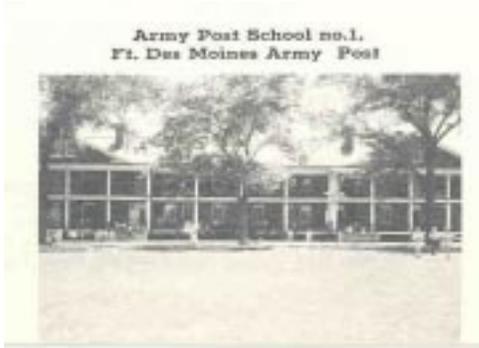
In 1967 all of the primary students from Saylor elementary were transferred to the new Findley School. Grades 5 and 6 at Saylor became a part of the Harding administrative routines. Saylor school was officially closed at that point. It was planned that Clarkson School which was of ancient construction going back to 1888 would be discontinued in the near future and those students also would attend the new Findley School. In the early 1970's an addition of ten teaching stations, art and music rooms, and media center were planned to completion of the Findley building. The remaining half-square block of houses were purchased and demolished so that the complete Findley site would thus be available for a larger and expanded school. The teacher and citizen planning committees that helped plan the new Findley addition decided upon an open-space concept with teaching stations rather than individualized and separate classrooms. In the fall of 1972 when the new Findley building was opened, it became then a K-6 attendance center with grades 5 and 6 removed from Harding and the K-6 students from the Clarkson building transferred to this new unit.

The contracts for the first part of Findley School were let in June, 1966 in the amount of \$213,645.00. The building was complete in November, 1967. The contract awarded in May, 1971 totaled \$509,740.00 and were for 12 classroom teaching stations (much of this Open Space) library learning center and cafetorium. The new wing was air-conditioned.

Findley School Programs 1967-75

When Findley first opened in 1967 it was a traditional school. In the fall of 1971 the Wisconsin Design Program, a phonic program, and I.G.E., Individually guided Education, were introduced to help meet the needs of individual children. The new air-conditioned open space area was completed in the fall of 1972. The Findley Staff was doubled to accommodate the increased enrollment from Clarkson and Harding Junior High, and at this time a Title I Reading resource teacher was assigned to Findley. In 1972 Career Education was implemented and a Title I Math teacher was appointed. In 1974 a Specific Learning Resource teacher was shared with Cattell School. In the fall of 1975 a self-contained Specific Learning Resource room will be opened to help children in the primary grades living in the northeast area of the city.

In 1967 all of the primary students from Saylor elementary were transferred to the new Findley School.



FT. DES MOINES SCHOOL Grades K-3
 Southeast 2nd and Porter
 Site—1.8 acres

Prior to 1923, Fort Des Moines was an incorporated town with its own elective officers. Children of the community attended Maple Grove Consolidated School, but lack of transportation facilities led to an election resulting in a decision to levy taxes for a school building to accommodate the pupils of the neighborhood.

In 1910 an old one room building was tom down and a two. room, one story structure built, In 1914 the roof was raised and two rooms added above. In 1916 rooms were added on the south making a total of six class- rooms. This was the building turned over to the Des Moines School District in 1926 when it became a part of that school system.

At the time the corporation of Fort Des Moines was dissolved in 1923, the Town Hall (which was on the northwest corner of the present school grounds) was remodeled as a kindergarten room. The building burned on February 26, 1926. From 1923 to 1926 the Fort Des Moines School District continued separately even though the town of Fort Des Moines had been dissolved. As noted above, it joined the Des Moines Public Schools in 1926.

In 1938 plans were made to remodel the building. The entrance was changed, a principal's office made and the community room on the top floor was divided into two regular classrooms. The building as it now stands has six classrooms, two on each floor. After third grade all pupils still attend Mitchell School.

With the opening of the new Lovejoy School in the fall of 1972 eased the enrollment pressures upon Mitchell. However, it was decided to maintain the Ft. Des Moines attendance center as a feeder unit to Mitchell elementary rather than to discontinue it at this time. This decision was further reinforced in September, 1973, when Maple Grove, School at S. W. 9th and Army Post Road was closed and again the decision was made to retain Ft. Des Moines School as a separate entity. In the mid-1970s Ft. Des Moines School continues as a undepartmentalized program for grades K-4.

Since Fort Des Moines and Mitchell schools share the same attendance area, students are transferred between schools in order to provide a more individualized program. There is a joint Fort Des Moines - Mitchell PTA and school advisory council. Pupils from both schools attend joint school assemblies, track and field day, etc. and take frequent school trips together. Also pupils from Fort Des Moines take part in band

Dates of construction
 1916 1938 (improvements)

Ft. Des Moines



Des Moines School

Mitchell
 Pease
 y Work
 unningham
 e Guthrie
 Rogers
 Lawrence Hardy

activities at Mitchell and are represented by the Fort Des Moines - Mitchell student council. Community education classes are offered to students, parents, and other members of the community at both schools. Other programs included in the curriculum of Fort Des Moines Elementary are:

- Volunteer program
- Title I Reading and Mathematics
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Speech Therapy
- Instructional Media Center
- Career Education
- Student Tutors

GARTON SCHOOL Grades K-6
East 24th and Hull
Site-10.2 acres

Garton School was opened in September, 1958. It was built in response to a vast housing area that sprang up in the 1950s. The street department of the City of Des Moines had not paved any streets in this area since they were waiting for the sewer work to be done.

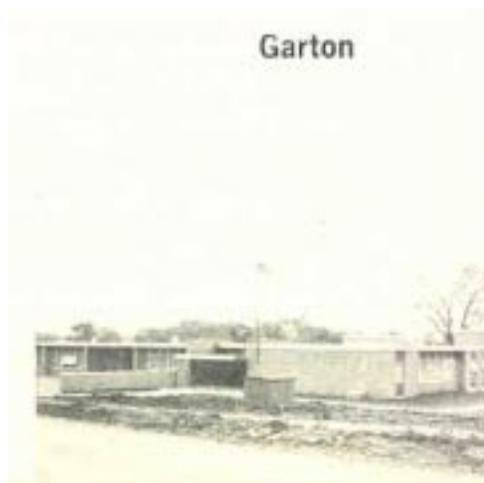
The result was that for the first time in decades, the Des Moines Public Schools had to build outside toilets for school children. These outside units indeed added a new educational dimension for "city" children. The toilets were used for several weeks. The memory of these units lingered on and even as late as the 1962 school bond election there were questions by interested citizens "Why Des Moines was building new schools with outside toilets?"

Garton streets were not paved for about two and a half years. Each Spring various faculty members, and the principal, would contribute mufflers and other parts beneath their cars to the mud morass that was called a street.

The building was named in honor of George Garton who was Secretary to the Board of Education for 27 years. The Garton family was a prominent East Des Moines family.

GARTON IN 1975-76

In the mid-1970's Garton Elementary School faces some of the declining enrollment problems that other Des Moines Schools are facing. Garton continues to maintain a six-unit program in grades 5-6 with the art teacher serving another building half time. Grades K-4 continue on an undepartmentalized basis.



Dates of construction
1965 (first addition)

Principals of Garton include
1958 - 1966 LoRetta Patrick
1966 - 1971 Lorraine McFadden
1971 - Harry Elder

GARTON IN 1975-76

In the mid-1970's Garton Elementary School faces some of the declining enrollment problems that other Des Moines Schools are facing. Garton continues to maintain a six-unit program in grades 5-6 with the art teacher serving another building half time. Grades K-4 continue on an undepartmentalized basis.

During the past two years Garton has been "paired" with Logan School in a program called "Shared Activities". Many worthwhile activities have been planned in all grade levels. Time was spent in sharing field trips, educational films, physical education, science and basic skills subject matter. Most of the activity was conducted at grade level for a period of one-half day but in the 5th and 6th grades Garton and Logan exchanged about 15-5th and 15 sixth grade students for a period of seven half days to participate in units in science, literature, physical education.

In August of 1973 Garton requested permission to participate in Career Education. We were accepted and during the past two years we have incorporated this concept into our curriculum.

In September of 1973 Garton initiated "Parent Orientation Week". This provided an opportunity for parents to visit their child's teacher and get a preview of the "things to come". It was a start in our awareness program which encouraged parents to become "School Volunteers" and become active in Garton activities.

In 1974 Community Education sponsored a Pre-School class of 20 students which is scheduled for three half-days weekly.

Garton has had an excellent Safety Patrol Program. The patrol captains during the school year of 1966, 1969, 1972, 1973 won first place in the AAA Safety Contest and won expense paid trips for the captain and Safety Patrol Supervisor.

The Garton Staff participated in a First Aid Course first offered to entire school staffs in 1974 and all participants received their American National Red Cross Certificates.



Granger

Dates of Con.struction

-1954 One-third
1957 Two-thirds

Principals of Granger School include:

1954 - 1963 Lucille Truitt
1963 - 1967 Lorena Riebhoff
1967 - Daniel Priest

GRANGER SCHOOL Grades K-6 S.E. 2nd and Leach Street Site-10.0 acres

The first six rooms, of Barlow Granger School were completed in August, 1954, the \$452,000 addition, including 14 regular classrooms, a kindergarten, a practical arts room, a gymnasium, and kitchen facilities, was completed in 1957. This single-story structure was placed on a site of ten acres. Wetherell and Harrison were the architects.

The School Board recommended that the elementary school at South Union and Leach Avenue be named Barlow Granger Elementary School. The following is an excerpt from the Granger P.T.A. bulletin of February, 1962:

"BARLOW GRANGER-born 1816, in New York. At the age of 13 he quit school to become an apprentice printer. In 1846 he journeyed west - by coach to St. Louis; to Keokuk on steamboat; to Fairfield by coach; and on to Des Moines by horse and buggy. At that time the population of Des Moines was 127.

Barlow Granger was the editor of the first newspaper published in Des Moines, the Iowa Star. Vol. 1, No. 1,

was dated July 26, 1849. He was one of the most widely known of the early settlers. The press was set up in a log cabin on Second Street near Vine. The town was known as Fort Des Moines.

Granger needed no reporters because he knew every family in town. He bought the press at Iowa City and sent to Keokuk for the paper. The Iowa Star was financed by a Curtis Bates, who later became a candidate for governor. Politicians often in that day sponsored newspapers in order to rush their personal political aspirations

Barlow Granger was asked to be the editor. He announced his editorial policies in spite of the political leanings of the owner, stating that the paper would publish his own views as “purely individual” but nevertheless the Star would be “Firmly, decidedly, radically democratic.” However, the editor would hold himself responsible to no party, sect, creed or clique.”

Forty of the eighty acres of land purchased by Granger for a homestead is now Pioneer Park reached over S.E. 6th Street and Hartford Avenue, one of the oldest streets in Des Moines. This southside location became noted for its hospitality and Granger built a stone and wood house on the site. Part of this house, in so far as we can discover, is still a part of the custodian’s residence. The well, 370 feet deep, was sunk by Granger around 1900, three years before his death, and furnished the water used by the park when it was first established by the city. He brought birch trees from Wisconsin and planted them on his property and otherwise beautified it.

The park custodian, when the Pioneer Park was established, had a scrapbook owned by Barlow Granger in which he had kept clippings, especially poems he had gleaned from magazines and other newspapers. It is noted that in every issue of the Iowa Star when Granger was editor, a poem appeared on the front page. He imprinted his cultural and literary accomplishments on all who read the paper.

He was a well educated man, a lawyer by profession. He practiced in Des Moines, ran a real estate business, became prosecuting attorney and was made judge of the County Court when Byron Rice, our first school teacher, resigned that position. He was influential in molding public opinion in the early days of Des Moines. Many stories of this estimable gentleman are told in numerous articles and books about early Des Moines.

In 1881 the Early Settlers Association held a reunion at the home of Barlow Granger, “two miles south of the statehouse”. His southside affiliations are furthered by the fact that he was mayor of Des Moines one term and of Sevastopol for two terms. Sevastopol is, of course, a part of the south side.

GRANGER- 1975-76

Because of the development of new housing in the area, Granger Elementary School increased its enrollment in the early 1970s to 770. With the opening of Lovejoy School and the additions to Jackson School and Park Avenue School, two hundred pupils were sent to those schools from Granger. Since then Granger School has been maintaining steady enrollments as new housing continues to develop in the vicinity during the mid-1970s.

In recent years “Career Education” has become an important part of the curriculum. There has been a team-teaching project in second grade for a number of years. Fourth grade will be semi-departmentalized in 1975-76. Other lower grades are undepartmentalized. Grades 5 and 6 are departmentalized with one teacher teaching reading skills in 5th grade and another teacher teaching reading skills in 6th grade. There is also a teacher that teaches social studies and science to all 5th and 6th graders. There are the usual arithmetic, art, music, and physical education teachers in grades 5 and 6.

GREENWOOD SCHOOL Grades K-6
316 37th Street
Site-3.4 acres



Greenwood

Dates of construction

- 1901
- 1924
- 1961 (north wing)

Principals of Greenwood School include:

- 1901 - 1909 Gertrude Burt
- 1909 - 1912 Nellie Elliott
- 1912 - 1925 Nellie Warren
- 1925 - 1944 Frances Umpleby
- 1944 - 1945 Murray Work
- 1945 - 1952 Lorene Lightfoot
- 1952 - 1958 Robert Langerak
- 1958 - 1972 Lorraine Kimball Reed
- 1972 - 1973 James Daugherty
- 1973 - Nicholas Aalbers

The history of Greenwood School extends back to the days when it was a separate school district serving the western most suburban area. Greenwood School was named for the spacious woods which surrounded the school area. The first building was located near Thirty-fifth and Ingersoll. The present building at Thirty-seventh Street, south of Grand Avenue was constructed in 1901.

The Greenwood Park community incorporated as a city in 1881. In 1890 it became a part of the city of Des Moines. The school district continued as a separate entity until 1900. At that time it joined the West Des Moines Schools and sent its high school students to the outstanding high school that was recently built at 15th and Center-West High.

The roster of PTA presidents and officers, Advisory Board members and students who have attended Greenwood throughout its existence reveal the names of many prominent families and persons who have made contributions to the life of the city of Des Moines, the state of Iowa and the United States.

Greenwood continues to be a leader in the education of our city's young people. The various programs in operation attest to the fact that we are concerned about all students that attend our school. Greenwood participates as both a receiving and sending school in the District's Voluntary Transfer Program. We have community and adult education classes and have incorporated the career education concept into our total school program. The Wisconsin Design Reading Management System assists us in our total reading program in the primary grades and we have the service of a Title I Reading and Math Resource person as well as a Learning Disability Resource person.

The Kindergarten program has incorporated the "strategies for Early Childhood Education" plan and we also have the Kindergarten Language Enrichment Program.

HANAWALT SCHOOL Grades K-6
56th Street and Roberston Drive
Site-4.8 acres

There were four teachers assigned to Hanawalt when it opened in 1913. Slow development of the area has made future additions dubious. In the early 1960's the grades of 5 and 6 were sent to the new Merrill Jr. High School. In February, 1965, a one room portable unit costing \$10,000 was placed north of the present building to accommodate one class of fourth graders.

Dr. George P. Hanawalt a veteran medical man of the last half of the 1800's, practiced medicine and surgery in Des Moines for 45 years, He was Surgeon-General of the National Guard for 25 years. He served as President of the Polk County Medical Society in 1877 and of the State Medical Society in 1880.

The early 1970s saw planning for the addition of ten classrooms, gym, and media center on the Hanawalt building. This addition was basically one that was planned by the parents and faculty as being one of the open-space concept. With its opening in the fall of 1972 the Frisbie school at 63rd and Muskogee was closed and later demolished. The elementary students from both Hanawalt and Frisbie who formerly attended Merrill junior high were now housed in their own elementary building for the first time in many, many years. Hanawalt is an IGE, multi-unit school. The 1972 addition cost \$500,000.

The Hanawalt Elementary School has embarked on several new and exciting programs during the early part of 1970's. The new programs involve students at all levels with some specialized programs for certain students. The new addition accommodates Unit A and B (Grades K through 3). Also included in the new addition are special service areas such as offices for the Principal, Secretary, Nurse, a Gymnasium-Cafetorium and-an Instructional Material Center. These special areas of instruction such as Art, Music and Physical Education serve the entire student body. The Original Building is used to accommodate students in Unit C (Grades 4 through 6).

The new addition was planned according to an Open-Space-Concept which lends itself to the newer developments in educational organization-to an organizational plan which makes possible a better approach to the varying needs of pupils. Individually Guided Education



Hanawalt

Dates of construction

1913

1919

1972

Principals of Hanawalt include:

1913 - 1916 Elizabeth Robb

1916 - 1918 Ella Baker

1918 - 1919 Lulu Auracher

1920 - 1925 Nellie Warren

1925 - 1953 Frances Umpleby

1943 - 1945 Murray Work

1945 - 1952 Lorene Lightfoot

1952 - 1958 Robert Langerak

1958 - 1966 Lorraine Kimball Reed

1966 - 1968 Howard Hart

1968 - 1971 Harry Elder

1971 - 1975 Melvin Kiner

1975 - Don Shaw

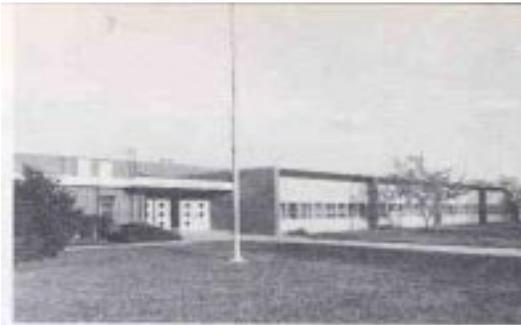
and Team Teaching are natural partners in accomplishing this goal.

The Hanawalt School philosophy has been to develop programs that places emphasis on the individual student - his ability, his rate of learning, his style of learning and his progress.

In the fall of 1972 the I.G.E. Program was initiated at Hanawalt. I.G.E. is an approach to instruction that provides a framework for individualizing instruction -INDIVIDUALLY GUIDED EDUCATION. It has been achieved through an in-service program designed to reorganize and redirect the time, talents, and energy of all concerned with the educational process.

Instructional processes represent the heart of I.G.E. These processes provide appropriate learning programs for each student built on a continuous cycle of findings out where each student is and how he got there (assessment), deciding what he needs to learn next (specifying objectives), selecting the best ways for him to attain those objectives (diversified learning opportunities), and making sure that he has met them (reassessment).

The teachers assigned to each Unit, under the direction of the Unit Leader, are responsible for all instruction and supervision of students within that Unit. All planning is done together as a team making it possible to improve instruction through sharing of ideas and through teacher concentration on his or her areas of strength.



Hillis

Dates of construction

- 1949 An annex unit was moved to site
- 1953 Main building of IS rooms
- 1961 4 room addition at east end of building

Principals of Hillis School include:

- 1949-1953 James L. Daugherty
- 1953-1962 Pearl Leander
- 1962-1966 Don Brubaker
- 1966-1968 Kenneth Rankin
- 1968-1973 Eleanor Singer
- 1973- Joseph Turner

HILLIS SCHOOL Grades K-6 56th and Hickman Site-7.5 acres

The old wooden temporary building that was moved to the site in 1949 was called Tower School. It was so named because of its proximity of the water tower at 48th and Hickman.

The main structure of 22 rooms was named after Mrs. Cora Bussey Hillis who was instrumental in organizing the Iowa Congress of Mothers. Mrs. Hillis made many other contributions as noted below.

Mrs. Cora Bussey Hillis was born at Bloomfield, Iowa, in 1858. She grew up in New Orleans but in 1880 she married Isaac Lea Hillis and moved to Des Moines.

In 1887 she was one of the incorporators of the Des Moines Women's Club, She soon began her notable career as a worker and organizer in the cause of child welfare by securing the first public bath house in Des Moines for children, so they could in safety enjoy the river.

In 1898 she attended, in Washington, D. C., the second meeting of the Congress of Mothers as a delegate from the Iowa Child Study Society, a department of the Iowa State Teachers Association. Soon thereafter she organized the Iowa Congress of Mothers.

She introduced the penny savings system in the Des Moines schools and in 1901 secured the first children's room in the Iowa Methodist Hospital. In 1902 she opened a public sewing room in connection with the Des Moines public schools, where children who were out of school for lack of clothing were supplied with garments by mothers' clubs.

In 1904 she organized the Iowa Child Welfare Association and in 1915 urged the legislature to adopt a bill providing for the establishment of a Child Welfare Research Station at the University of Iowa. This Station was set up in 1917, having as its objective the investigation of the best scientific methods of conserving and developing the normal child. This station was the first of its kind in the United States and set the example which others have followed.

It is indeed fitting and proper that the Board of Education named an elementary school to honor Mrs. Hillis, a pioneer in child welfare who perhaps had no equal in the country.

In 1973 it became apparent that enrollments at Hillis were declining to a point that it would be possible to house all of the Riley students in the Hillis school building. Thus, a decision was made to close Riley at the end of the 1972-73 school year. Those students were given the option of attending several elementary schools but most chose the Hillis attendance center at their closest school. In the mid 1970s Hillis has an underdepartmentalized program for grades K4 and a six-unit plan B program for grades 5 and 6. In the six-unit Plan B program the art and music teachers remain in the buildings and teacher arithmetic. Hillis has been an EEO receiving school since inception of the voluntary transfer program in 1969.

During the 1974-75 school year a student council was begun, and as an activity the council adopted the "Hound" as the school mascot.

In the 1975-76 school year the Hillis staff will implement a continuous progress reading plan in an effort to improve instruction. During the 1975-76 school year we plan to observe the silver anniversary of the construction of the permanent building.

HOAK SCHOOL Grades K-5
18th Street and McKinley
Site-7.7 acres

Hoak School was opened in September, 1955. It was named in honor of Percy E. Hoak, long time member of the school board. Mrs. Patrick, the principal, received the picture of Mr. Hoak from Mrs. Hoak during the 1956-57 school year. The family also presented a bronze statue of a boy in honor of Mr. Hoak.

In 1956-57 a decision was made not to enlarge Hoak School because of new traffic patterns at the Des Moines airport. When originally planned this matter had been checked out with appropriate authorities and was not a problem. Pupils for grades 5 and 6 may attend Wright School which is nearby. Hoak and Wright Schools are operated as a single unit under the jurisdiction of the same principal.

In the mid-1970s Hoak elementary school is operating on a K-5 undepartmentalized program.

During this time declining student population has created space for two new programs: (1) a therapeutic learning center for children with emotional problems severe enough to prevent their functioning within a regular classroom, and (2) a learning disabilities resource teacher to provide for the specific needs of learning



Dates of construction -- 1955

Principals of Hoak School include:

- 1955 - 1956 Kenneth Rouse
- 1956 - 1957 LoRetta Patrick
- 1957 - 1961 Ruth Pritchard
- 1961 - 1965 James L. Daugherty
- 1965 - 1972 Mildred Kaisand



Dates of construction

- 1919 One-fourth
- 1925 One-fourth
- 1951 One-fourth
- 1957 One-fourth

Principals who have served at Howe include:

- 1907 - 1908 Loretta Blake
- 1908 - 1909 Iva Scott
- 1909 - 1913 Elizabeth Culbertson
- 1913 - 1915 Jeanette Mills
- 1915 - 1939 Alice Bradshaw
- 1939 - 1946 Edna L. E. Peterson
- 1946 - 1949 Kenneth Rouse
- 1949 - 1955 Merle Wilson
- 1955 - 1963 Paul Pace
- 1963 - Nov. 1965 Lucile Truitt
- Nov. 1965 William Molleck

disabled students. Also, space has been accrued through student attrition to allow students to utilize a double room for physical education activities.

The small school atmosphere allows for a close relationship to be developed between students, parents, and teachers, and this “caring” climate is perhaps the most singular characteristic of the school.

HOWE SCHOOL Grades K-6
S.E. 7th and Indianola
Site-4.3 acres

Howe School in its present location replaced the old “Howe” school, a frame building located at S.E. 7th and Davis. The “old” Howe was known originally as Sevastopol School which took its name from the area.

The school honors the name of Julia Ward Howe famed author of the words of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

A former student of the 1890’s, O. J. Potthoff, has written of Mrs. Howe’s visit to the school:

“Mrs. Howe visited the Howe School and I remember her very well but I don’t just remember what year it was—somewhere around 1895 or 1896. The class sang her song and she seemed quite pleased.”

One night during the Civil War, Julie Ward Howe, fell asleep in her Washington hotel with the melody of a southern camp meeting tune ringing in her ears. Later she awoke, rose and wrote the words of what became, “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.” She said the words seemed to come to her as a revelation.

This song captured the minds and hearts of the northern armies and was sung as a marching tune. Even President Lincoln enjoyed singing it.

After the war, Mrs. Howe became a women’s suffrage leader and continued to write, turning out travel books, essays and poetry. But no poem she wrote ever again reached the heights of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic”.

In 1882 the Julia Ward Howe School was opened with only two rooms for pupils up to the fourth grade. The older children had to go to Washington School. Mr. Parish was the first principal of both Washington and Howe schools.

By the mid-1970’s enrollment pressures at Howe Elementary have been eased by the enlargement of Jackson to a full elementary unit as well as the construction of Lovejoy Elementary School and the boundary adjustments with Granger. It uses an undepartmentalized program for grades K-4 and has a six-unit plan A for grades 5 and 6. It has a

family learning center as a part of the adult education outreach.

HOWE IN THE 1970's

Howe has worked hard to keep pace with the many improvements in education and had added many programs to meet the needs of its students. In 1970 the old auditorium was converted to an instructional media center becoming the first of its type in the elementary schools. This is an area where all types of media are consolidated for student use such as books, magazines, filmstrips, tapes, T.V., 16mm films, overhead transparencies, cassettes, etc.

As Des Moines grew so did the traffic on Indianola Road and for safety purposes a new crossover was constructed in 1971. Parents accepted it with reservations but it has proved to be a beneficial addition to Howe.

In 1972 a program called SPURT (Special Program Utilizing a Resource Teacher) was added and it helped mildly handicapped in LD, ED, and EMR. This was a state financed program that is now a Des Moines district supported program.

Then in 1973 a family learning program was initiated and this was an adult education concept to improve adult education through workshops and child/parent relationships.

In 1974 still another program got off the ground and it was titled Therapeutic Learning Center which is designed for emotionally disturbed children in cooperation with Orchard Place.

HUBBELL SCHOOL Grades K-6 42nd and Center Site-5.0 acres

Hubbell School was named in honor of Frederick M. Hubbell, philanthropist, and wealthiest Iowan in the history of the state. Arriving here in 1885 from his home in Connecticut at the age of sixteen, he worked, studied and invested in land. Later he became a leading lawyer and founded the Equitable Life Insurance Co. of Iowa. He was also a railroad financier and builder as well as real estate investor and public utilities magnate. He was devoted to Des Moines and invested here, where he made his fortune. Just how much he contributed to the growth and development of Des Moines cannot be estimated.

Some Highlights about Hubbell History

On September 15, 1908 a petition was presented to the Des Moines school board by H. C. Wallace, representing West University Place, asking for an additional schoolhouse. The property selected was designated as Lot 32 located at 42nd Street and Woodland Avenue, for which \$4,250.00 was paid. Bids were called for in 1909 and the contract was awarded to Martin Conroy who presented the, lowest bid-\$47,147.00. "The building is fire resistive and two stories in height. The brick walls are 12 and 16 inches thick; floors are concrete; incombustible partitions; oak trim; incombustible ceilings; wood roof over concrete ceiling. There are two open stairways in



Dates of construction

- 1910 One-half
- 1917 One-fourth
- 1925 One-fourth
- 1955 The community room was remodeled into two classrooms.

Principals of Hubbell School include:

- 1910-1917 Amelia Morton
- 1917-1923 H.D. Eickelberg
- 1923-1939 Laura P. Matthews
- 1939-1958 Blanche V. Toohey
- 1958-1965 Mildred E. Kaisand
- 1965-1971 Ann Schott
- 1971-1973 Howard Miller
- 1973-1974 Eleanor Singer
- 1974- Irene Perkins

the hall, basement to second floor. The basement contains a gymnasium, fan room and classrooms; first floor nurse's room, office, supply room and classrooms; second floor auditorium and classrooms."

On the motion of J. B. Sullivan and seconded by C. H. Martin, at the February, 1909 meeting of the school board, "the school building to be erected on 42nd and Woodland Avenue is to be known as the Frederick M. Hubbell School". Carried.

In May, 1910 thirty feet along the south side of the Hubbell School ground was given up for the use of the city in opening Center Street.

Hubbell School opened in the fall of 1911. Miss Amelia Morton was the principal and there was a staff of seven teachers - Miss Emma Bradley, Miss Mary Heaton, Mrs. E. D. Brunn, Miss Katherine Haley, Miss Elizabeth Mason, Miss Jessie E. Dicks and Miss Adeline Winterble.

In 1917 the south wing was added to the original building, first and second floors providing additional space for classrooms and a community room in the basement. In 1922 Hubbell School served 670 children in eight grades; by 1923 there were 610 children in six grades, the seventh and eighth grade pupils attending junior high school in the new Roosevelt High School. In 1925 the north wing was added giving the school a gymnasium, classrooms and auditorium. In 1930 there were twenty classrooms, three special rooms and an enrollment of 563. In 1955 the community room was converted into two more classrooms.

The student population has maintained itself through the years in the Hubbell district and continues into the 70's. A new addition of two kindergarten classrooms was opened in, 1971. This enabled the utilization of the former kindergarten room into a media learning center. Hubbell School in the mid-1970s is an Equal Education Opportunities receiving school. The large playground north of the school formerly was at an elevation of eight to ten feet below street level. Extensive filling of dirt brought this up to the height of the Hubbell playground adjacent to the building. The addition of the two rooms in 1971 enabled the removal of two portable classrooms that had been placed there in the 1960s. A landmark along on the Hubbell-Roosevelt site was the tall smokestack that was removed in the early 1970. This saw the conversion of the heating plant and the installation of new boilers at the heating plant and conversion to gas and oil. With the energy crisis of the mid- 1970's someone has commented that we probably should have retained the coal-stoked furnaces and the tall landmark smokestack to utilize the Iowa coal. Forecasts by hindsight are easier to make.

During the 1974-75 school year there were eighteen teachers, a secretary, an associate, a Voluntary Transfer associate and 2.5 custodians at Hubbell. Also, the part time staff included a nurse, library associate, speech therapist, Title I math and reading teacher and a Learning Disabilities Teacher. The school enrollment was 419 students representing 278 families.

JACKSON SCHOOL Grades K-6
Indianola Road and Watrous
Site-I 1.5 acres

Andrew Jackson School opened its doors in January, 1962, to serve 184 children in kindergarten through third grade. The school is located on a spacious site on Indianola Road near Watrous Avenue, close to the boundary line of southeast Des Moines. The glass walls, exterior corridors, and colored ceramic brick extend the length on each side of the ground-hugging structure, which is to be the first wing in the construction of a complete school. This \$305,000 building was designed by Architects Associated of Des Moines.

There is a continuous turnover in pupil 'personnel due to the mobility of the area. The mobility is a result of a low-economic section and temporary residence provided by three trailer courts. At the present time, a 40-home housing project is under construction directly west of the school.

Beginning with the 1963-64 school year the undepartmentalized program was extended to, include fourth grade.

The 75th Unit of the Parent-Teacher Association was organized at Jackson Elementary School on October 2, 1962, with Mrs. Ben Bingaman as the first president. The PTA membership totaled 69 parents, teachers, and friends the first year.

In 1972 an addition of ten classrooms, gym and media center were added to the primary wing of the Jackson building. The cost was \$525,333.00. The addition was far different than the one visualized when the building was first opened in 1962. The citizens and teacher committees that helped plan the new addition at Jackson opted for the open-classroom concept. Thus the teaching stations that were added at Jackson essentially revolve about a centralized media center for all of the upper grade rooms to utilize. Fully carpeted and air conditioned as are all of the open-space classroom additions of the 1970s, it is indeed a functional educational unit. The school uses the IGE-Individualized Guided Education program that most of the other open-space schools have. In looking towards the later 1970s it would seem that the new sewers in the southeast area may open up new housing additions that could tax the facilities at Jackson.



Date of construction-1962
1972 Addition of 10 Classrooms,
Gym and Media Center

Principals of Jackson School include:
1962 (6 months) Paul Pace
1965 - 1968 Joan Sherman
1962 - 1965 Lorena Riebhoff
1968 - Marion Pritchard

JEFFERSON SCHOOL Grades K-6
2425 Watrous
Site-2.7 acres



Dates of construction -- 1920

Principals of Jefferson School include:

- 1909 - 1910 Mr. Stone
- 1910 - 1918 J. W. Atchley
- 1918 - 1937 W. Lee Jordan
- 1937 - 1939 C. I. Pease
- 1939 - 1944 Murray Work
- 1944 - 1952 Nelle Cunningham
- 1952 - 1957 Mildred Shay
- 1957 - 1963 Ruth Pritchard
- 1963 - 1966 Robert Langerak
- 1966 - 1968 Joan Sherman
- 1968 - 1971 Harry Elder
- 1971 Louise Silver

The general consolidation of schools in and around Des Moines that took place in 1907 also included the Oak Grove district. This involved the present Jefferson School as well as some land that was outside the city.

The present brick school at SW 30th and Park Avenue was built in 1920. It replaced a three room structure of wood and brick which served the typically rural community for many years prior to that time. It enrolled grades kindergarten through eighth.

For many years after the "new" building was built, the pupils walked the dirt roads that served the neighborhood. As more houses were built and improved roads were constructed there became traffic hazards.

Jefferson School continued to provide a program for grades K-8 until enrollment pressure made it necessary to transfer the seventh and eighth grades to Lincoln in the late 1940's. Some fifth graders and all the sixth grade pupils are taken by bus to Wright School.

Jefferson School was named in honor of President Thomas Jefferson one of the intellectual giants of our founding era.

A new Jefferson elementary building was planned for the site at 2425 Watrous Avenue. The construction contracts totaled \$968,491.00. With its opening in September, 1972, the old Jefferson School at S.W. 30th and Park Avenue was closed and the windows boarded up. The new structure was planned according to the open-space concept, utilizing several levels since it was built into the side of the hill. Ample school grounds have provided a setting for a natural forest area with a wide variety of trees, plants and shrubs being planted as an outdoor ecology-type classroom. The upper elementary grades from Jefferson who formerly attended Brody Junior High School since the time when Brody opened now are able to be housed in the new. Jefferson School. The building utilized the IGE multi-unit program. Continued expansion of new housing now only in the Camelot area but in the area around S.W. 42nd and Park Avenue indicate that enrollments will be climbing in the years ahead.

KING SCHOOL Grades K-6
1849 Forest
Site—3 acres

Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968) Born in Atlanta, Georgia, son and grandson of Baptist ministers. Graduated from Morehouse College, completed advanced studies at Crozer Theological Seminary and Boston University. He was ordained in 1947. He married Coretta Scott in 1953 and became pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1957.

He received the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize for his work in leading non-violent demonstrations for Negro rights. This program of non-violence was based on Christian concepts, Thoreau's and Gandhi's writings and practices.

He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1968 and buried in Atlanta, Georgia, leaving his widow and four children.

A History of Martin Luther King Elementary School
1849 Forest Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa

The history of Martin Luther King School goes back to two elementary schools—Kirkwood School located at 27th and Clark and Nash School located at 1326-16th Street. Generation upon generation had passed through the halls of these two buildings that were to become Martin Luther King School.

In 1968, plans were beginning to take form which would eventually result in a new, single educational facility to replace Nash and Kirkwood. The Board of Education and other concerned citizens were taking a new look at processes used for new school development.

In 1971, a Charrette was held to begin the final stages of planning for the single facility. Charrette was defined as a vehicle included parents, senior citizens, students, teachers administrators, businessmen, agency representatives, religious leaders university personnel and special consultants.

Dr. Charles Link and Dr. Donald Brubaker served as coordinators of the Charrette process and were responsible for the developmental team selected to interpret the educational findings of the Charrette participants from the Nash/Kirkwood community.

From the Charrette, came a humanistic, multi-cultured direction to program development and facility planning. The process produced an educational facility which was to:



King

Constructed 1974

Principals of King Include:

1973-1974 Howard Hart

1974-1975 Don Williams

1975- Jim Mitchell

- 1) provide a curriculum of relevancy.
- 2) provide for development of self-worth and pride through the educational programs.
- 3) serve the recreational and health needs of the total community,
- 4) draw students from other communities in an effort to create a multi-cultured educational setting.

The school to be an open-spaced building with an individualized approach to learning. The learning design was to serve adults as well as children.

The citizens of Des Moines Independent Community School District voted bonds for the construction of the new building and in 1972 began to build this fine new structure.

Martin Luther King School opened its doors in September of 1974 with an enrollment of 480 students.



Logan

LOGAN SCHOOL Grades K-6
 East 17th and Garfield
 Site-4.3 acres

Logan School was in the Pleasant Corner School District which was later renamed the Capitol Park School District. The high school for Capitol Park was located on the second floor of the present Wallace School

Logan was named for General John Alexander Logan of Civil War fame. He died in 1886.

Early records record the following milestones:

1900-Started Department of Drawing in Capitol Park Schools. There was a program for all grades and high schools in charcoal, pencil, crayola, water colors and scissors.

1905-Capitol Park School Board purchased manual training equipment for both grammar and high schools.

1907-Pleasant Corner consolidated with 16 other districts to make the Des Moines School District with 51 buildings in all.

1907-08 Logan addition paid \$3,201.61. This was begun by Board of former Capitol Park School District.

1907-08 Number of high schools reduced from six to three. "Capitol Park High School continued until Christmas when the resignation of the principal seemed to make the time propitious for closing this school also."

Dates of construction -- 1895, 1911, 1962

Principal of Logan School include:

- 1907 - 1911 Mary Doran
- 1911 - 1914 Emma Bradley
- 1914 - 1916 Jennie Holmberg
- 1916 - 1918 Belle McConnell (Kinsley)
- 1918 - 1921 Cora Parr
- 1921 - 1936 Anna Hartigan
- 1936 - 1944 Ella Baker
- 1944 - 1952 Ruth Pritchard
- 1952 - 1965 Kenneth Rankin
- 1965 - 1972 Don Shaw
- 1972 - Udell Cason, Jr.

1907-08 Six grades continued at Logan, with grades 7-8 going to Capitol Park. Five teachers employed at Logan with 51.2 pupils per teacher. This was the highest average enrollment in the city.

Beginning in 1969 Logan School became the one predominate black school in the district that was eligible for participation of white students in the voluntary transfer program. Through the years a number of white students have elected to attend Logan rather than their neighborhood school and to participate in the wide variety of programs that are offered in that building. Logan has an undepartmentalized program for grades K-3 and a departmentalized program for grades 4-6. In the mid-1970s it has Title I Reading, Title I Math K-4, an early learning center, Head Start, Follow Through, Title I Child Development, Title III Wisconsin Designed Reading Management Program. For after school hours, there is a component of the community cultural recreational program operated by the CDA.

Also, Logan has participated in the School-Business Alliance Program as well as being one of six schools participating in the Shared Activities concept.

LONGFELLOW SCHOOL

East 7th and Fremont

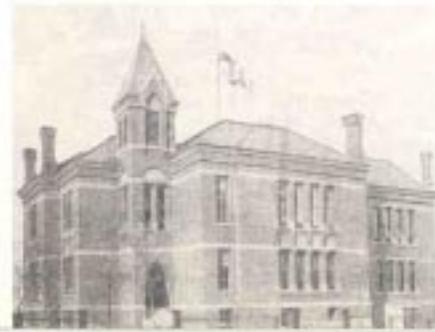
Site-5.2 acres

As early as 1880, it was necessary to have a schoolhouse in the area, known as the Fifth Ward in the East Des Moines School District. Because of this need, Bremer School was opened in a Swedish Church which stood at Des Moines and Second Streets. The people then authorized the School Board to purchase land for a new school in the western part of the ward. It was not until 1882 that the purchase was made, and the tract bought was on Pine Street near Walker. The District also authorized the issuance of bonds for erection of a schoolhouse on the site. This school was called Longfellow after the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

In 1885, because of the increasing school population, three more rooms were added to the first structure and two rooms were equipped in the basement. From 1882 to 1901 the staff had increased from three to thirteen and the enrollment from 204 to 511. By 1901 Longfellow had the largest enrollment in the city. Owing to the very crowded conditions of the building, in 1901 the boundaries were changed and additional land was purchased to allow for another addition to the school. This enabled Longfellow to return to the seating capacity of 40 per room. Still more children enrolled so the seating capacity per room had to be increased. In 1920 the last addition to the school was built, and at that time the playground was arranged in three levels.

In 1907 Ward Five was merged with the Independent School District. At that time the evaluation was as follows:

Longfellow School,
E. 7th and Maple



Dates of construction-

Old Longfellow School-1882-1965

New Longfellow School-1961

Principals of Longfellow include:

1881- 1884 Frances Lawrence

1884 - 1913 Sybil Jeffries

1913 - 1914 Elizabeth Culbertson

1914 - 1922 Anna Stohlgren

1933 - 1934 Edwin Miner

1934 - 1937 Robert Simpkins

1937 - 1939 Walter Trott, Jr.

1939 - 1944 Nellie Cunningham

1944 - 1952 Kathryn Blanchard

1952 - 1954 Leona Wilcox

1954 - 1962 Patience Guthrie

1962 - 1964 Irene Perkins

1964 - 1970 Nadine Machesney

1970 - 1971 Melvin Kiner

1971 - 1972 Robert McGraw

1973 - Keith Banwart

Original Cost	\$35,625.00
Lot	7,000.00
Furniture	2,375.00

Because of the route of the Des Moines Freeway, “old” Longfellow School was razed in the summer of 1962. A new site at East Seventh and Filmore Streets was purchased.,

By the fall of 1962, a new Longfellow (often referred to as “The Glass House”) was opened to accommodate the children of old Longfellow and Webster School, which also had been razed during the summer. This consisted of 13 classrooms, 2 all purpose rooms, a gymnasium, a library, a speech therapy center, music practice rooms, and complete office facilities.

When Longfellow opened in 19,62, there were many vacant rooms because of the freeway and urban renewal program. There were 8 teachers and an enrollment of 189. In 1963, because of the overcrowded conditions in the McKee and Douglas School areas, children were transported to Longfellow by public school bus, and 12 classrooms were then used. A hot lunch program was initiated at Longfellow the same year, and a library aide was added to the staff.

In 1964, with second grade from McKee, third, fifth, and sixth grades from Douglas and the opening of a second class for retarded children, all room facilities were being used which included the use of the two all purpose rooms as four classrooms. The enrollment was 454 (235 bus children) and there were seventeen teachers, a principal, a clerk, a library aide, a nurse, two custodians, and four cafeteria workers.

Longfellow is another elementary school that is feeling the forces of declining enrollments. It maintains a K-6 undepartmentalized program for the classrooms. For special programs it has Head Start, Follow Through in .grades K-3, Title I Reading in K-6, Title I Math in K-4, and a Title III Learning Disabilities Program.

Lovejoy School Grades K-6
801 S.E. Kenyon Ave.
Site - 10.1 acres

Lovejoy Elementary School opened in September, 1972, on 10.1 acre site in southeast Des Moines. It was built to accommodate the new housing that had developed and had resulted in overcrowding at Mitchell School and Granger School. The beginning enrollment at Lovejoy was 367, and contrary to what is happening in most Des Moines schools, the enrollment is increasing—446 for the Fall of 1975.

The brick building was built on the open space concept with instructional media center as the focal point of the building. The school began by utilizing the IGE organizational structure and currently has 2 multi-aged units. The staff emphasizes individualization in mathematics and language arts and plans group work around themes that have building-wide interest. In the 1975-76 school year the themes will be centered around bicentennial activities.

The building was named in honor of Dr. E. Parrish Lovejoy who was a long time school physician for the Des Moines Public Schools. A brief synopsis of Dr. Lovejoy's background follows:

E. PARISH LOVEJOY

Born October 20, 1901 at Rippey, Iowa—the son of Dr. H.E. Lovejoy and Mrs. Meva McCool Lovejoy. At age of 8 he moved, with his family to Colorado.

On October 31, 1926, he was married to Miss Evelyn Mercedes Wildenstein of Raton, New Mexico, a graduate of St. Lukes Hospital School of Nursing in Denver, Colorado.

On February 1, 1927 Dr. and Mrs. Lovejoy came to Des Moines where he has practiced ever since except for time spent in the service.

For many years a member of the Iowa Society of Anesthesiologists, American Society of Anesthesiologists and International Anesthesia Research Society, President Iowa Society in 1948.

Served 3 years and 3 months during World War II in the U. S. Naval Reserve, mostly as Chief of Anesthesia at the U. S. Naval Hospital at Mare Island, California and Base Hospital 15 in the South Pacific. Retired in 1962 as a captain in the medical corps of the Naval reserve.

Served as medical examiner in the Des Moines Public



Lovejoy

Construction - 1972

Principal: Mary Hines 1972

Schools from 1928 to 1964. Since 1964 has been director of Health Services, Des Moines Independent Community School District.

Dr. Lovejoy was on the staff of Iowa Lutheran, Iowa Methodist, Mercy and Broadlawns Hospitals. He formed the first group of M.D. anesthesiologist in Des Moines and was a Past President of the Society of Anesthesiologists of Iowa. He was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Des Moines Health Center.

As a school physician he received great satisfaction from examining and counseling school children. Dr. Lovejoy was an independent person who believed that doctors should give their best in the care of the sick and needy.



Lucas

Dates of construction --
1916, 1953, 1962

Principals who served this building are--
1907 - 1930 Sara Davis
1930 - 1933 Isabell Marshall
1933 - 1934 Edwin Miner
1934 - 1937 Robert Simpkins
1937 - 1947 Nelle Cunningham
1947 - 1952 Kathryn Blanchard
1952 - 1964 Mildred Shay
1964 - 1966 Carl Fehrle
1966 - 1970 Cecil Leonard
1970 - 1971 James Mitchell
1971 - 1974 Ruth Collins
1974 - Keith Banwart

LUCAS SCHOOL Grades K-6
1953 East 16th and Capitol
Site-5.2 acres

The original building was constructed in 1874 at East 16th and Capitol. It was of brick veneer and had a total of six rooms. The original site consisted of Lots 15, 16, 17, 18; Block 44 of Stewart's addition. The original building was destroyed by fire. The three-story part of the present structure was built in 1916. The school grounds were considerably expanded in 1952 and again in the early 1960's with the removal of all houses west of the school and in back of the building.

In 1880 the East Des Moines Board of Education decided that the name East 16th Street School was not adequate. Therefore they gave it the name of Lucas-in honor of Robert Lucas, the first governor of the Territory of Iowa. Governor Lucas made provision for public schools and their maintenance. He stood for good government, prohibition and high moral standards. In 1901 Lucas had grown to a building of eight rooms with an enrollment of 466 children.

The 1953 addition updated Lucas facilities a great deal. The 1962 wing added four classrooms, a combination gym-cafeteria and a serving kitchen. About half a square block of homes was demolished to double the school grounds.

In the mid-1970s Lucas School is faced with the declining enrollment situation which is typical of many school units. It maintains an undepartmentalized program

in grades K-3 and a six-unit Plan A for grades 4,5,6. For special programs it maintains Head Start, Title I Reading, Title I Math. It also has a special education resource room and a learning disabilities class. For after school hours, there is participation in the community cultural recreational program of the CDA-Community Development Agency.

Going into the mid-1970's, Lucas School has been faced with a more mobile pupil population and a reduction in enrollment over previous years. This trend has been typical of other school units. The enrollment at Lucas has fluctuated between 268 and 310 pupils (excluding Head Start) during 1974.

In addition to Head Start, other programs operating at Lucas are Title I Math, Title I Reading, special education resource room and a learning disabilities class.

In 1975, Lucas will be receiving a Kindergarten Speech Class and two self-contained special education classes.

As an alternative to the defunct Lucas P.T.A., parents have organized a Parent Community Council.

MADISON SCHOOL Grades K-6
East 5th and Madison
Site-6.0 acres

Prior to World War II, there were few homes north of Douglas Avenue and the present site of the school was once used for grazing cattle, and later as the Kiwanis Ball Park.

The need for an elementary school in this area was first realized in 1926 when the site was purchased from a well known farmer, Mr. Hoffman. However, the actual construction of the school did not take place until after World War II. The school opened on November 17, 1952 with five teachers and 82 pupils. As more and more families moved into the new area, a later addition was added in 1957 to include 22 rooms.

Madison School appears to have been named because of its close proximity to Madison Avenue. In researching the files and documents of the City Library and the City Street Department, some interesting facts come into view. The Avenue first appears on the City Ledger in 1893. This would tend to indicate the Avenue was probably named after the 4th President of the United States, James. Madison. However, the resource department of the City Library indicates that during the 1920's a prominent educator and promotor of Des Moines by the name of Charles Madison was also active during the time period that the school site was purchased.



Madison

Dates of construction
1952 One-third
1957 Two-thirds

Principals of this building have been-
1951 - 1953 Maurice Lewis
1953 - 1963 Lorene Lightfoot
1963 - 1972 Kathryn Christian
1972 - Larry C. Martindale

Madison was one of the first schools in Des Moines and the State of Iowa to offer programs for the visually impaired, academically talented, mentally disabled, and children with learning disabilities in addition to the regular school program.

During the mid 1970's declining enrollment provided classroom space for the Art Workshop K-12, Homebound Instruction Program K-12, and a Child Study Center. Presently, the primary unit offers a semi-departmentalized program which emphasizes shared teaching responsibilities between grade levels, while the upper unit offers a more departmentalized program in which teachers teach in only one or two academic areas. The upper unit program is called the "MEMPHASS 4-5-6 PLAN" and was selected by both the staff and students. Three additional classrooms offer programs for the mentally disabled (primary and intermediate), and for children with learning disabilities.

Of special interest to both parents and students are the more than 15 different club activities which are sponsored by the Madison Staff and interested parents. The main emphasis of these club activities is to promote self awareness, citizenship, sportsmanship, courtesy, school pride, and as an extension enrichment of the regular school program.

Madison has also been involved in a number of innovative programs during the past few years. In 1971 Madison was one of 250 schools across the United States to participate in a special testing project/evaluation with the Educational Testing Service determining whether or not schools with comprehensive reading programs were better or worse than schools without such programs. At Madison, students receive reading instruction commensurate with their ability and performance. Madison was also one of four Des Moines Elementary Schools to run a pilot project with the Westinghouse Learning Cooperation regarding School Criterion Objective Referenced Evaluation (SCORE) in the academic areas of Social Studies and Science. Madison School has also been a receiving school for students from several inner-city schools who have volunteered to participate in the school districts' Voluntary Transfer Program which originated in 1968. In 1972, the school district adopted another innovative program referred to as the Career Education Program and Madison was one of seven other schools to help launch this special project that was to sweep across the entire district during the next few years. In 1973, Madison School received a National Certificate of Commendation from the American National Red Cross for planning and initiating an innovative Red Cross Good Neighbor Day. In 1974, Madison School was the first elementary school in Des Moines to launch a special two day and one night out-of-town Outdoor Education Project for sixth graders. During this same year, Madison students adopted the Lion as their school emblem with the motto Strength, Courage, and Wisdom. Another student composed a school song and this was adopted by the school staff and student body also.

Of special interest is the fact that Madison and Cattell Elementary Schools are located in the largest Scandinavian and Norwegian community within the city. Our communities are very proud of their schools and take an active interest in the education of their children.

MANN SCHOOL Grades K-6
S.W. 9th and Amos
Site-5.4 acres

Horace Mann Elementary School opened its doors to its first “pupil customers” at the beginning of the second semester of school in 1962. The enrollment totaled 361, in grades kindergarten through grade five. They were pupils who were transferred from Maple Grove and Watrous schools.

Horace Mann School is a beautiful school located at Southwest Ninth and Amos streets in South Des Moines. Its boundary line on the north was Burnham Street until the Maple Grove Building at S.W. 9th and Army Post was closed in September, 1972, when the north boundary was extended to Army Post. Students in that area now attend Mann. It extends to the Warren County Line on the south. Southwest Ninth Street forms its east boundary. Southwest Fourteenth is its west boundary.

The selection of the site for the school was a difficult one. Because of the flight approach pattern to the Des Moines Municipal Airport, great care had to be used to meet the necessary government safety regulation. Although the school site is only five and one fourth acres in size, it proved to be quite costly because it was necessary to remove twelve residences. The over all purchase price was \$117,050.00

Wetherell, Harrison and Wagner were the architects selected to design the school building, which has several unique factors. It is a two story brick building with an expansive use of glass windows. It contains two kindergartens which open into a partially covered court yard.

This patio, or court yard, may be used for a play area or dramatic activities. It is equipped with flood lights and sound system.

Each class room on the first floor has its own outside entrance as well as toilet facilities. Most of the classrooms have folding partitions between two rooms for large class use which is desirable in a multi-unit school.

On the top floor, the class rooms are located in the center, with the hall corridors on the exterior of the north and south sides of the building.

The east entrance of the building is finished completely as a glass enclosed stairwell. Future plans call for an addition of six rooms, three upper and three lower, to be attached to



Mann

Dates of construction-1962

this east entrance.

The entire school contains thirteen class rooms, art room, central library, media center, service kitchen and a gym, which serves as the lunch room and multi purpose room. It includes office and nurse's space as well as teachers' lounge and work rooms, a speech therapist office and two music practice rooms.

Construction of the building was done by W. H. Breiholz Company at a total cost of \$489,994.00.

The parents, teachers, and children take great pride in the fact that the school bears the name of Horace Mann, who is known as the "Father of the American Public School". It was he who pioneered the concept that education should be universal, non-sectarian and free. Through his influence, the first teacher training normal school was established 1839. He was an ardent champion of free speech, labor and women's rights. He often defended negroes in the courts. He enthusiastically believed that education was the basis for democracy and said "The common school is the greatest discovery ever made by man".

Peter J. Cunningham was assigned as the first principal at Horace Mann School in January, 1962. Vi Coldren was assigned as principal in September 1962, and continued until her retirement in June, 1971. Lyla M. Lynch was assigned as principal July 1, 1971 and is continuing at the present time.

Horace Mann officially became an IGE ungraded multi-unit School in 1972. Individualized instruction is offered to all students in the areas of Math, Reading, Spelling and writing. At present planning for individualization in the areas of Language instruction and communication skills.

Horace Mann was one of the pilot schools in Elementary Career Education in 1973. The fifteen Career Education clusters are presented on a rotating basis in order to build awareness at both primary and intermediate levels. We work closely with the McCombs Jr. High in Career Education to the mutual advantage of students in both schools.

Criterion Referenced Testing (SCORE) was piloted in Social Studies in 1973-74. Score was also piloted in Science processes in 1974-75.

The school offers students special help in Speech and Learning Disabilities.

Parents form a strong volunteer force and participate actively in the activities of the school.

McKEE SCHOOL Grades K-5
East 38th and Easton Blvd.
Site-5.0 acres

Late in the summer of 1928 one of -the famous Camp Dodge housing units was moved to the present McKee School grounds. It was christened "Four Mile School" probably out of deference to the infamous creek of that name that is nearby.

In May, 1931, the Board of Education renamed the structure, in honor of the late Edwin T. Meredith. The formal dedication took place on Arbor Day, 1932, with Mrs. Meredith present.

On March 30, 1948, bids were taken for a new nine-room school with gymnasium and auditorium. The building cost was more than \$591,000 and was to house 300 children.

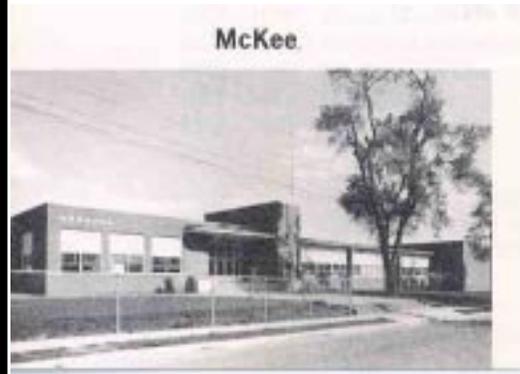
The name of Meredith School was changed to Margaret McKee School in 1959. Miss McKee was a former physical education director of the Des Moines Public Schools.

The Meredith name was transferred to a new junior High School at West 47th and Madison. The Meredith family had given about 50 acres of land that would ultimately house not only Meredith junior High School but also Hoover Senior High. It is estimated that the land value of this gift was in the neighborhood of \$300,000.

In 1960 eight additional classrooms were added to the south end of McKee School.

With the opening of Hoyt Middle School in September, 1972, the sixth grade of both McKee and Douglas School was transferred to the new structure. At this point, McKee then became an elementary school, K-5. It also has two rooms for the educable mentally retarded pupils. There is very heavy participation in the community cultural recreation program for this area. Extensive night school classes are operated in the building with a great deal of participation. Since Four Mile Community Center opened we have no night classes--only after school classes for children.

A class for the Hearing Impaired is being added in September of 1975.

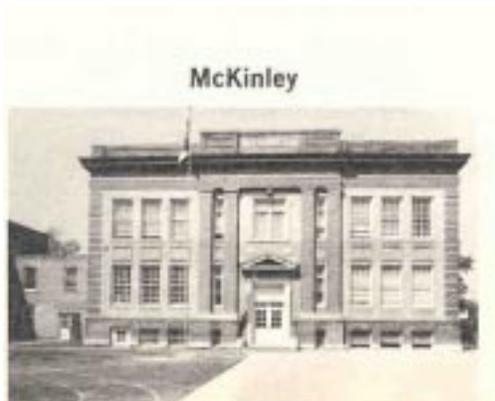


Dates of construction

- 1928 Wooden annex moved to site
- 1949 1st unit of new building
- 1960 eight classroom addition

Principals at McKee were-

- 1928-1937 W. Lee Jordan
- 1937-1939 Edna L.E. Peterson
- 1939-1943 Ruth Pritchard
- 1943-1945 Almeda Nelson
- 1945-1952 Edith Patterson
- 1952-1957 Kenneth Smith
- 1957-1958 Lorraine Kimball Reed
- 1958-1964 James Wise
- 1964-1965 Marjorie Schwien
- 1965-1972 James Daugherty
- 1972-1974 Lydia Rogers
- 1974 Ruth Collins



McKINLEY SCHOOL Grades K-6
1916 S.E. 6th
Site-1.6 acres

Pupils in the McKinley attendance area attended Washington School until the present building was built in 1904. McKinley School and Greenwood School was built in the early 1900's according to the school philosophy of their day. The reasoning was a grammar school has 8 grades and so it has 8 rooms. A building was designed with grades 1-4 on the first floor and has 5-8 on the second floor. Kindergarten was usually housed in a separate structure. The board of education honored the memory of William McKinley, 25th President of the United States, by naming the building for him,

The addition in 1927 included the gym, auditorium and office spaces. McKinley School was named for William McKinley, the twenty-fifth president of the United States.

In the mid-1970s McKinley School is facing declining enrollment as many other Des Moines schools. It maintains a K-6 undepartmentalized classroom program for the approximately 240 students who are there. It has Title I Reading, Title I Math, as well as the Career Opportunity project. The family learning center has received a great deal of nationwide publicity and draws a number of parents to the school. There is also a great deal of adult participation in the community cultural recreational program of the CDA.

Dates of construction

1904 Two-thirds

1927 One-third

Principals who have administered
McKinley are:

1907-1912 Laura Matthews

1912-1938 Alice Bradshaw

1939-1946 Edna Peterson

1946-1952 Florence Weisbrod

1952-1955 Kenneth Rankin

1955-1957 Lorraine Reed

1957-1963 Nelle Cunningham

1963-1965 Patience Guthrie

1965-1966 Kenneth Rankin

1967-1972 Snowden Moon

1972- Patrick Moran

MITCHELL SCHOOL Grades K-6
Porter & South Union
Site-8.2 acres

J. O. Mitchell School was designed by the architects, Dougher, Frevert, and Ramsey. Construction was completed in 1958 at an approximate cost of \$445,000. The building contains 14 classrooms and a combination cafeteria and gym. Approximately 400 children, the books, furniture, and all school equipment were moved from Army Post School to Mitchell School October 15, 1958.

Flag raising ceremonies at the newly completed Mitchell School were held at 8 o'clock on the opening day, Mon-

day, October 18., 1958. Members of Fort Des Moines American Legion Post 669 presented the flag to the new school faculty. Mrs. Walter Hiatt, in memory of her brother, Carl Pack, made the presentation to Lydia Rogers, school principal. Commander R. H. Flowers and Walter Hiatt raised the flag for the first time.

Mr. William Findley, retired Assistant Superintendent of Schools, was partially responsible for the school being named J. O. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell was a teacher and had served as principal of several schools located in this area, Maple Grove, Park Avenue and Fort Des Moines. He was a large man in stature, strict disciplinarian, but very kindly. Former pupils relate stories to verify this fact one of his favorite forms of punishment was to have the offender “walk the beat” on the playground.

A picture of J. O. Mitchell was presented to the school at a Dad’s night P.T.A. meeting February 10, 1959. Jay A. Mitchell, Des Moines attorney and son of J. O. Mitchell made the presentation on behalf of his family. School Board member L. L. Daubert accepted the picture in behalf of the board.

In the mid-1970s Mitchell enrollments were relieved with the opening of the new Lovejoy School to the eastern edge of the attendance area. Both Mitchell and the Ft. Des Moines primary unit are operated as a single attendance center under the jurisdiction of one principal. It also utilizes an organizational plan somewhat similar to IGE.

Mitchell has a K-3 non-graded language arts program with a six-unit plan A for grades 4, 5, and 6. It also utilizes an organizational plan somewhat similar to I.G.E. A centrally located Instructional Media Center has been developed through the joint efforts of the student council, parents and faculty. The center boasts an extensive collection of audio-materials (tapes and records) and contains 34 study carrels built by a committee of parents. Community Education classes are offered for children and parents before and after regular school hours. Some of the courses offered during the past school year were: guitar lessons, cake decorating, slimnastics, bicycle safety, wrestling and bowling. Other programs included in the curriculum are: Volunteer program, Title I Reading and Mathematics, Specific Learning Disabilities, Speech Therapy, Kindergarten Waupon Project, Individualized Mathematics Program Grades 4-6, Wisconsin Design Study Skills, Career Education, Student Tutors.

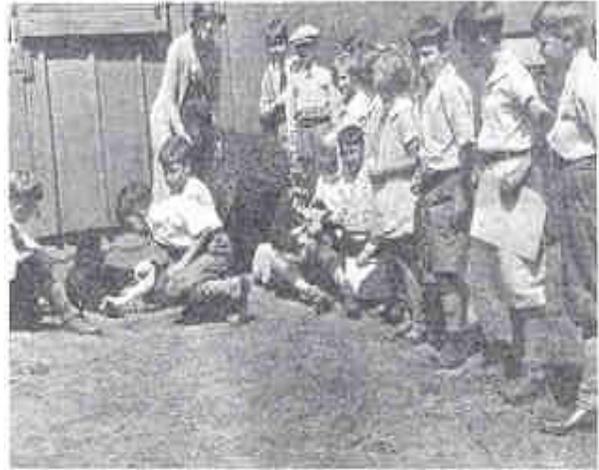


Dates of construction -- 1958

Principals who have served at Mitchell are:

1958-1966 Lydia Rogers
1966- Lawrence Hardy

Elementary School Activities -- 1930's



MONROE SCHOOL Grades K-6
30th and Hickman
Site-5 acres

Just after the turn of the century, Monroe School began as a little one- room brick school on one acre of ground known as Pleasant Hill and located at 2313 30th Street, on the northeast corner of 30th and Hickman Road. It was long ago converted into a residence. About 1905 the city closed the school and traded that piece of ground for a little larger acreage where the school now stands.

For about the next fourteen years, some of the children in this area made the long, hard trek to Kirkwood School.

Other youngsters trudged through different fields and woods to Byron Rice School.

At last, a few determined mothers met the school board with such powerful persuasion that in the fall of 1918, a temporary building was erected where the auditorium now stands, housing two teachers in two rooms with an enrollment of 61. The same year the Mothers' Club was organized with Mrs. J. H. Gooch, now deceased, as president. By the end of the year there were 20 members.

The new school was named after James Monroe, fifth president of the United States. He was a quiet, ordinary man, not brilliant, but he had proved himself dependable and honest. At twenty-five he was the youngest member of the Constitutional Congress, but he was fifty-nine before becoming president. James Monroe was well-liked, and his picture now hangs in the foyer of Monroe Elementary.

With an enrollment of 87 in 1923, a brand new 4-room building (including our present kindergarten room with the bay window) was erected. The 2-room "Old Shack" temporary building was still in use when, by 1940, enrollment "soared" to 183. Two more rooms were added, and in 1944 the "Old Shack" was connected to the main building.

By 1950, the new addition to the main building of nine classrooms, an auditorium, and gymnasium was completed. At that time, the school board bought enough additional ground for our present five acres. Still another addition of 10 classrooms was built in 1959, and the Old Shack finally put to rest. That year, the sixth graders went to Franklin while the building was in progress.

In 1975, James Monroe Elementary School has an enrollment of nearly 500 students. The P.T.A. is strong, and a Home-School Community Advisory Council is now active in helping provide for the best educational program for students.

The educational structure at Monroe is self-contained for grades K-4 and departmentalized (Des Moines Plan A) in grades 5 and 6. Monroe is an EEO receiving school and uses community volunteers in the educational program. The Wisconsin Design for Study Skills is used at Monroe in grades 3-6.

Some additional developments at James Monroe Elementary School are the use of the school as a Community Education center for students and adults, and the use of a school Child-Study-Team for student help (academic and social) at the school level. In addition, a Monroe student council has been activated.



Dates of construction

-1924 1950 1959

Principals who have served Monroe are:

1918 - 1922 W. Lee Jordan
1922 - 1923 Laura Moulton
1923 - 1926 Herman Eickelberg
1926 - 1927 Jeannette Mills
1927 - 1930 Georgia Quigley
1930 - 1936 Blanche V. Toohey
1936 - 1937 James Burr
1937 - 1946 Mae Heathershaw
1946 - 1955 James Daugherty
1955 - 1956 Paul Pace
1956 - 1960 James Daugherty
1960 - 1964 Charles Mindling
1964 - 1966 Charles Pedersen
1966 - 1973 Loretta Patrick
1973 - Stephen Lipovac

MOORE SCHOOL Grade K-6
52nd and Douglas
Site-7.1 acres



Moore

Dates of construction:
-1959

Principals who have served at Moore
School are:

- 1950 - 1952 Frances Meneough
- 1952 - 1954 James Daugherty
- 1954 - 1963 Almeda Nelson
- 1963 - 1972 John A. Waldo
- 1972 - 1974 Gary Sheldon
- 1974 - Tom Stokes

The first wing of the school was called Fair Meadows, but the name was changed later to honor Dr. Fred B. Moore, the first Head of the Des Moines Schools Health Department.

The first official mention of an elementary school to be built at 52nd and Douglas appears in the Board minutes of July 15, 1924, at which time the real estate agent was authorized to secure prices on elementary school sites for northwest Des Moines.

In 1944 the Board of Education developed a building program consisting of 21 projects including a proposal to build at this site, "the first four rooms of an elementary school." The building program was presented to the voters in March, 1945, and bonds for the project were approved.

Because of the difficulty of securing building materials in the immediate post-war era and because of the pressure of crowded conditions at other locations, preparations of plans for this building were not started until April, 1949. The contract was let in September, 1949, and the building occupied in September, 1950.

Additions in 1954 and 1959 have made this one of the most modern elementary schools in the midwest. The front wing on the north was built in 1954 and the east wing was added in 1959.

In the mid-1970s this continues to be one of the larger schools with undepartmentalized classes for grades K-4 and a six-unit program for grades 5-6. It also has classes for children with impaired hearing and is a receiving school in the EEO voluntary transfer program. Moore has activities in adult education and classes going on in the after-school hours.

Beginning in 1973, the sixth grade classes became actively involved in photography through a grant from the Iowa Council of Fine Arts. The students have become proficient in still and motion pictures, development, animation, and script writing.

Parent involvement is emphasized with parents involved in classroom activities and after school enrichment clubs.

An outside classroom has been constructed with various trees and shrubs. The classroom is utilized by all grades for different learning experiences.

Pre-school classes have been offered during the regular school year and the summer months.

MOULTON SCHOOL Grades K-6
7th and College
Site-3.0 acres

In the early 1960's Crocker School building was sold to the highway commission as it was in the direct path of the new Des Moines freeway. It was located between Sixth Avenue and Seventh Street, just north of School Street.

The Des Moines school board proposed remodeling of the old North High school, then vacant, to be used as a replacement for Crocker School that would be demolished. After approval in a successful school bond issue, renovation began on the building located between Seventh and Eighth Streets on College Avenue. The replacement building was then named Moulton Elementary school by the board.

Crocker enrollment dropped to a low of approximately three hundred pupils at the time of closing in June, 1962. In previous years it was not unusual for six hundred or more pupils to be enrolled there. The decline was gradual over a period of four years after the beginning of the River Hills Urban Renewal project and Freeway work began. The Urban Renewal project cleared all homes in the area east of Sixth Avenue and south of University Avenue which was a large portion of the Crocker School district. The freeway work cleared many homes and apartment buildings west of Sixth Avenue.

In the last weeks that Crocker was in operation many prominent Des Moines citizens visited the building to view what they felt was one of the historical monuments to the city. Crocker was one of the oldest public buildings in Des Moines, having been built in 1874. Most visitors were former students and had sentimental feelings about the building. Some requested and were permitted to purchase small objects as remembrances.

An open house was sponsored by the PTA and held at 8 P.M. on May 9, 1962 to give all people who wished an opportunity to visit the building for the last time. A short program was held in the gym to honor all past P.T.A. presidents in attendance and Mrs. Winifred Nidiver. Mrs. Nidiver had been a teacher forty-two years at Crocker and was retiring.

Crocker was demolished during the summer of 1962 by burning. It was used by a state agency for filming a fire training film.

Moulton Elementary school opened September 1962.



Dates of construction

-1914 1915 1930 1962
(remodeled)

Principals who have served Moulton
School are:

1962 - 1969 Peter Cunningham
1969 - 1971 Cecil Leonard
1971 - 1975 James Mitchell
1975 - Gary Sheldon

One part of the building, the original section on the west, had been demolished because of age. Other sections built at much later dates were remodeled into classrooms. There were 15 classrooms and one kindergarten. The kindergarten room is quite an attraction due to its size, draperies, lighting and latest equipment. Other facilities include large offices, cafeteria, library, auditorium, gym and locker rooms.

The brass door handles from the front doors of the original building that was demolished were installed on the College Avenue doors of the present building. The name of the school, Moulton, was in honor of Emma Case Moulton, a retired teacher who taught a number of years in the building when it was North High.

The school cafeteria began operation in October, 1962, as a satellite of the Merrill Junior High kitchen. A truck arrives at the building bringing lunches at 11:30 daily. Food is transported in steam tables and refrigerated carts.

Enrollment in 1962 was less than four hundred but had increased to five hundred seventy in June, 1965, three school years later. This was due to boundary changes and the mobility of the population in the Moulton district. As an example of the mobility, 379 new pupils enrolled during 1964-1965 school year and 249 transferred out.

Due to the rapid increase in enrollment it was necessary in the summer of 1964 to remodel two sections of the building for additional classroom space. Two teacher positions were added for rooms 10 and 11. This made a total of 18 teachers on the staff in 1964-1965.

Because enrollment was still rising, remodeling of the former high school swimming pool space into two classrooms was done in 1965.

In 1966 the locker area was remodeled to add two more classrooms and a remedial reading clinic.

During the 1970-71 school year a general reorganization of Moulton school took place. This reorganization was made possible by a grant from the Model City Project which was a community action program. Teachers, community people, parents, and central office staff planned and implemented the Continuous Development Project. The main features of this program were, individualized approach to instruction, no fail concept, much parent input, staff reorganization utilizing the team approach, and the non-graded approach to student assignment to levels.

Much media material and equipment was purchased with monies from the Model City grant.

In an effort to make Moulton school a "community based school" many evening activities were provided to adults as well as children. This program was known as "the Expanded use of School Facilities Program", it later became the Community Culture and Recreational Activities Program.

In 1972 a Learning Center was added to the program which provided an alternative educational program for those students who could not function in a regular classroom environment. During this same year a Early Learning Center was developed for 3 year old children. The Early Learning Center was funded by Title I funds.

Sabin school, two blocks east of Moulton was closed in the Spring of 1974 and merged with Moulton. This merger was necessary due to low enrollments in each school. The combined enrollments made Moulton a school of 586 children which includes the children of the pre-school programs. The staff at Moulton numbered 64 1/2.

During the 1974-75 school year a new grant was awarded to Moulton from the Office of Child Development. Moulton was one of fourteen schools in the nation to receive this grant. The main emphasis of this grant was to merge the Head Start program with the Public Schools. The project was called Developmental Continuity and will be implemented in the Fall of 1975. Success with this project will enable Moulton to be a demonstration project site for the Office of Child Development.

OAK PARK SCHOOL Grades K-6
6th and Madison
Site-3.0 acres

Oak Park School was named, as was the park of the same name, because of the many oak trees in that area.

The school was founded in 1891 as an independent school district to serve the Highland and Oak Park areas, extending northward from what is now Ovid Avenue. The original building consisted of four rooms. In 1893 a high school was started on the third floor. In the general consolidation of 1907 Oak Park joined the Des Moines Independent School District and sent its high school pupils to North High. It continued as an eighth grade school until the opening of Warren Harding Junior High. From that time it has been a six grade plus kindergarten school.

In the 1930's extensive remodeling was done and the big domed belfry and third floor sections were torn cut.

Our enrollment has held steadily through the years with the peak for 75-76 coming in April with 523 students reported.

In 1970, the staff initiated a program of Individually Guided Education, one of the first in Des Moines, and in Iowa! Along with the staff of Sabin School, this school pioneered in what is popularly known today as IGE. The program continues to be supported by the staff and by the community, a tribute to the timeliness and adaptability of the school to current educational trends and needs.

In the spring of 1974, the school received a blow when it was discovered that a section of the brick wall was weakening from age and from the weight of decorative stone around the top of the building. That portion of the building was evacuated immediately and two sides of the brick exterior were hurriedly removed.

Despite all this and while awaiting the determination of its future, the structure has continued to serve as one of the largest attendance centers in North Des Moines. Former students and staff members attend the traditional reunions in large numbers, the most recent of which was held this past May.

Time has run out on the old school full of memories for so many, and on the community which has so loyally preserved it.



Dates of construction
-1891 Three-eighths
1900 One-eighth
1925 Three-eighths
1954 One-eighth

Principals who have been at Oak Park Are:

1907 - 1920 Bertha Smith
1920 - 1933 Adelaide Laird
1933 - 1949 Olney Weaver
1949 - 1953 Maurice Lewis
1953 - 1968 Herbert Levenick
1968 - Joan Sherman

PARK AVENUE SCHOOL Grades K-6
S.W. 9th and Park Ave.
Site 5.8 acres



Park Avenue

Dates of construction

- 1885 One-third
- 1914 One-third
- 1950 One-third

Principals serving Park Avenue are:

- 1907 - 1912 Anna Wertz
- 1912 - 1913 Laura Matthews
- 1913 - 1918 W. Lee Jordan
- 1918 - 1919 C. E. Nickle
- 1919 - 1941 J. O. Mitchell
- 1941 - 1957 Ferne Thorne
- 1957 - 1966 C. L. Pease
- 1974 - Howard Hart

The first school in the Park Avenue district was on Ninth and Broad and was called Belle School, after Samuel Belle, the first teacher. One source of information states that this school was built in 1868. It was a long brick schoolhouse and was used for the upper grades. A small wooden house was used for the kindergarten.

In 1890 the kindergarten part was moved to Ninth and Pleasant View Drive and became the home of Mr. Marsh. The old brick building was used for many years as a boarding house kept by Mr. and Mrs. Cotton.

It was also in 1890 that the east part of what was called the South Building was built on Ninth and Park Avenue, on land formerly owned by the Baag family. According to information gathered by the students in 1944, this school had two rooms. One room had about sixty pupils and two teachers; the other room had forty pupils and one teacher.

In 1905 or 1906, the west part was built on, referred to as the South or "old" building. It was not difficult to tell that this building was constructed in two pieces.

In 1909 Park Avenue was taken into the Des Moines Public School System and the district purchased the farm home of the Baag family. This home had been constructed during the Civil War and was used for many years for the kindergarten and some of the first graders. It stood where the auditorium now stands. In 1914 the old section of the New Building was built and the Wycoff house and the Ryan house were bought and moved off in order to enlarge the playground.

Four trees were planted in front of the school as tributes to the memory of Harry Chambers, Frank Ore, and George and Lester Hartman, who died serving in France in World War 1. Two of these markers can still be seen in front of the school, although only one tree remains.

In 1919 Mr. Mitchell became the school principal. The school at this time continued to have grades kindergarten through eighth. In 1923 Lincoln High School was built and the seventh and eighth grades were transferred to Lincoln as well as some of the teachers. Mr. Mitchell continued as principal at Park Avenue until 1939; he was also principal at Ft. Des Moines and Maple Grove. Park Avenue had its first full-time principal in 1949 when Miss Ferne Thorne was assigned.

Through the years, homes were purchased and the playgrounds gradually became what they are today. Students who attended Park Avenue in the 1930's and 1940's recall that the lower playground was a ravine and that ashes from the stokers, tin cans, etc., were thrown there. Leo Dagle (1932-38) recalls that punishment meted out to offenders at that time was to "walk the beat" - this meant marching the prescribed number of laps along the fence line that bordered the dump. Shirley Hall Pascuzzi (1937-42) also remembers the dump, however, Sally Hall Fisher (1942-49) does not, so perhaps we can conclude that sometime in the later '40's the ravine was filled and the playgrounds were finished as we now know them.

Construction for the new addition began in 1948 and at this time the old Baag house (called the North Building) was torn down. It was 83-85 years old and the teachers remember that it had an unfinished dirt-floored basement with a stream of water running through it called "the moat." New teachers were initiated by taking them on a sight-seeing tour through "the moat."

In 1890 the kindergarten part was moved to Ninth and Pleasant View Drive and became the home of Mr. Marsh. The old brick building was used for many years as a boarding house kept by Mr. and Mrs. Cotton.

During the period of construction of the new addition (1948-50) some classes were held in the basement of the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church and at Jefferson School. On March 23, 1950, the public was invited to tour the new facilities and to see "the very latest in school room equipment; an intercommunication system; a special alarm system; soundproof music practice rooms; gymnasium; auditorium, which will seat 450 children or 350 adults; and a new heating plant equipped with an automatic stoker.

One item of particular note is the distinctive animal motifs used to decorate panels at the kindergarten entrance. These are the result of a project in Miss Spizz's art classes and pupils whose designs adorn this entrance are John Bellizzi, Suzanne James, Sherry Pennington, Leslie Rump, LaMar Myers and Karen Nash.

In 1957, Mr. C. I. Pease, after serving eighteen years as principal at Brooks School, was assigned to Park Avenue.

In 1968, the School Bond issue before the city voters included an addition for Park Avenue which provided ten classrooms (open space), a new media center, and an addition to the cafeteria. The old building was torn down.

Beginning in the year of 1972, the primary grades have been taught in the open space classroom areas while the upper grades have received their instruction in the traditional classrooms. However, the organizational pattern for all of the pupils has been based on the IGE (Individually Guided Education) concept. Pupils are grouped and taught within units instead of within grades by teams of teachers. Park Avenue pupils are divided into three units.

In the fall of 1974, a learning disabilities class, on a half-day basis, was started. In the fall of 1975, this class will be expanded to serve more children and will be all day. Two additional classes will be placed at Park Avenue to serve children from the Southside who have learning problems.

A primary Educable Mentally Retarded class will also be located at Park Avenue beginning in 1975-76 school year. Children from the South side will attend this center.

PERKINS SCHOOL Grades K-6
43rd and College
Site-10 acres

The school was named in memory of David G. Perkins, former superintendent of the West Des Moines Schools in 1870. Mr. Perkins died in 1907. He was best known for introducing calisthenics into the Des Moines Schools. Mr. Perkins served as secretary to the Board of Education and later as Polk County Superintendent of Schools. He was commissioner of the Iowa Educational Exhibit at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia on 1876.

In 1919, Perkins P.T.A. had \$14.00 in its treasury. There was a demonstration of a new victrola on the market, and a dinner was held for all Perkins families to raise \$85.00 for the first payment on the new school victrola. Later \$35.00 was raised to complete the payments! The agenda for one of the P.T.A. meetings included such stimulating subjects as "How to know your son's pals", "When should father tell his son the Life Story?", "Should the fighting spirit be encouraged?", and "is the workbench in the basement worth the money?". The Perkins P.T.A. paid for part of the first scales used by the school nurse to weigh the children. Amos Hiatt Junior High and Park Avenue School had been built and the problems arising in their schools were discussed at our meetings. In 1920 Perkins school asked that College Avenue be paved.

In 1925 the first pre-school mother group was formed and became most active. Sidewalks on College Avenue from 44th to 41st street were paved and also on 44th to Hickman. The P.T.A. bought the first musical instruments for the school; a drum, triangle and cymbal. In September of 1927 they had to close the school because of extremely hot weather. The first immunization of our children was started in 1928, a program condemning the "jazz age" and its effects on our youth was given at a P.T.A. program, eight stall bars for the gym were installed and three victrolas were purchased for the school.

Perkins teachers and children contributed 100% to the Red Cross in 1941 and were recommended highly to see the movie "Smilin' Thru" with Jeannette McDonald and Gene Raymond. The P.T.A. still met in the community room, held nutrition classes at night, and donated cookies each month to the U.S.O. During World War II in 1943-44. Perkins had 485 pupils and 14 teachers. War Bond sales were urged, workers rolled bandages for the Red



Dates of construction

- 1918 One-fourth
- 1920 One-fourth
- 1926 One-fourth .
- 1952 One-fourth
- 1975 Cafetorium

Principals who served Perkins School are:

- 1918 - 1923 W..Lee Jordan
- 1923 - 1930 Mr. H. D. Eickelburg
- 1930 - 1943 Georgia Quigley
- 1943 - 1960 Erma Anderson
- 1960 - 1963 Kathryn Christian
- 1963 - Paul Pace

Cross, coat hangers and old papers and magazines were collected and sold--53,325 pounds were collected during the year and Perkins led the city in this drive. The sum of \$275.00 was received when they were sold. Perkins also led the city in the War Bond Drive, selling \$7,325 worth of war bonds.

After exhaustive efforts, traffic lights were installed at 44th and Franklin, our present pre-school mothers' group was formed and Perkins was bulging with 656 children. Petitions were signed for the new Northwest and Southtown swimming pools in 1957. A Civil Defense program was set up for the city during some crucial months of world conflict and Perkins was designated as an Air Raid shelter and properly equipped.

A record number of 720 pupils were enrolled at Perkins in 1958-59.

The Central Library was formed and the P.T.A. contributed \$500.00 to this library fund. Mrs. Kathryn Christian joined the staff as the new principal, replacing Erma Anderson who retired that year. The first television (portable) set for the school was purchased.

The Central Library was growing rapidly when 160 books were given to it in 1960-61, which brought the total up to 2,491 books. P.T.A. gave \$200.00 to buy more books that year. Also, beginning the school year 1960- 61, Perkins was chosen to be one of the first schools in the city of Des Moines to take part in an experimental program using large-class viewing of educational television. This program was limited in the beginning to Social Studies and Science in grades 4-5-6.

In the school year 1963-64 Mr. Paul Pace became principal of Perkins. A Polio Clinic was held at the school for the city in March and again in May of 1964. Through the efforts of the P.T.A. Safety committee and Mr. Pace, a pedestrian cross-light was installed at 44th and Hickman. In the fall of 1963 a before and after school gymnastic program was initiated at Perkins and was well received by the patrons. A Swedish Gym was also installed on the 6th grade playground.

In 1968 Perkins was one of a number of high achieving schools selected to be receiving schools for the "Equal Educational Opportunity" program (later to be called the "Voluntary Transfer Program"). In 1974-75, Perkins received 10 black students and sent 4 white students to Edmunds School.

In 1968, Perkins became involved in the Follow Through Program. Two classes were formed of kindergarten and 1st grade children. Half of each class was composed of disadvantaged children from Moulton and the other half was made up of volunteers from Perkins. The program was successful but lack of space prevented it from expanding and it was discontinued after 3 years.

In 1971, a library and media center was established in the annex. By 1975 the library contained slightly less than 10,000 books, plus a wide variety of A. V. materials and equipment.

In 1971, Perkins became part of a pilot program in Career Education where self-concepts are developed related to "Who Am I"? and an awareness of careers available is also developed. These are not separate programs but are integrated into the existing curriculum.

In 1973, Perkins became involved in the "Learning Disability" program and by 1975 an "L.D." resource teacher was in the building one-half day every day.

In the Fall of 1974, Martha Campney, a second grade student, was struck and injured fatally in the crosswalk at Beaver and Franklin. As a result, the city was persuaded to hire an adult crossing guard for the corner. Fellow students donated \$230.00 to a memorial fund for Martha and books were purchased and placed in the library.

On March 4, 1975, the Board of Education awarded a bid for a cafetorium to be added at Perkins. Construction began in May of 1975 and completion will be in late July, 1975. The library and media center will be moved to the old gym and the annex torn down.

In the Spring of 1975, Community Education was initiated at Perkins. Classes such as self-defense, gymnastics, painting and drawing, puppetry, weaving, etc. were offered. Our combined enrollment was 150.

Perkins has a modified eight-unit program for grades 4 - 6 with special teachers in art, music and physical education. The present enrollment is roughly 500.

In 1975 we are using Career Education as a vehicle to implement the study of Mult-Ethnic groups, the Bicentennial and Equal Rights for Women.

The foregoing pages are but a brief resume of the many events of Perkins School from its beginning.

PHILLIPS SCHOOL Grades K-6
1701 Lay Street
Site—6.7 acres

There is little information available at this writing in regard to the history of Phillips School. Judge William Phillips for whom the building was named was a lawyer, business man and prohibitionist, member of the Des Moines Coal Co., organized in 1865, original stockholder of Hotel Savery 1886, and vice president at prohibition meeting 1887 at Foster's Opera House.

Phillips school in the mid-1970s is suffering some declining enrollment. They still maintain 19 teachers and an associate. They have the six-unit program for grades 5 and 6 with the special teachers of music, art, and physical education.

On March 4, 1975, the Board of Education awarded a contract to the Lovejoy Construction Company for the addition of a physical education facility. The total cost for this addition was \$103,000.



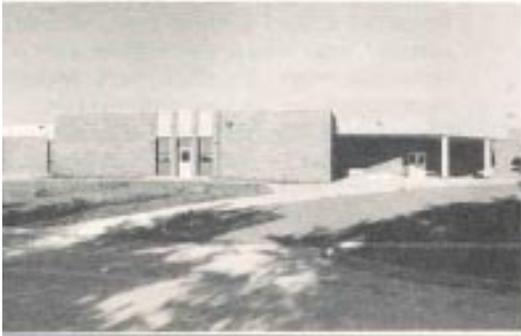
Dates of construction

1914 Two-fifths
1916 One-fifth
1925 Three-tenths
1951 One-tenth
1975—New gymnasium.

Principals who have served there are-

1909 - 1910 Miss Warren
1910 - 1914 Katherine Dent
1914 - 1918 Emma Bradley
1919 - 1920 M. J. Wilcox
1920 - 1937 J. Ella Baker
1937 - 1957 Ruth Pritchard
1957 - 1965 Kenneth E. Rouse
1965 - Richard Rose

Pleasant Hill



Principals who have served:
1972 - 1975 Kenneth Rouse
1975 - Melvin Kiner

PLEASANT HILL SCHOOL Grades K-6
4801 East Oakwood Drive 50317

The Pleasant Hill Independent School District operated the school until 1961, at this time the Southeast Polk School district was formed by a number of schools in the eastern part of Polk County. The Polk County Board of Education arbitrarily assigned the present Pleasant Hill attendance area to the Des Moines Public Schools. The Des Moines District kept the Pleasant Hill building open for one year, and then started transporting the pupils to Willard School. The school building is now the Town Hall. As the population of the Town of Pleasant Hill grew it became necessary to house some of the pupils at Longfellow School.

Once more it was time for a change. The citizens of the Des Moines Independent Community School District voted bonds again and in 1972 built a fine new fireproof building.

The Pleasant Hill School Program

This new school is an open space building, designed to accommodate 420 pupils, with thirteen teaching stations, four in each of three large open learning centers, and one room for the five-year-olds. In addition to these learning centers we have a music room, an art room, a media center and a combination gym and cafeteria.

Our building was designed by architects McKlveen and Carney. The general contractor was Vawter and Walter Inc. The cost was approximately \$660,000.

The three open learning centers provide for three Units in a Multi-Unit School organization. The 5-6-7 year olds are in Unit A, the 8-9-10's in Unit B and the 10-11-12's in Unit C. At this point in our development we include the five year olds very little in the daily routine with the older pupils in Unit A. This is mainly due to the half day sessions for five year olds (kindergarten).

The teachers in each Unit work as a teaching team. One of the team members is employed as the Team Leader and receives a small monetary remuneration for this position.

The Unit Leaders and the Principal serve as the Instructional Improvement Committee (I.I.C.) for the school. One of the main functions of this group is to coordinate the

activities of the three Units.

While there are a good many different organizational plans being used to meet the challenge of individualized learning, the concept is becoming widely accepted throughout the country. Our organization pattern is a product of the Wisconsin Research and Development Center for Cognitive Learning. We are glad to have a part in developing this concept of Individually Guided Education (I.G.E.).

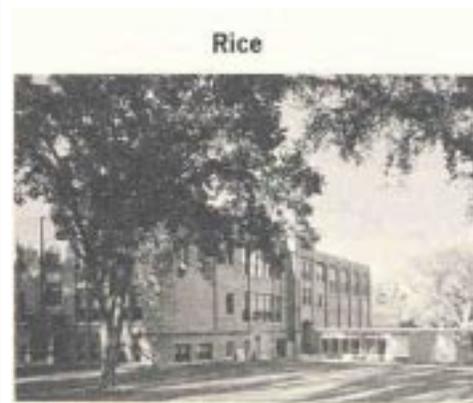
The idea of I.G.E. is well stated in the expression, "One at a time together", which suggests that "individual" does not necessarily mean "separate". We accept the philosophy of teaching by objectives with continuous assessments of progress. We believe that learning takes place best when attention is given to the particular needs, abilities and interests of the individual learner. Attention must also be given to differences in learning modes and styles.

For the third year of operation our staff was increased by three teaching positions; an additional half time kindergarten, a half time music, a full time teacher for Unit A and a physical education teacher.

Pleasant Hill School is one of the exceptions in this period of declining enrollment. The city of Pleasant Hill is a rapidly growing residential community. We will reach our rated capacity during the school year of 1975- 76. This will present a new challenge to our school which was created to meet challenge.

RICE SCHOOL Grades K-6
Beaver and Adams
Site—4.7 acres

The building was named Byron Rice in honor of the first appointed teacher and superintendent of the first organized school district in old Ft. Des Moines in 1849. The following year the school had 92 pupils. The P.T.A. was organized in October 18, 1910. Having no public utilities they carried parlor lamps and lanterns to the meetings. They bought equipment for the school including a gramophone and the paintings of Washington and Lincoln. The school became a social center and in addition to programs ,with speakers on intellectual topics, parties such as "box socials" were also held. A description of one social is to be found in the Minutes of April 7, 1911 as follows: "The boxes containing delicate and delicious refreshments were sold and done justice to by all who indulged. The meeting was one of the best of the year in



Dates of construction
-1916 1925 1958

Principals who have served at Rice School are:

1910 - 1921 Anna Hartingan
1921 - 1923 Laura Moulton
1923 - 1930 Herman Eickelberg
1930 - 1941 Georgia Quigley
1941 - 1942 George W-. Hohl
1942 - 1945 Gerald W. Cron
1945 - 1957 Frances Meneough
1957 - 1968 N. Ferne Thorne
1968 - 1972 Patience Guthrie
1972- Mildred Kaisand

which hearty good fellowship prevailed.”

In 1912 the P.T.A. led a vigorous campaign to defeat two proposals on the ballot at a school election in March. Members were urged to vote “No” on the teaching of the physiology of the reproductive organs in the grades of the public schools, and “No” on the proposition of having school thirty- eight weeks a year.

In May 16, 1913. the P.T.A. voted to buy a school banner for Rice, It was to be maroon and white with gold fringe. Committees were also formed for the purpose of getting sewing, music and manual training included in the curriculum.

In 1916 two men were appointed as special police to stop auto speeding on Beaver Ave. in front of the schoolhouse. In 1918 no meetings were held in the school owing to the quarantine for Spanish influenza. In 1919 no meetings were held in November and December on account of the coal strike. A Miss Hartigan was principal during these early years and worked very closely with the parents in the interests of child welfare. Scales were purchased to weigh the children and determine those who were undernourished. Playground equipment costing \$23.70 “wholesale” was purchased at her urging.

The P.T.A. raised money by selling lunches on election day. In May of 1922 a Visual Education fund was established and a flag and curtain were also purchased for the use of the school. By 1922 there were 160 families represented in the school and since the children upon graduating from Rice either attended North or West High, the P.T.A. sent delegates to each of their P.T.A. meetings. In 1923 the PTA bought a second-hand oil stove for \$10.00 and wicks for 65 cents. This was to aid them in serving noon lunches once each month. Also in 1923 Mr. Eickelberg became the new principal succeeding Miss Moulton. The minutes of October 25, show that he was called upon to address the P.T.A. and did so in an interesting manner. Construction on the new addition including the auditorium and gymnasium got under way at this time and a committee headed by the principal was appointed to see to the beautifying of the front lawn. They were allowed to spend to the limit of \$25.00 for this purpose.

In January of 1926 the Parent Teacher Association met in the new auditorium of the school building. Mid-year kindergarten classes were also started at Rice at this time, The new addition confronted the P.T.A. with the problem of providing equipment for the additional classrooms and the kitchen. As usual these energetic and willing women, many of whom still live in the area, came to the rescue and we find that during the first few months of 1926 they purchased \$35.00 worth of geographical equipment, supplementary textbooks in arithmetic, material for kindergarten blocks, new stoves for the kitchen and a screen for motion pictures. In addition to that, in one month they made or mended 169 garments for the Red Cross.

The most recent addition to Rice consisting of an office suite and 10 classrooms was completed and ready for occupancy in September of 1958. Rice today has an enrollment of 598 students in classes from kindergarten through sixth grade. It has special classes for those who need additional help and for those who are gifted. Earnest young musicians may take private lessons as well as participate in the school program of music. Recess finds the school ground covered with healthy, happy children. Nor does the activity stop when the school day is over. Pack 92 of the Cub Scouts uses the auditorium for their pack meetings. Little League uses the playground in summer for games and practice. When room is available, Adult Education classes are held at the school. It has been the polls for voting in elections for many years. Thus the school named Byron Rice on the corner of Beaver and Adams has truly been a crossroads of democracy since the day of its first planning.

The educational program for Rice elementary school in the mid-1970s continues to be that of a six-

unit program for grades 5 and 6. This means that they have special teachers for art, music, and physical education. They also have educable mentally retarded rooms. Rice serves as a voluntary transfer program receiving school with black students bused in from the inner city. They have a resource person for learning disabilities. Career Education will be added to the curriculum on all levels in 1975-1976.

Rice P.T.A. established a media center for Rice School in 1967 in memory of Ferne Thorne who was principal of the school from 1957-1968. Since that time the P.T.A. has made annual contributions for media for the center. They also provide volunteers, on a twice-weekly basis, to keep the center open and its materials available to students.

New P.T.A. Committees reflect the interest of parents in their children and their school and also the changing times: Blue-Star - late 1960's Volunteer - 1973 Ecology - 1974 Great Books - 1974

During the 1974-1975 school year more than fifty volunteers helped individuals and small groups of children at Rice.

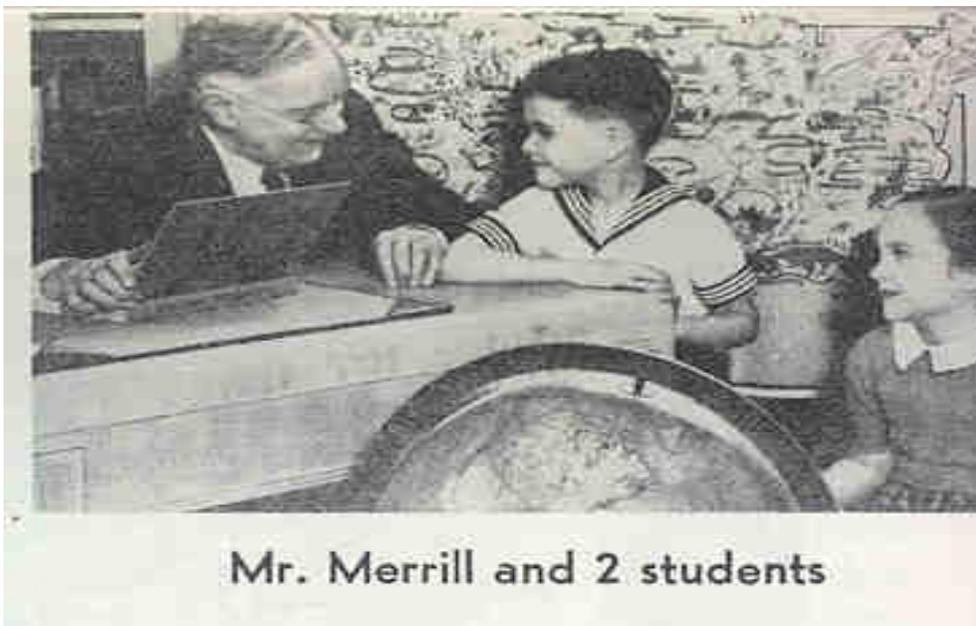
The P.T.A. has given generously to support and enrich programs at Rice. In 1973 they provided fine stereo equipment for the music program. In 1974 they provided supplemental materials for reading on all levels and in 1975 they provided materials for all grades in the area of mathematics.

In 1975 four parent volunteers began a Great Books program for children in grades five and six.

In 1974 Rice parents and teachers joined together in a study program: "How to Become a More Affective Adult in the Life of Your Child." In the Fall semester of 1975 the parents will hold a series of meetings with the theme: "How to Help Your Child Learn Better in School." The teachers have organized a study program in mathematics.

The Rice Advisory Council has been particularly active in the 1970's. One of their more notable efforts has been to organize and carry out an annual program of summer activities for children in the community.

In 1974 sixth graders at Rice under the sponsorship of the Advisory Council interviewed many of the older residents of Beaverville regarding the history of this area. They recorded their findings which were later used to build a program: "Beaverville, a Proud Past" with which the children began the school's bicentennial observance.



Samuelson



Dates of construction
-1965

SAMUELSON SCHOOL Grades K-6 43rd and Bel Aire Site-8.8 acres

This building was opened in September, 1965. It was named to honor Agnes Samuelson, long time superintendent of schools in Iowa.

Samuelson is located in the Debra Heights area which had the unique distinction for several years of being in the City of Des Moines but not in the Des Moines School District. It was a part of the Johnston School District.

As of July 1, 1962, Debra Heights was one of, four areas that joined the Des Moines Independent Community School District. For the past three years the pupils from this area have been bused to Rice, Hillis, and Cowles Schools.

AGNES MATHILDA SAMUELSON was born at Shenandoah, Iowa, April 4, 1887 and died May 12, 1963. Her parents, Sven August Samuelson and Alvina (Johnson) Samuelson, were of Swedish ancestry. Agnes, the eldest daughter in a family of seven children, was determined to be a teacher early in life.

From 1923 - 1926, Miss Samuelson served as Extension Professor of Rural Education for Iowa State Teachers College, traveling throughout the state and working tirelessly to improve teaching and to secure up-to-date instructional materials. It was during this time that she received her B.A. degree from the University of Iowa in 1925 and three years later was awarded an M.A. degree.

When she became State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Iowa in 1927, she was equipped with a wealth of administrative and teaching background for her work with governors, legislators, community citizens, and many agencies. Great educational progress was realized in the years between 1927 and 1938 under her capable leadership.

Miss Samuelson was recruited in 1939 by the Iowa State Teachers Association to serve as its executive secretary. She continued in this post until 1945, when she returned to Washington, D. C. as a staff member of the National Education Association until her retirement in 1952.

Agnes Samuelson was a distinguished leader and a dedicated educator who devoted a lifetime of service to

children.*

Customarily, the building holds a yearly Ice Cream Social in September, an Art Exhibit and a Music Festival in April and a Field Day in May.

A tenth year birthday anniversary was celebrated in February, 1975 honoring ten original staff members still assigned to Samuelson and ten past P.T.A. presidents who received recognition plaques and scrolls for their service to children, the school and the community.

Through budget appropriations and a PTA sponsored "birthday book plan", the Samuelson library has grown in its first ten years from 681 to nearly 6,000 volumes and includes many film strips, records and other software.

In recognition of her Swedish ancestry, a St. Lucia's Day celebration is held yearly in December. Each room chooses a St. Lucia who delivers Swedish Spritz to the children of another room. Dressed in a white robe with a red sash and wearing a crown of candles, she is accompanied by her classmates who sing Christmas carols.

The principal of Samuelson School is Kenneth Smith.

SMOUSE OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL
28th and Center
Site-18.3 acres (including Callanan)

Smouse is a school facility for the physically handicapped in Grades K-8. Smouse School was dedicated in 1931 to serve physically handicapped children of the Des Moines School district who could not satisfactorily attend regular school. It was made possible by the gift of \$333,000 from Dr. and Mrs. David W. Smouse. In 1954 there was the swimming pool addition and in 1963 an addition of four classrooms was completed.

Through the generosity and foresight of a former Des Moines physician and his wife, more than 1900 children have benefited by attending the Smouse Opportunity school for physically handicapped children in the past twenty-five years. The building and equipment was made possible by the gift of \$333,000 from Dr. and Mrs. David W. Smouse.

Dr. Smouse was too good hearted as a family physician to save much money. However, as the result of a fortunate business venture he accumulated wealth and chose to leave it in Des Moines. As he expressed it, "the school seemed the best way." The generous gift of money allowed for many art



Smouse

Dates of construction
-1954 1963

Principals who served Smouse:
1931 - 1958 Bess Johnson
1958 - Dr. Robert W. Langerak

objects, such as paintings and colorful prints throughout the building.

EARLY PLANNING OF BUILDING AND POLICIES

Smouse School was dedicated in 1931 to serve physically handicapped children of the Des Moines School district who could not satisfactorily attend regular school. The school was made possible through the gift of \$333,000 from Dr. & Mrs. David W. Smouse. Through the generosity and foresight of this former Des Moines physician and his wife more than 2200 children have benefitted from the services of this school. The generous gift of money allowed for many art objects, such as colorful prints throughout the building. Original ceramic tiles, wrought iron signs, and fireplace screens were designed by Mrs. Berneice V. Setzer, former Director of Art. In more recent years the funds provided by the Smouses have been used to build an addition of 4 classrooms, carpet the building, provide a learning center and air condition the classrooms of the building.

For many months preceding the drawing of plans and establishing of policies, Supt. of Schools, John W. Studebaker, Dr. Fred Moore, Director of School Health, Mr. Clark Souers, architect, and Miss Bess Johnson, principal, visited, several other cities which were known to have good special education programs. It was determined that Smouse Opportunity School should be a combination of good therapy and educational program-directed to the needs of hearing, visually and orthopedically-impaired children.

THERAPY AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

When Dr. Studebaker became United States Commissioner of Education in 1934 he was instrumental in interesting many cities in developing special education programs for the physical, as well as other handicapping conditions. In recent years Smouse has extended its services to the Greater Des Moines Area, and is currently serving pupils from six nearby counties. With the formation of the new Area Education Agency program Smouse will be providing services to an even larger area.

The educational program consists of four major educational blocks. The ungraded primary includes pupils of kindergarten age and older. The continuation department includes children of limited learning capabilities. The deaf department includes children of preschool through elementary grades. The middle and upper grades unit extends through the eighth grade level.

There are normally about 150 pupils enrolled at Smouse. Included are children with disabilities due to cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida and other orthopedic conditions, deafness and visual problems - including blindness. In 1974 the Ruby Van Meter School for Severely Retarded was built and dedicated on the same grounds. The two schools are jointly involved in a sizeable bus transportation plan serving the area.

Program forerunners to Smouse include the open air school at North High, the school for Deaf at Clarkson, and the Saylor School for Crippled Children on Pleasant Street.

STOWE SCHOOL Grades K-6
1401 East 33rd St.

Prior to 1909 there was a two room frame building located at E. 29th and Guthrie known as Sandhill School. In 1910 the name of this school was changed to Harriet Beecher Stowe, and in 1912-13 one room was added to the building. During the school year 1914-15 there was no Stowe School listed as being a part of the Des Moines Schools and it is believed that a fire destroyed it.

In 1915-16 a new Stowe School was built at E. 33rd and Cleveland. These two rooms are still a part of the building. In 1917 the front two rooms on the second and third floors were built; in 1924-25 the back two rooms were added to the first and second floors. Sometime between 1925 and 1930 a gymnasium was built. This also serves as a cafeteria and auditorium. In 1943-44 the back two rooms were added to the third floor. A six-room addition was built in the fall of 1952. At that time the kitchen of the cafeteria was enlarged and remodeled providing more work room and storage space. A new office was also provided.

During the fall of 1960 another addition was completed. Four new class-rooms were opened and a central library was started.

The Stowe elementary building in the 1970s has an Individually Guided Education multi-unit program. They are one of the few older structures to have this program which is commonly found in the newer open-space buildings. Stowe also has Title III Wisconsin Reading Design in grades K-3. They are participating in the Title III learning disabilities programs for grades K-3. They also have the Wisconsin Title III study skills for grades 4-6. They are in the SPURT Program.

Westinghouse Score Science Program. Kindergarten Waupon Program Career Education Program
We will be having Mental Disabilities Resource Room beginning in the Fall of 1975.



Stowe

Dates of construction

- 1915 Two rooms
- 1925 Two rooms
- 1943 Two rooms on 3rd floor
- 1953 Six rooms, offices, storage area
- 1960 Four rooms

Principals who have served at Stowe are:

- 1915 - 1940 Grace Troutner
- 1940 - 1952 C. I. Pease
- 1952 - 1966 Lorraine McFadden
- 1966 - 1958 Pherrin Dowell
- 1968 - Keith Van Horn



Studebaker

1972 - Mr. Jerry Mills is principal of Studebaker School.

STUDEBAKER SCHOOL
S.E. 1st and County Line Road
Site 10 acres

Studebaker School honors John W. Studebaker who served in the various educational posts as follows: 1914 - 1920 Assistant Superintendent, Des Moines Schools; 1920 - 1934 Superintendent of Schools, Des Moines; 1934 - 1949 U. S. Commissioner of Education.

The Greenfield Plaza area in Warren County which forms the major attendance area for Studebaker continued to grow throughout the 1960s and early 1970s. The addition of portable classrooms did not solve the problem and in February, 1971, the contracts were let for a large open-space, 12- teacher station addition. This included a library learning center and a cafetorium. This addition cost \$562,426.

The opening of this new addition in September, 1972, enabled the staff to plan and inaugurate the IGE—individually Guided Education multi-unit program. This was one of the first schools in Des Moines to have open spaces and the IGE program. Other programs carried out at Studebaker include the Berkeley Smoking and Health project. This is serving as a model for other Des Moines schools. There is also an active career education program at this building,

Studebaker Multiunit School

In the fall of 1969 a District-wide bond issue election was held which included plans for building an addition to Studebaker. The issue was passed with a 61.2% majority ... the Studebaker district gave a 90% favorable vote. At the time, Studebaker had its original ten classrooms full, plus using eight portable classrooms, and bussing fifty pupils to Maple Grove School.

Construction of the new addition began in the spring of 1970 and was completed so that we could begin using it for the 1972-73 school year. This addition included a 12,000 square foot open-space learning area, a centrally located media center, gym, and cafeteria.

The architect firm was Charles Herbert & Associates and the general contractor was Vawter & Walter; same as for the original building. This addition cost \$562,426.

In January of 1971, Studebaker was accepted to participate in the Kettering Foundation's IGE, Individu-

ally Guided Education, program. The opening of the new addition enhanced this program by providing flexible space for the multiunit, multi-aged approach to learning. Studebaker was selected in 1973 to participate in the HEW-Berkely Smoking and Health project. This is serving as a model for other Des Moines Schools. They are also involved in a career education program.

Ruby Van Meter School
710 28th St. 50312

The present program for moderately retarded children is an outgrowth of many years of work on the part of great numbers of parents and school personnel.

A pilot class was started in 1956 by the Polk County Association for Retarded Children. In the fall of 1959 the Des Moines Public Schools, under the able leadership of Mrs. Van Meter, assumed the obligation of educating moderately retarded children between the ages of 7 and 14. Miss Mary Fern Crawford conducted two classes, one for younger children in the morning and one for older children in the afternoon. The classes were held at Moulton Cottage, Eighth and College Avenue, Des Moines. The curriculum consisted of self-care, social adjustment, language development, and economic usefulness.

Class enrollment outgrew the Moulton Cottage and in the fall of 1961 the program was moved to Slinker School, located at Fifteenth and Center Streets, Des Moines. Principals at Slinker included Violet Coldren and Robert Langben.

Since that time the program has continued to grow. During these years the age limits have been expanded to 5 to 21, the length of the school day has been increased to a five-hour day, transportation has been furnished for each pupil, and a hot lunch program has been introduced.

Bids for \$1,250,000.00 were let for the present building November 30, 1971, and construction started in April, 1972. On June 5, 1973, the Board of Education approved the naming of the new facility for Mrs. Ruby F. Van Meter who was Director of Special Education at the time of the inception of this program. The first classes in the new building were held in September, 1973.

Mrs. Ruby F. Van Meter started her career in the field of education teaching primary grades. After teaching in Texas and Iowa she came to Des Moines to teach retarded children



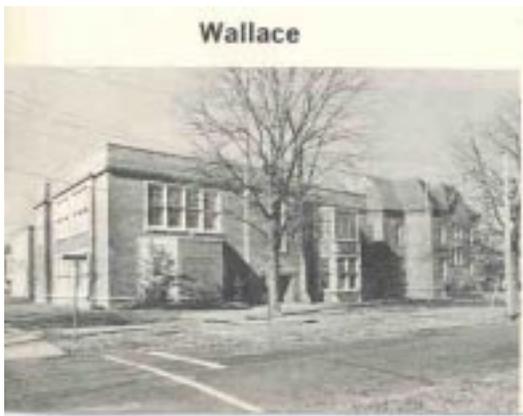
Van Meter

Constructed - 1972

Principal who served Van Meter
- Morris Spence

at Crocker school. She soon became well known both locally and throughout the nation for her success in working with retarded children. She later became the Director of Special Education for the Des Moines Public Schools, a post she successfully held until her retirement. Many accomplishments were noted while she served at the Director of Special Education but none more important than the beginning of a special program for the trainable mentally retarded.

Mrs. Van Meter now lives at Wesley Acres, 3520 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.



WALLACE SCHOOL Grades K-6

1404 East 13th St.

Site-2.4 acres

Originally this building was Capitol Park High School. It was part of a separate school district which included the areas served by Whittier and Logan Schools. In the 1907 merger it became a part of the Des Moines Public Schools. The high school unit continued until Christmas when the principal resigned. Then the high school closed and students went to East, North or West High.

Capitol Park School with grades kindergarten - 8. The Capitol Park Mothers' Circle also included Whittier School in all of its meetings. In 1912 this organization changed its name to Capitol Park Teachers' Circle.

The Penny Provident Plan was introduced into Capitol Park Schools October 10, 1910. This plan was championed by Mrs. Cora Bussey Hillis and in a sense was a forerunner of the Savings Stamps plan of the 1940's, 50's and 60's.

The records are not clear in regard to the renaming this building Wallace Elementary School in memory of Henry C. Wallace, who served as U. S. Secretary of Agriculture under President Wilson.

Wallace school in the mid 1970s is suffering the usual declining enrollments that are common in Des Moines and across the nation. They maintain a six-unit program for grades 5 and 6 with the usual teachers in special subjects. They also maintain a Title III Wisconsin Reading Design

Management program for K-4 as well as participating in a Title III learning disabilities, K-3 program. The school is eligible for Title I funding and therefore has Title I Reading, K-6 and Title I Mathematics, K-4,. They also have a career education program.

Dates of construction

- 1890 Two-ninths
- 1910 One-ninth
- 1923 Five-ninths
- 1954 One-ninth

Principals who have served at Wallace are:

- 1909 - 1913 Cora Parr
- 1913 - 1915 Ella Malone
- 1915 - 1918 Julia Beah
- 1918 - 1933 Mrs. Belle McConnell
- 1933 - 1936 Anna Stohlgren
- 1936 - 1960 Leona Wilcox
- 1960 - 1965 Ann Schott
- 1965 - 1972 Lester Rees Knisley
- 1972 - Robert McGraw

WASHINGTON SCHOOL Grades K-6
1 East Hartford Ave.
Site-2.0 acres

Until 1874, the children of south Des Moines attended a school at 9th and Locust. During 1874 and early 1875 work was progressing on the first wing of George Washington School. This fine brick building of four rooms was the first unit of more than the typical one room school to serve the area south of the Raccoon River. This area was part of the original school district of Des Moines.

The school was located on Hillside Avenue, half way up the hill so that it would be safe from the rampaging floods that plagued the southern bottom land. Pupils came from all of south Des Moines and Sevastopol.

In 1880, six years after the original building was erected, two rooms were added. In 1890 two more rooms were built on, making it possible to accommodate seventh and eighth grade pupils who previously had been compelled to walk to the old Lincoln building at 9th and Mulberry for all their, schooling beyond the sixth grade.

In 1898 a separate building was erected for use as a kindergarten. The entire building was remodeled in 1909 and four large classrooms, a principal's office and other facilities added. By this process, the schoolhouse that had once faced Hillside now faced Hartford Avenue.

As Washington grew and more ground was needed, the property to the west on Hillside was purchased from Owen Cunningham, father of Nelle Cunningham. Miss Cunningham was a teacher at Washington from 1933-1939, assistant principal from 1939-1942 and principal from 1956 until retirement in 1963.

At one time Washington was the third largest elementary school in the city with an enrollment of 550. Over-crowding was relieved when McKinley School was built in 1904. Enrollment was again reduced when St. Anthony's was built in 1912.

Fire in 1941 destroyed the original four rooms. This part was razed and replaced by the present gymnasium.

Washington has housed a number of second and third generation of Italian-American children from fine families that have lived in this neighborhood.

Washington school has lost considerable enrollment and by September, 1976 may be under 200 students. Because of these low enrollments they have an undepartmentalized program. They have a Title III Wisconsin Reading Design



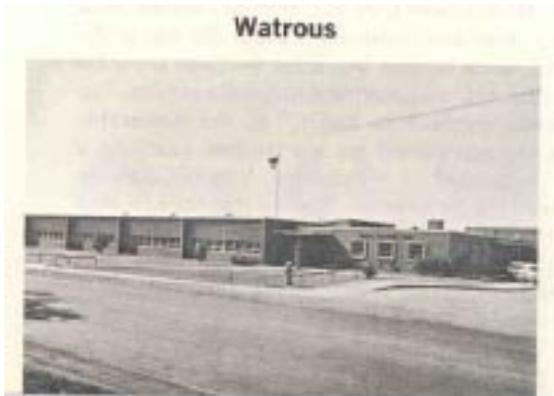
Dates of construction

-1874 1910 1914 1941

Principals who have served at Washington include:

1907 - 1930 Blanche Snook
1930 - 1939 Alice Bradshaw
1939 - 1942 Edna L. E. Peterson
1942 - 1948 N. Ferne Thorne
1948 - 1956 Merle Wilson
1956 - 1963 Nelle Cunningham
1963 - 1965 Jerry Mills
1965 - 1967 Kenneth Rankin
1967 - 1969 Snowden Moon
1969 - 1971 Lyla Lynch
1971 - 1972 Robert Langbehn
1972 - Patrick Moran

Study Skills program for grades 4-6. They participate in a learning disabilities program and have a career education program.



Dates of construction
-1954 1957

Principals who have administered
Watrous School are:

1954 - 1957 Nelle Cunningham
1957 - 1966 Dorris Morgan
1966 - 1969 Lucile Truitt
1969 - 1972 Larry Martindale
1972 - Kenneth Hook

WATROUS SCHOOL Grades K-6
S.W. 14th and Army Post Rd.
Site-5.9 acres

The Charles L. Watrous Elementary School was named for a prominent early settler of South Des Moines. The growth and development of a vast portion of the city south of the Raccoon River are due largely to his efforts.

Mr. Watrous was a graduate of a law college. However his occupation as a resident of south Des Moines was that of a nurseryman. He became known not only nationally but internationally for his work in the area of nursery work.

Charles Watrous led an interesting life. He had been born in Cortland County, New York, January, 1837. He enlisted in the civil War and became a captain. He was in the second battle of Bull Run in August, 1862, when he was wounded by three separate bullets. He spent a time convalescing and ultimately was mustered out of the service, 'on account of disability from gunshot wounds received in battle,' as the honorable discharge read. He returned to the university and passed his law studies, receiving a diploma in 1865. Later that same year, he located in Winchester, Virginia, for the practice of law and served as county attorney for three years. During this time he also received a presidential appointment as one of the United States registering board examiners and administered the oath of allegiance to the United States to all persons "lately in rebellion" who met the requirements and subscribed to the oath.

The life of a Northern man in the South immediately following the Civil War was full of interest as well as danger. On several occasions there were attempts made on the lives of various former Union soldiers who were living in the South. It was necessary to go armed on the street after dark and to be careful and allow no one to come up behind, without careful scrutiny.

The future of Charles Watrous, a former Northern Union soldier in the South, appeared to have its prob-

lems. In the spring of 1869, still suffering from the effects of his wounds, he felt obliged because of medical advice to forego the practice of law and to work out in the open air.

He came to Des Moines and purchased twenty acres of land and then began the nursery business which he followed for the rest of his life. He was the first in Des Moines to carry on the nursery business in a commercial way-that is by selling his products by agents and filling the orders by railroad shipments. All others had depended upon sales at the nursery. By additional purchases of land from time to time he expanded his nursery to an area of 145 acres in south Des Moines. Thus, with the additional land rented from time to time in the neighborhood he soon had a large business employing 75 to 100 salesmen. He also owned other pieces of property in the city.

In 1904 he was commissioned by the U.S. Agricultural Department to visit the Philippines and other Asian countries to study horticultural conditions and make inquiries about the introduction of certain fruits into the United States.

Charles Watrous died in 1916 and was buried in the Woodland Cemetery here in Des Moines.

In the mid-1970s the Watrous student population is holding fairly firm and not declining as rapidly as in other sections of the city. The principal and staff have introduced a unique educational program at Watrous which includes:

Plan A, first and second grades, departmentalized, non-graded reading. Plan B, third and fourth grades, departmentalized, nongraded reading. Plan C, Fifth and sixth grades, departmentalized, nongraded reading.

They have the Title III Wisconsin Design Reading Management system. They have rooms for the educable mentally retarded pupils.

WILLARD SCHOOL Grades K-6
East 30th and Dean
Site-4.2 acres

Originally the school for this area was known as the Grant Park School. In the 1907 school merger, Grant Park High School was discontinued and the pupils transferred to East High. At some point the building was renamed Frances Willard Elementary School. The Willard building continued as a kindergartens building in the Des Moines schools until a disastrous fire on Friday, December 14, 1923.



Dates of construction
-1917 One-seventh
1925 Six-sevenths

Principals who have been at
Willard School are:
1915 - 1940 Grace Troutner
1940 - 1957 Doris Morgan
1957 - 1965 Kenneth Srnith
1965 - 1972 Kenneth Rouse
1972 - Bernard MiUer

SOME WILLARD SCHOOL HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

As one browses through the early Willard P.T.A. records, these historical facts are revealed. The school's name was changed from Grant Park to Willard to honor Frances Willard who was a Temperance Union lady of Des Moines. The Temperance ladies presented a drinking fountain in 1909 to Willard School. This was the first indoor fountain in the school and above it was a picture of Miss Willard. Former Mayor George Whitmer recalled the first day that this particular fountain was used. He told how the pupils were placed in straight lines to take turns at drinking from the fountain and they were instructed that they must keep their hands behind their backs as a more responsible adult turned the water off and on.

Mr. Willie Tiley, a former Willard student recollected this amusing incident which had many students laughing as they observed Miss Troutner, the first principal of Willard School, running her car into a telephone pole upon which sat a lineman busy at work. In her attempt to stop her vehicle, she hit the pole several times.

Mr. Tiley recalled some of the early discipline practices. It seems that Miss Troutner would go to a ditch south of the school and cut willow switches to be used for disciplining. Another form of discipline she employed for the older boys, Willard Nyent through eight grade at the time, was forcing them to dress as girls for the school day.

Willie Tiley also described the public transportation of many Willard students in 1921 and the following years. The Des Moines School System hired a driver and his green wagon covered by a beautiful white canvas, similar in appearance to a Conestoga Wagon, to transport the students to and from school daily.

In the mid 1970's Willard School's student population remains fairly constant and continues to be one of the larger elementary schools in Des Moines. This school is an I.G.E. school meaning it employs the Individually Guided Education multi-unit approach to instruction. This is rather unique considering the fact that Willard is an older building and was not remodeled when the I.G.E. concept was adopted. Career Education is another important factor in the school's curriculum. The Title I reading program is proving a valuable asset. A Learning Disabilities Resource Teacher also renders an important service.

The Willard Tiniklers, fifth and sixth graders, have made Willard School well known throughout the state of Iowa as well as in adjoining states. Their performances at the Iowa State Girls' Basketball Tournament have become a yearly event and are often carried on live television. This tinikling group has also performed at the Iowa State Fair, and also, for the pleasure of many citizens of Des Moines retirement and nursing homes. Many educators from other school systems have also visited Willard to observe these performers in action.

In May, 1970, a track and field event was begun which has become an annual affair. This event is known as the Chet Butler Relays named in memory of Chet Butler, a former Willard custodian, who passed away of cancer.

In 1975, Willard School commemorated its 50th anniversary of the present building. The Willard P. T. A. also proudly observed its 50th anniversary as it had been in existence since 1925. A very extensive program was presented and many former students were in attendance who recalled their happy childhood days within Willard's walls. Dr. Wilbur Miller, president of Drake University, George Whitmer, former Des Moines mayor, and Robert Wright, a Des Moines attorney, were among the former students who were present for this memorable occasion.

WINDSOR SCHOOL Grades K-6
58th and University
Site—4.2 acres

This building was named for the Windsor family who donated the land in memory of their son. Henry Clay Windsor settled near the present Windsor School in 1840. The original Windsor building in 1918 was a two-room brick structure that housed 22 pupils in the primary grades. The upper grade youngsters attended Perkins.

The teacher had to walk from the end of the street car line on 49th street and University. The nurse came about once a month, but the first one gave up because she did not wish to walk from 49th to 58th street particularly since it was hilly. Mr. Jordan, the first principal had nine small out-lying schools. This kept him busy because transportation was slow and in some places nonexistent.

When the first Armistice report was announced in November, 1918, schools were closed for the rest of the day-but not Windsor. It had no telephone and thus did not hear the news. Water was provided by a well and the pump was locked or the handle removed at night to prevent the well from being pumped dry before the pupils arrived the next day.

The second teacher came in 1922 for the upstairs room. By 1928 Windsor had four teachers and occupied the main brick building, an annex and a building across the street. In 1949 the present main building was the first postwar projects and in 1954, a nine room addition was completed. The original Windsor structure is now an annex and is not used for elementary classes. In 1965 there were over 600 pupils and 20 teachers.

Windsor school in the 1970s has actually shown an increase of students for the past several years rather than a decline. They maintain the large structure for grades 4-6. They are a voluntary transfer receiving school which means that a number of black students from the innercity are bused to Windsor. They also have a provision for serving the hearing impaired students.



Dates of construction
- 1918 One-eighth
1949 One-half
1954 Three-eighths

Principals who have served at Windsor are:

1918 - 1925 Mr. W. Lee Jordan
1925 - 1937 Frances Umpleby
1937 - 1950 Erma X. Anderson
1950 - 1965 Florence Murphy
1965 - 1966 James Wise
1967 - Virginia Lawrence

WOODLAWN SCHOOL Grades K-6
Lower Beaver and Madison
Site-4.7 acres



Woodlawn

Dates of construction

- 1953 One-third
- 1957 Two-thirds
- 1965 Remodeling-Addition of a music room, library, kitchen, teachers room.

Principals who have served at Woodlawn include:

- 1953 - 1959 Robert Denny
- 1960 (6 months) Melvin Rexroat
- 1960 - 1964 Jack Jones
- 1964 - 1965 Richard Rose
- 1965 - 1972 Florence Murphy
- 1972 - Olive Devine

Woodlawn School owes its name to the work of a former member of the Board of Education, Harry L. Gross, who desired to perpetuate the name of the former Woodlawn Independent School District.

This old district included all the land west of the Des Moines River, north of Adams Street and Urbandale Avenue, and east of Merle Hay Road. The north boundary was Aurora. The entire area of Rice, Moore, and Woodlawn Schools as well as part of the boundaries of Monroe, Riley, and Hillis were included.

There were two schools in the Woodlawn School District. East Woodlawn School at 30th and Euclid served the eastern part and West Woodlawn School located on the northwest corner of Beaver and Douglas was for those youngsters to the west. The brick building that was East Woodlawn School is today the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. O. Blanc and is the first house outside the east gate of the Veterans Hospital. West Woodlawn was a frame structure of the classic one-room variety; and when it was closed, it was moved south on Beaver and today is a residence at 3828 Beaver. The site of West Woodlawn is now part of the Meredith pasture and there is little evidence to show that a school once stood there. It is interesting to observe that, recently, a part of this tract was given to the Des Moines School Board by the Meredith family, thus, it will again serve the citizens of Des Moines for educational purposes. A junior high school is the first school unit on this tract.

We are indebted to, Mr. Harry L. Gross for the following paragraphs of information about Woodlawn. These were written in 1953, when the first part of Woodlawn was built:

“When a member of the school board my special interest and thought was that for the pioneer or old-time residents of that locality, the continuation of the name Woodlawn would be appreciated and recognized as belonging to their area.

Unfortunately several years ago before my mother, Mrs. Jennie Layman Gross, passed away, I did not think to secure any historical data on the members of

the original Layman family who have all passed away. At the original Layman home, 2701 Euclid, now owned by a granddaughter, Mrs. Louis Layman Staggs, there also resides a grandson.

The enclosed picture of the old Woodlawn School shows the way the building looked for many years, at least around 1900, or before Euclid Avenue was paved or long before the present hospital was located in that area. You will note the wood shed and fence in the front, and the land to the south (covered with snow) which was not even planned at that time.

I do recall my mother saying, when she went to school in the early grades along about 1884, frequently there were tribes of Indians who would take what was called the old Ridge Road which is now Lower Beaver near your present school.

I also recall that an aunt who recently passed away was a teacher about 1890 at this little school. As late as 1909, I believe there was a Sunday School maintained in this building for, as you say, the operation as a school was discontinued. One of the few remaining original students at the school is Mrs. Marybell Shaver of 2722 Payne Road. It is known that she went to school there with my mother and her younger brothers when they all lived at the original farm home constructed about 1866 at 2701 Euclid Avenue.”

In spite of the large area there were not too many families residing in Woodlawn Independent School District. The records show the average daily attendance of the two schools in 1900 was only 15! This is a far cry from the thousands of youngsters that attend the six elementary schools in this area today.

In 1907 the Woodlawn School District became a part of the Des Moines Independent School District. In 1909 East Woodlawn School closed. When the present Rice School was opened in 1910, West Woodlawn School was closed and the pupils transferred there. In 1910-1911 Rice School was listed for the first time with a staff of three teachers.

The pupils from the Woodlawn area attended Rice School at Beaver and Adams from 1910 until September, 1953 when the “new” Woodlawn School was opened. It consisted of six classrooms, an all-purpose room, kitchen, and office spaces. In the 1953-1954 school year there were six teachers and 163 pupils. An additional 30 pupils were transported from Moore school which was being expanded.

In September, 1956, four classes were moved to the Pilgrim Church basement which the Board of Education had remodeled for school purposes. In the meantime blueprints for an even larger addition than originally planned were made and in November, 1956, the contracts were awarded. During all of 1957, pupils, teachers, and parents watched the progress of the addition.

In September, 1957, the increased enrollment and the shortage of classroom space brought about double sessions for a number of classes. This, along with the continued use of the church basement facilities, meant more adjustments for Woodlawn youngsters, teachers, and parents. In November, 1957, the completion of four rooms permitted all pupils to attend on a full-time schedule.

On January 27, 1958, the entire building was occupied and classes were moved from the Pilgrim Church basement. For the first time since 1956 all the pupils at Woodlawn School were under one roof.

In the spring of 1958 the parking west of Woodlawn was converted to a playground area. A lot was purchased on the south side of Madison, and a small house was torn down. This space became the parking lot for Woodlawn faculty and parents. In October, 1958, a small piece of ground was acquired and added to the parking site. An addition consisting of a new music room, library, teachers room and kitchen was completed in February, 1966.

Woodlawn school has a six unit program, Plan A, for grades 4, 5, and 6. They participate in the voluntary transfer program as the receiving school for youngsters bused there from the innercity. They have classes for the educable mentally retarded as well as a resource teacher in learning disabilities. They have an active career education program.



Wright

Principals who have serve at Wright include-

1961 - 1965 James Daugherty

1965 - 1972 Mildred Kaisand

1972 - Barbara Sloan

WRIGHT SCHOOL Grades K-6

5001 S.W. 14th St.

Site-11.2 acres

Wright School was opened in the fall of 1961 having been built at a cost of \$477,000. The formal dedication was held on Sunday, December 17, 1961, with about 500 persons present.

Guests of honor included Mrs. Myra Wright, 91, widow of Craig T. Wright for whom the school was named. Dr. Thomas Wright of Newton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Craig Wright, was also present. Assistant Superintendent W. C. Findley, reviewed Craig Wright's years of service to the schools of Des Moines.

Mr. Craig Wright was a native of Des Moines and was a well known lawyer here until his death in 1947. He served on the Des Moines School Board for fifteen years, from 1924-1939.

Wright School was built close to Hoak School since the latter building could not be expanded. Originally Hoak was to have been a large building but a change in flight patterns at the airport created a restriction on enlarging the present facilities. Thus Hoak upper grade pupils finish at Wright before going to junior high school. Both Hoak and Wright operate as a single school unit under the supervision of a single principal.

Wright School is declining in student population in the mid-1970s. However, the self-contained K-4 classes and departmentalized classes in grades 5-6 continue to provide a framework for excellence in skill building. Special emphasis is placed upon the development of organizational skills, as well as the recognition of self worth and the worth of other. Students with learning disabilities have been provided with meaningful help through a resource teacher.

Career education has created a focus for relevant activities. Classes have been offered to both students and adults through Community Education, and recreational periods were established for the community through the Des Moines Recreation Commission.



1964—Elementary Principals Meeting



1956—Mr. Hoyt and students

Des Moines University—2nd and Euclid





Brody Junior High School

Principals:

1966 - 1970 Earl Bridgewater

1970 - Lacey Spriggs

BRODY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2601 Park Ave.

Brody Junior High was opened in September, 1966. The plans that were used were modifications of the Merrill Junior High architect's drawings. Some minor modifications were made. The major additions that were made were the inclusion of air conditioning not in the original Merrill building. The site selected was 30 acres on the north side of 25th and Park. There is an unobstructed view over the Raccoon Valley to the city of Des Moines and is indeed a splendid site for a junior high school.

Until the opening of the new Jefferson Elementary School, Brody junior high included various elementary grades involving several hundred students for a number of years. It became exclusively a junior high school in 1974.

The school was named for Joseph L. Brody who was a prominent citizen of Des Moines. A brief description of Mr. Brody and his background follows:

JOSEPH L. BRODY

Graduate of East High School in Des Moines, Grinnell College, University of Chicago Law School, Honorary L.L.D. Degree, Grinnell College.

Service to the Des Moines Community:

Practiced law in Des Moines - 1915-63

Member - Des Moines School Board - 1955-63

President - Des Moines School Board - 1961-62

President - Congregation B'nai Jeshurun President - Jewish State Welfare Fund

Member - State Executive Committee of the National Conference of Christians and Jews

President - Polk County Bar Association

Member - American Civil Liberties Union

Lay Member - Rhodes Scholarship Committee Director - Iowa State Taxpayers Association

Programs:

Common Learnings 7th -interdisciplinary teaching with large group, small group, and individualized instruction using unipac and multimedia.

Outdoor science classroom

Individualized math 7th, 8th, 9th Family living 7th grade

Faculty advisory committee

Teacher on-going staff development in areas of human relations and multi-ethnic studies

Brody Onstage - musical production Brody On Page - newspaper

Coed home economics and industrial arts/PE Shared activities with Central City schools

Student Council with emphasis on school/community service 9th grade. Christmas production

Title III Rent-a-Kid Career Guidance - Title III Career Interest Parent and student volunteers in classroom Student tutoring program

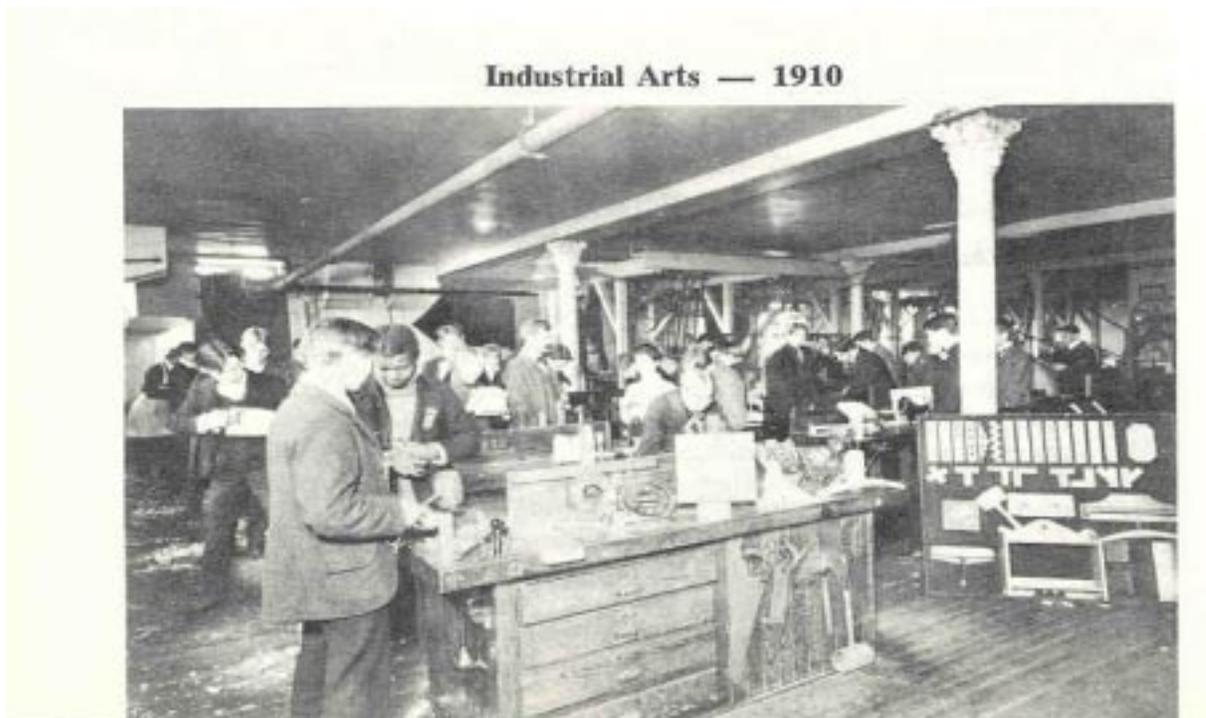
Mini-courses - nonacademic emphasis

Police-School Liaison Program (Brody-Kurtz)

During the 1970's the curriculum at Brody Junior High has undergone extensive evaluation by the faculty.

As a result the program of studies has been consistently updated and although several of the units still bear the same name, the subject matter may be entirely different than it was in the 1960's, with major emphasis in the areas of human relations and student involvement. The use of outside activities as a means of broadening the educational experiences of Brody students has been increased in the last few years with rewarding results.

Our continued emphasis in the curriculum will be on getting our students involved in real-life education.



Callanan Jr. High



List of Principals:

1928 -1939 C. F. Schropp

1939 - 1942 Walter Trott

1942 - 1954 Delmer Battrick

1954 - 1961 Victor Mastin

Feb 1961 to June, 1961 Harry
Dickson (Acting)

1961 - 1969 Warren W. Nixon

1969 - Paul Devin

CALLANAN JR. HIGH SCHOOL Grades 7, 8, 9
31st and Center

James Callanan came to Des Moines in 1863. He took the Rock Island to Iowa City, its terminus, and then came the rest of the way by stage. A complete sketch of Mr. Callanan appears later.

Insofar as education is concerned, Mr. and Mrs. Callanan started an academy on the site of the present Methodist Hospital. In fact the central wing of Methodist Hospital that faces Pleasant, with few changes is the former Callanan College.

In regard to the present Callanan Junior High School it is noted that on October 3, 1921, the Des Moines School Board purchased from Dr. Doolittle, for \$55,000, a plot of 20 acres lying between 28th and 31st fronting on Center. Smouse School is on the northeast corner of this tract. The entire tract of 40 acres had been the homestead of Mr. and Mrs. James Callanan.

In December, 1926, a general contract for building the junior high was let to Arthur Neumann Company. The cost of the building and equipment was \$400,000. The corner stone was laid in 1927 and the school opened in February, 1928. For many years the building housed some lower elementary grades as well as the junior high classes.

An addition to the building consisting of a, beautiful auditorium, a boys' locker room, two classrooms and a new heating system was formally opened for use late in the spring of 1954.

The enrollment moved from 584 in 1928 to 1051 in 1934-35 and maintained a high level until the construction of Franklin in 1951.

Biographical Sketch of James Callanan

The history books describe James Callanan as one of the most prominent people in Des Moines in fifty years.

Mr. Callanan, was born in Albany, New York, in the year 1822, where he also was admitted to the bar and began to practice law. He was always very interested in the business world and participated in many ventures from which he hoped to become wealthy. Some of his business deals led him far from his native home to Des Moines, Iowa. In the late 1850's he found it necessary to come to this prairie land and in 1860, he and his wife decided to move here. From then on his business became more prosperous.

Many people thought of him as being a man of two personalities. In the vast world of business he was very methodical, specific, and exacting. All business deals were promptly and accurately fulfilled, while in

private life and below his supposed hard crust, he was a man of great kindness, generosity, and sincerity.

Quite often he would drop all obligations and agree whole heartedly to forget the entire matter of a person who was unable to repay borrowed money to him. Through this kind gesture he unawaringly contributed thousands of dollars to those who needed it desperately.

Never once was he known to refuse to wade in the high mud of unpaved streets to help a horse who had been left by its heartless owner to stiffer.

Besides these many things, James Callanan was a shy timid man who preferred to go unnoticed, and work in a small, drab office away from others.

He died at the age of 84, after being ill for nearly a year, but his memory will live forever in Iowa history books.

From many land holdings, Mr. Callanan elected to build a suburban home on a forty acre tract west of the city of Des Moines. Callanan Junior High School now stands on what was the northwest corner of that estate. The forty acres was the property now bound by Center Street on the north, 31st Street on the west, Woodland on the south, and 28th Street on the east. This land was completely covered with beautiful trees, largely oak and hickory. Those you see standing on the campus now are some of the very same trees! Callanan built a large home, a carriage house and housing for his horses and other animals. Mrs. Callanan chose to name the new home Inglebrae. They were very proud of their country home, which it was at that time. In fact, the streetcars of that day only ran to 15th and Woodland, from there on was considered to be out in the country

Mr. Callanan, not being a party lover or one liking to stay indoors, spent as much time as possible at Inglebrae. He would often bring his office work home from downtown and work at Inglebrae. Mrs., Callanan was more given to social affairs and often entertained groups of prominent women at her home. She was quite active in several women's organizations, especially those having to do with the temperance movement and with efforts to obtain social and political rights for women. When the National Women's Suffrage group met in Des Moines, Mrs. Callanan entertained such famous women as Amelia J. Bloomer, who advocated freedom for women to dress differently, and Susan B. Anthony, who was leading the fight to obtain the right for women to vote in elections.

The year after James Callanan's death, in 1906, Dr. Hill purchased Inglebrae with the intention of making it into a sanitarium or retreat for persons with temporary mental illness. This was accomplished and the main home and carriage house comprise what is now known as Hill's Retreat. Dr. Hill later sold the north half and part of the west end of the estate. In 1920, the people of Des Moines voted a bond issue to build five new junior high schools. In 1921, for \$55,000, they purchased the north 20 acres of the estate from Mr. J. C. Doolittle. Five years later, in 1926, plans were completed for a junior high to be built on the west end of this property, and in March, 1928, this new school was dedicated under the name--James Callanan Junior High School.

Callanan opened February 1, 1928 with Mr. R. E. Smith as principal and Mrs. Miriam Brooks as vice-principal. The staff consisted of 18 teachers and an office assistant. The enrollment was 489 in junior high and 95 in elementary.

Callanan Junior High School is having the usual decline in enrollment for the mid-1970's, with enrollment at 500-600 students. The changing socio-economic status of the community has resulted in its being classified as a Title I school and thus is eligible for certain special funding. For example, they have Title I reading, as well as the New Horizons Program. They have worked diligently in the Alliance of Business with the American Republic Insurance Company. This company has financed two week-long ecology projects in which students became involved in environmental projects around the city and state. The first ecology week was held in 1971 and the second in 1974. They were one of the pioneers in this cooperative movement with

business and industry. They also inaugurated the SPELL Program (Student Prescriptive Educational Learning Laboratories) and were an early participant in the World of Manufacturing and World of Work programs. They have an innovative Title III Career Interest Student Survey Program.

The campus has changed in some ways; in September 1973 a new school was opened for mentally retarded students; Ruby Van Meter School was built on the southeast portion of the original Callanan estate. Between the three schools now, Callanan-Van Meter-Smouse, an outdoor classroom and nature trail are being developed. Over 100 trees have been planted in this area by Callanan students, along with planting of other plants native to Iowa. This project was started during the ecology week in 1974 and is being completed by science classes.

A mini-class program has functioned for three years; seventh and eighth grade students are exposed to 42 different two-week units in place of the normal study hall situation.

Callanan has always been most active in community relations work. Over fifty parent volunteers serve in the building in various capacities. In 1971 Callanan won the Volunteer Bureau Award.

These, plus other programs point up the interest of the staff of adapting educational programs to the interests, abilities, and needs of their student body.



Previous principals;
1951 - 1962 Erwin A. Hafenstein
1962 - 1973 Walter B. Besley
1973 - Sam Long

FRANKLIN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

48th and Franklin Grades 7, 8, 9

Franklin junior High School was opened January, 1951. This building carries the name of a famous American, Benjamin Franklin.

In January, 1951, the first classes consisted of grades 2, 4, 7, and 8, with an enrollment of 467. September, 1953, was the first time that Franklin housed grades 7, 8, and 9 exclusively. Being a part of a rapidly growing section of Des Moines, this fine new building with a capacity of almost 1,000 students was quickly filled to capacity and then overflowing by the mid-1950's. This necessitated an addition in 1957 of eight classrooms, science room, art room, wood shop, metal shop, drafting room and library. This addition raised the capacity to approximately 1,400 students.

The enrollment in February, 1965 is 1262 and a staff of 51. The peak enrollment of 1562 was reached in September, 1960. The opening of Merrill Junior High in September, 1961 and Meredith Junior High in September, 1962 relieved the enrollment pressures at Franklin.

Over 50% of junior high students participate in instrumental or vocal groups other than in music classes.

In the mid-1970s Franklin junior high school continues as one of the largest junior high schools in the city with upwards of 1100 students in attendance. They have a variety of programs available and these include the Title III Career Interest Student Survey. They participate in the Police-School Liaison program being affiliated with Roosevelt in this respect. They carry out a correlated studies program which is an inter-discipline approach for 80 7th grade students.

They participate in the voluntary transfer program which means that they are recipient of about 100 innercity black students who elect to attend Franklin.

They have a class in photography as well as an ecology club. Their career education clusters include the World of Construction, Communication and Media, Public Service, Environmental Science, and Hospitality and Recreation.



Goodrell Jr. High

Dates of construction
-1961-8 room plus library addition

Principals of Goodrell Jr. High School have been:
1955 - 1959 Merle F. Schlampp
1959 - 1971 Raymond D. Bishop
1971 - Norman Miller

MAY GOODRELL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL East 29th Street and Ovid Avenue Grades 7, 8, 9

Original building opened in 1955--cost \$1,377,090. In 1961 an 8 room plus library addition was opened costing \$210,784. Now it has a total of 33 teaching stations. Educationally it offers a regular junior high program with 4 half-time electives in grade 7, 7 in grade 8, and 12 half-time and full-time electives in grade 9.

MAY GOODRELL IS NAMED AFTER MAY GOODRELL

Even on May Goodrell's 18th anniversary many students don't know who May Goodrell was. Miss Goodrell, known to hundreds of friends and former students as "Aunt May" was best known as the former principal of East High School.

Miss Goodrell was born in Des Moines, Iowa in 1859. She graduated from East High in 1877 and was teaching at Bryant School by 1890. By 1891 she was assistant principal at East High. Ten years later she became the principal of East High and remained in the job for eight years. During that time a new East High building was built at 13th and Walker Streets. In the spring of 1912, Miss Goodrell, carrying books and a chair, led a procession from the old East High to the new one.

In 1918, she had relinquished the principalship at East High to become the Director of the Bureau of

Child Labor of the Des Moines schools. She spent two years at that work and then returned to school work as the Director of the Department of Attendance and Employment.

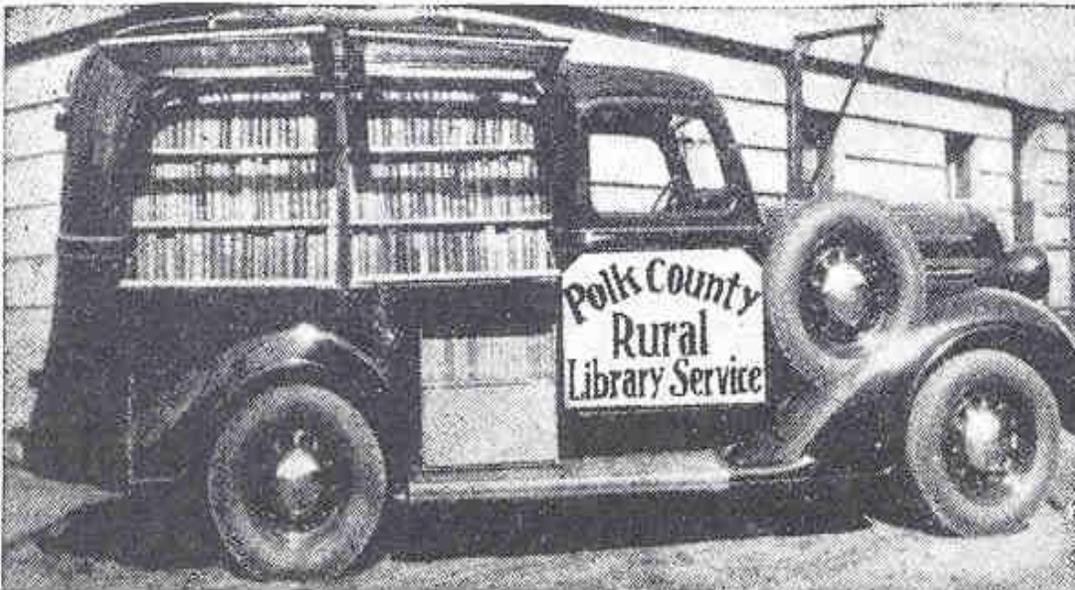
East High faculty members and students presented her with a silver goblet commemorating her life as a teacher and student. As president of the East High School Alumni Association, Miss Goodrell received a number of honors. To show their appreciation of her leadership and guidance at East, High School, the alumni sent her to Europe with all expenses paid. Throughout her 40 year career she had three basic characteristics. She was always described as strict, firm and fair.

Mr. L. K. Boutin, a former pupil under Miss Goodrell, described her as “well respected and well thought of.” Dr. Harry Dahl, a member of the school board when May Goodrell was built, described her as “outstanding.”

Miss Goodrell was rushed to the hospital on August 29, 1939 after she suffered a fracture of the right hip in a fall. Bronchial pneumonia resulted. This disease was given as the cause of her death. May Goodrell died September 3, 1939 at the age of 80. Her sister and family are still living here in Des Moines. Her memory is still kept alive by the school that was named after her - MAY GOODRELL - THE PRIDE OF DES MOINES.

In the mid-1970s Goodrell finds itself faced with a number of empty classrooms. The opening of Hoyt Middle School to the east of them took a good many students who were formerly in the Goodrell attendance area. Their enrollment in 1972 was over 1000 and in 1975 was about 720.

Their educational programs include Title III Career Interest Student Survey as well as Title III Rent-A-Kid. In the World of Work they have typing and business training. They participate in the Police-School Liaison program and have a learning disabilities resource teacher. They also maintain a math lab, special help for reading improvement, student tutoring and peer counseling.





Harding Jr. High

Principals

1926 - 1956 James M. Sterrett

1956 - 1971 Chester A. Pratt

1971 - Robert J. Donly

WARREN HARDING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Euclid Ave. and Cambridge Grades 7, 8, 9

About the time this school was being built, there seemed to be a marked tendency to name school houses after American presidents. Warren Harding Junior High, completed in 1926, was no exception to that rule. It was named for the then recently deceased Warren Gamaliel Harding, 29th President of the United States, who had been in office only 29 months when his death occurred in 1923.

Dates of Construction

The corner stone of Warren Harding was laid on Thursday, May 7, 1925. The student body and faculty moved into the building in February 1926.

During the 1959-1960 school year, a complete remodeling of all shower and locker facilities was done in conjunction with the building of a new gym for the boys. All hall lockers were replaced and a new Intercom system installed during the summer of 1971.

The Student Council financed the purchase of placement of a monument at the corner of East Euclid and Cornell during the 1971-1972 school year. The monument enhances the corner and gives the name of the school and the year of its opening.

Brief History

Warren Harding Junior High, built at a cost of \$587,692, opened its doors in February, 1926, with an enrollment of 525 students. There was a steady increase in the student population until a peak enrollment of 1095 was reached in September, 1960.

The new gym and remodeled facilities put into full use with the opening of the 1959-1960 school year enabled Warren Harding to have an expanded physical education and intramural program.

In the fabulous 50's came Sputnik. The schools reorganized their curriculum to meet the need for a more scientific approach.

While struggling to revamp curriculum in the early 60's, rights, riots and supreme rules had a serious impact on schools. Warren Harding Junior High administration, staff, and the Des Moines Schools, made what they thought to be a just decision regarding "black arm bands".

The Supreme Court of the United States, in its decision, over-ruled the opinions of the lower courts and the school district. Tinker vs. Des Moines Schools became the basis for the many student rights decisions which have followed. What began and had its inception at Warren Harding Junior High has had a profound effect on all schools in the United States.

January 10, 1974, oil, from a broken feeder line, ignited, causing extensive smoke and fire damage. Temporary school facilities were set up in space available at North High. Accommodations were crowded. Three weeks after the fire, we were allowed to return to our building. Two other fires occurred, during a short period after our return, which were determined to be the work of an arsonist.

During the 1975-1976 school year, Warren Harding Junior High will celebrate its 50th anniversary of educational service to the community.

Educational Program

The organization of a junior high school geared to meet the needs of the adolescent involves a varied program built around the activities of this age group providing valuable training in scholarship, sportsmanship, leadership, and service.

The program at Warren Harding is planned to provide continued training the basic areas of knowledge; to enable students to explore academic and non-academic areas for vocational and avocational possibilities dependent upon their interest, aptitude and ability; to learn to live with and understand those with differing backgrounds or customs; and to achieve a better understanding of their own rights and responsibilities to their self and others.

With student rights, teachers rights and the rights of the individual the mid 70's finds our programs being constantly examined. The rights of all interest groups are thoroughly explored by all 8th grade social science students during an extended unit on American Diversities.

Career Education has been integrated into all subject area teaching. Students learn the what, the why and the how of their career interest. On the job visitations in differing career interests are a part of our program in Manpower and Economics.

Learning Disabilities are receiving much recognition. Our Special Program Utilizing Resource Teachers (SPURT) is enabling students to examine their basic fundamentals and improve them where they find themselves to be weak. Volunteers have been beneficial in making the program work. They provide the one-to-one learning situation which many students need.

During the 1975-1976 school year Warren Harding Junior High will participate in the Statewide Mathematics Assessment Program.

Interscholastic athletic events at the 9th grade level, for boys, began in 1967, with competition in basketball, wrestling and track. Competition, for girls, began in 1973, with softball, basketball and track.

In the mid 70's Warren Harding Junior High continues to maintain a high student population. They participate in the voluntary transfer program which permits innercity black students to elect to attend Harding. They participate in the Title III Career Interest Survey and the Title III Rent-a-Kid program. Other programs, which they participate in are, the World of Construction, Police-School Liaison and SPURT, the program for students with learning disabilities.



AMOS HIATT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
E. 15th and 6arfield Grades 7, 8, 9

Principals who have served at Amos Hiatt are:

- 1918 - 1923 R. J. Cornell
- 1923 (Jan.-June) Mae Goldizan
- 1923 - 1929 R. L. Grigsby
- 1929 - 1935 S. E. Thompson
- 1935 - 1939 C. O. Hoyt
- 1939 - 1942 Victor Mastin
- 1942 - 1946 Elmer Betz
- 1946 - 1960 L. L. Wires
- 1960 - 1961 Robert Denny
- 1961 - 1964 Gareld Jackson
- 1964 - 1966 Bruce Gardner
- 1967 - Phillip Cooper

HISTORY OF AMOS HIATT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 1918 - 1965

Amos Hiatt Junior High School had its beginning in the building on E. 12th and Court. This building, known variously as “Old East” and “Old Amos,” was first occupied in March, 1891 when pupils from Webster and Bryant marched over in a snowstorm to be the first occupants. From 1891 to 1903 it was a grade school and high school combined, then Cary was built to house the elementary grades. Mr. Amos Hiatt was superintendent of East Des Moines Schools, and his office and the office of the board of education was at the E. 12th and Court location.

In 1912 the high school students moved to the new East High School building and in the fall of that year the Des Moines Grammar School, made up of the seventh and eighth grade pupils from Webster, Longfellow and Bryant was opened at this location.

On a night in March, 1915, the building caught fire and equipment and furnishings were destroyed. The eighth grade was moved to the third floor of East High and the seventh grade to the third floor of Webster. The building was repaired that summer and in the fall it again housed the Des Moines Grammar School.

Amos Hiatt Junior High School was established September, 1918, following reorganization of the Grammar School. Mr. R. J. Cornell, its first principal, pioneered the junior high school movement in Des Moines.

During the summer of 1918 the Parent Teachers’ Organization cooperated with the school officials in the selection of a name for the school. The name of Mr. Amos Hiatt, 18 years Superintendent of East Des Moines Schools, was chosen and permission to use his name was obtained. Announcement of Mr. Hiatt’s letter of permission was made at a student assembly and this assembly then voted on the school colors, green and gold.

During the 1967-68 school year Amos Hiatt celebrated its 50th Anniversary. The PTA planned several events in honor of the celebration with all activities culminating on April 23, 1968. At that time an open house was held so that former pupils, teachers, administrators and patrons could meet for an evening of reminiscing and renewing of past friendships.

During this period of time, typing was initiated to the junior high program and a work experience program which gives on the job training at the junior high level was instituted. Both have proved to be popular and productive courses.

The attendance at Hiatt has declined somewhat in the past few years and in 1975 has an enrollment of about 630 students. Their programs include Title I Spelling as well as Title I Reading. They have an active

New Horizons program. They have the World of Manufacturing as well as the SPELL program. They have the community cultural recreational program as well as the Police-School Liaison program.



Principals:
1971 - Wendell Webb

HOYT MIDDLE SCHOOL
1700 E. 42nd Street

Hoyt Middle School opened as an elementary building in September, 1968. The building was designed as an elementary building that later could be expanded to a junior high school structure. This was done with an eye to the future and an analysis of the enrollment trends. It was seen that a junior high school building would be needed to relieve the enrollment pressures that were taking place at Goodrell and Wilson Junior High Schools in the eastern part of the city. Hoyt was an elementary school from 1968-1972.

A great deal of work planning and study went into the matter of developing a middle school at the Hoyt site. The result was that the Hoyt Middle School was opened in September, 1972. The new Hoyt Middle School addition consisted of 21 classrooms, an auditorium, cafeteria, gym and a library. The total amount spent on construction was \$1,684,000. In August, 1974, a contract was let for an addition of a music room and practice areas in the amount of \$103,500. In 1975 still another addition was contracted for expanding the industrial arts shop area and the amount of the budget allocated for this project was \$120,000.

The open areas of the new Hoyt Middle School presented a different organizational pattern and team teaching situation. The Citizens' Planning Committee that worked on this decided they would like the head of the school called an executive coordinator with the other jobs indicated as an administrative coordinator, coordinator for instruction, coordinator for pupil affairs, and a coordinator for community affairs. In this last respect a very active adult program is taking place at Hoyt with hundreds of students and adults from the area participating in the nighttime use of the building.

The 1975 Hoyt curriculum includes four general related areas of study taught by teaching teams.

I. Math/Science - Continuous progress and ungraded. Outdoor class room and problem solving techniques incorporated.

II. Language Arts/ Social Science - The Social Science vehicle is used to teach Language Arts. This team has a four year teaching cycle and a highly organized basic skills program.

III. Fine and Applied Arts - Art, Music, Career Education Exploration, Business Education, World of Manufacturing, World of Construction, Consumer and Family Education.

IV. Health/ Physical Education/ Recreation (co-educational) , Physical Education, Health, career approach to Communication Media as well as the Hospitality and Recreation cluster, Leisure Reading, Group Guidance.

There will be a Learning Disability program, Pupil Services as well as full extra curricular and club program. Hoyt continues to individualize instruction and offer options. The staff is differentiated. The philosophy embraces field trips, volunteer workers and extensive community input through an active Community Advisory Board and P.T.A.

Hoyt maintains a business alliance project with John Deere. The organization since 1973 has continued to include sixth graders from the area, since there is not room for these students at the McKee Elementary and Douglas Elementary School. Thus for 1975-76 the grade range for Hoyt is grades 6 through 9.

Following is a description of the life of Cress O. Hoyt, the person for whom this building was named.

Cress. O. Hoyt was a teacher coach, vice principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent in the Des Moines schools from 1922 until the time of his death on March 1, 1957.

Mr. Hoyt was born February 26, 1891, on the family farm in Adair County. His father's early death left him as the oldest boy in the family, then living at home. He and his brother, Charles, stayed out of school for two years and farmed the land.

In 1914, when his brother Charles was graduated from high school, his mother moved the family to Grinnell in order to make it possible for the brothers and sisters to attend college. Mr. Hoyt joined the family and entered Grinnell College where he played left tackle on the undefeated football team, which in 1916-1917 met major competition including the University of Iowa. He was voted one of the two outstanding linemen in the state in 1917.

Because he was the oldest boy in the family, the students gave him the nickname of "Dad." He was known by that name the rest of his life.

When World War I came, he enlisted in Naval Aviation. In the Spring of 1918, on leave from the Navy, he was graduated with his college class. He was discharged in January, 1919.

He became a teacher and coach of football at Oskaloosa, Iowa, in September, 1919, and in 1922, accepted the position as social studies teacher and football coach at East High, Des Moines. During the rest of his life he was contacted by former players and students who so greatly respected and admired him - a great tribute.

In 1935, Mr. Hoyt was appointed vice principal at East High School. In 1936 he became the principal of Amos Hiatt Junior High School, and in 1939, principal of Roosevelt High School. In each school he was highly successful and when he was appointed assistant superintendent of schools in 1941, he had a host of friends and supporters.

In 1955 Mr. Hoyt was appointed to the superintendency of the largest school system in the state. He had demonstrated his leadership qualities, his teaching skills, and his dedication to education in all of his



previous and diverse experiences. His ability to instill a sense of high endeavor in his colleagues, his vision and courage, will long be felt by all in the field of education.

Mr. Hoyt was fortunate in his personal life. He enjoyed life and living. He had the devoted and stimulating companionship of two unusual women who enriched his life. In 1920 he married Mary Bartley, a home economics teacher at Roosevelt, who died in 1937 leaving Mr. Hoyt and a son, Jack. In 1942, he married Genevieve Anderson, the Director of Elementary Education in the Des Moines School, who later became a professor at Drake University.

Mr. Hoyt had many and varied interests in educational and community organizations. He was a member of Phi Delta Kappa, president of Iowa Schoolmasters' Walt Whitman Club, member and officer of the Des Moines Educational Association, the Commission on Teacher Education and Professional Standards, National Education Association, American Association of School Administrators and Iowa Educational Association. He was also a 40-year member of the Baldwin Patterson American Legion Post, the East Des Moines Club, member and president of the Lions' Club, Capitol Masonic Lodge, Commandry and the Za Ga Zig Shrine. He was a member of the Plymouth Congregational Church.

C. O. Hoyt was a big man, a sensitive and perceptive man of unique personality, who had the ability to establish close rapport with all of his associates. He was a generous man who had a sixth sense concerning human relations - a great humanitarian.



Previous principals:
1926 - 1941 Walter O. Allen
1942 - 1945 L. L. Wires
1945 - 1946 Victor E. Mastin
1946 - 1954 Emmett J. Hasty
1954 - 1961 Warren W. Nixon
1961 - 1965 Donald R. Emanuel
1965 - 1966 Earl Bridgewater
1966 - 1970 Lacey Spriggs
1970 - Gerald Conley

WASHINGTON IRVING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 16th and Forest Grades 7, 8, 9

The cornerstone was laid on April 28, 1925, and classes began September, 1926. Washington Irving Junior High School is named for Washington Irving, America's pioneer in the field of general literature. It was given this name in 1918.

Washington Irving came into existence in 1918 as one of the first two junior high schools in Des Moines, Amos Hiatt was the other one. At that time Irving was housed in the old Forest Home building on the southwest corner of 13th Street Place and Forest. This building was erected in 1925-26. It was added to the Nash elementary structure that existed on the site. Thus there was both an elementary and a junior high school under the same roof.

Because of the nature of our school, the Irving faculty must continually be aware of their responsibilities in guidance and citizenship. They need to help pupils grow in self-realization through the mastery of basic skills and a better understanding of the world in which they live. This must be accomplished by awakening their interests in learning through motivated instruction on such levels as they are successfully able to master.

Irving in the mid-1970s finds itself with a reduced student enrollment due in large measure to the voluntary transfer program. Many of the junior high school students have elected to be bused to other junior high schools in the city. As this report is being written one of the recommendations for desegregation would be to close Irving junior high school in September, 1976.

This was adopted by the Board of Education in June, 1975. The exact distribution of students now in the Irving attendance area is still a matter of discussion.



Principals of Kurtz have been:

1959 - 1965 Merle F. Schlamp

1965 - 1971 Donald Emanuel

1971 - Velma Cross

LOUIS KURTZ JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL Grades 7, 8, 9
S.W. 12th & Porter

Since the incorporation of Bloomfield Township in 1919, Southwest Des Moines has witnessed a great expansion in the building of churches, stores and motels. But what is most remarkable about the south side is the great increase in the number of new homes being built. It is fitting then that Kurtz Junior High School has been erected to serve the educational needs of this rapidly developing community. The floor plan of Goodrell Junior High was also used for the Kurtz building. Mr. Schlamp who was the first principal of Goodrell also became the first principal of Kurtz.

Louis C. Kurtz was a pioneer Des Moines businessman who served his community in many ways. He was a member of the Board of Education for many years. In this tradition, Kurtz Junior High School will strive to maintain high standards of educational and social development for the students who will be the citizens of tomorrow.

Continual increase in numbers of students - team teaching and large classes in English and social science. Kurtz operates with no bells, no student council and no hall monitors; all students have their own places to sit in the lunchroom.

Contract Let - September 1957.

Date site was acquired - 1951 to 1955

Date construction started - October 1, 1957 -- 30 classrooms

Grades 7 through 9 -- 1000 students

FACILITIES

Staff Offices, Cafeteria and Kitchen Auditorium Seating 750 Double Gymnasium with Folding Bleachers Seating 700 Library

Kurtz Junior High in the mid-1970s finds itself with a sharply reduced student population. This is due in large measure to the opening of McCombs school to the south of them. The programs at Kurtz include the Title III Career Interest Student Survey as well as the Title II Rent-a-Kid program. They offer a student potential enhancement program at the 7th grade level. Their career education program is especially broad since it includes the following; Communication and Media, Environment, Public Service, Marketing and Distribution and World of Work Economic Education. Beginning in 1974 the school has a spring greenhouse project. This has been a dynamic arrangement whereby most of the students at Kurtz are involved in this ecological movement to grow and sell plants. It has proved to be a unique learning experience that is being copied in other junior high schools across the city.

The 7-period day allows all 7th and 8th grade students to have Physical Education every day and both boys and girls in the 9th grade to have Health class alternating with Physical Education. The nurse and a male Health teacher work as a team to plan and teach this practical course unique in Des Moines Schools. All 7th, 8th and 9th grade students receive First Aid training. All teachers and 9th grade students completed the Red Cross First Aid Course.

The Developmental reading program provides daily reading instruction for 7th and 8th grade students. Independent reading, an elective for 9th grade, is taught by the librarian.

8th Grade students operate the K Math Company. All aspects of an employee's life where money is concerned are covered including social security, taxes, wages, etc.

Industrial Arts and Homemaking are coeducational as well as many Physical Education activities. Art in 7th grade, and music in 8th are offered every student daily.

One of the most successful activities in the student activity fair which is held in the fall semester. Every department in the school presents a demonstration and/or sells a product made by students in that department. The project was planned as an approach to open house which had suffered declining attendance. It was very well supported by the community as a family open house involving students, parents, teachers, and others in the community.

-

Dates of Construction:

1973

Principal:

1973 - Wendell Miskimins



McCombs Junior High School
201 S. W. County Line Road
Principal Grades 7-8-9

McCombs is a modified open-space school. Some areas are semi-open and others are quite self-contained. The students have the experience of working in both kinds of situations as they go through school. The space is used to benefit the students according to the need of the individual child and according to the most satisfactory means of his learning the various areas of the curriculum.

The goal is to help each student. Effort is made to find out at what level of learning each student is and to help him to go from that level. To accomplish this special skill groups have been established in language arts and social science. This is to teach the students what they do not already know or to teach them something new to them. In math the students are placed at the level where they are and where each one can succeed and move onward. The reading program is highly individualized. The groups are carefully selected. Some students do not take reading because they do not need it. There is a Skill Lab manned by volunteer parents or community residents. This has been successful.

The curriculum is extensive in the fine and applied arts areas. Offerings include band, orchestra, chorus and music. The art courses are on a three-year cycle so that a student wanting three years of art may experience different kinds each year. In the shop area there is the world of construction, world of manufacturing, world of communication including experience with printing presses.

McCombs is the first and only junior high school in Des Moines to offer an Agri-Business course. (Seventy percent of all business in Iowa is related to agriculture.) A student may choose to take three years of home economics including vocational home economics. The curriculum is career education oriented. McCombs school has been designated for one year as a career education junior high. This is the only junior high in Des Moines with a Career Education Advisory Committee. Members include faculty and parents from McCombs and its feeder elementary schools.

The science program, Intermediate Science Education Studies (ISES) is based on the scientific methods of experimentation. In addition the students have courses in environment and Unified Science and Math for Elementary Schools. (USMES).

The physical education program for both boys and girls include cross country, soccer, basketball, volley ball, softball, golf, tennis and recreational games. Interest activities serve as the core-curriculum and they are adjusted to the needs and interest of the students. Students with special interest in athletics may use the gym every morning from 7:15 to 8:15. After school there is an intramural program involving home rooms or by signing up for a team.

McCombs students also have a wide variety of extra-curricular clubs and activities to choose from including Drama, Photography, Future Homemakers, Future Farmers, and Art Club. These offer many worthwhile and interesting activities and experiences. Service Club, Y-Teens and Pep Club offer opportunities for service to McCombs as well as social activities.

Students talented and interested in music are encouraged to try out for Swing Choir and Stage Band or join the chorus. In addition the newspaper staff provides an outlet for creative ability and Student Council an opportunity for participation in the democratic process as well as developing leadership potential.

McCombs is a community school where many activities take place during the week after school. In addition to those named above they have recreation for the students and night school for students and adults of the community. There is an on-going Parent Action Group.

It has long been a custom in Des Moines to give to a school the name of a person who has made a significant contribution to the fields of education, government, and social organizations. Many of these persons have been nationally known figures as well as community leaders. Newell Devin McCombs is eminently qualified in all categories for this honor. He was a nationally known educator who held positions in Iowa public school systems for thirty-five years, the last nineteen years being with the Des Moines Public Schools as Assistant Superintendent from 1937 to 1941 and Superintendent from 1941 to 1956.

Mr. McCombs was born December 13, 1895, in DeSoto, Iowa. He died May 27, 1966 at age seventy, in St. Petersburg, Florida, where he and his wife lived in retirement for ten years.

He was graduated from DeSoto High School in 1914 and entered Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa in 1915 where he worked to earn money for his schooling waiting tables and serving as a student instructor in chemistry. He concentrated academically on the areas of physics, chemistry, and economics. He played the cornet and was a member of a quartet that traveled extensively in the Midwest during vacations.

His education was interrupted after two years when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War I, serving primarily as a special lecturer and instructor of wireless telegraphy (radio) at Harvard

University. He returned to Simpson College after discharge from the service in 1919 where he completed two years of schooling in one year, graduating at the top of his class with a B. A. degree in 1920.

He spent one year training at an automobile dealership before accepting his first position in education as a high school science instructor in Cherokee, Iowa in 1921. Four years later (1925) he became principal of the high school and one year later (1926) he was appointed as Superintendent of Cherokee Public Schools. He attended summer sessions at the University of California and the University of Iowa, receiving his M.A. degree from the University of Iowa in 1927. He continued graduate work during summers at Northwestern University, Chicago University, and New York University.

He served in the capacity of Superintendent of Schools at Cherokee, Iowa until 1936. He then became Superintendent of Schools at Muscatine, Iowa for one year before accepting the position of Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Des Moines, where he completed his career as an educator. In 1943 he received, from Simpson College, the honorary degree of Doctor of Education, and in 1944 he received, from Drake University, an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

“Mr. Mae” was a man of high ideals and great intellectual ability, a man of many accomplishments, a man of friendly dignity, and a man of quiet courage and strength, the “likes” of whom will not be seen for a long time, if ever.



Principals:
1962 - 1970 Victor Mastin
1970 - Gerald Dockum

MEREDITH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
West 48th and Madison
Grades 7, 8, 9

Meredith Junior High School was opened September 2, 1962. This building honors the memory of Edwin T. Meredith who served Iowa and the nation in the following capacities:

- Secretary of Agriculture of the United States
- Trustee of Drake University and Simpson College
- Publisher of Better Homes and Gardens, Successful Farming and others
- Director of United States Chamber of Commerce Director of Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
- President of Associated Advertising Clubs of the World Member of the British War Commission

The Meredith family donated the 50 acre site upon which Meredith Junior High School and Herbert Hoover High School are located.

Meredith was originally planned and built under the “little school” plan, which involved three schools within a school, each with its wing principal. During the three year period the student was at Meredith he or she was assigned to the same homeroom and the same wing. This basic concept was followed until approximately 1970, when the administrative structure was changed to provide for a principal, one vice principal, and a centralized counseling arrangement.

The original plan for Meredith involved the future addition of a senior high to the north of the junior high building. This was accomplished in the fall of 1967 when Herbert Hoover High School accepted its first students. These buildings share some common facilities, including the Meredith kitchen which prepares food to serve both schools, the Hoover auditorium is available for use by the junior high, and other sharing of facilities and staff. This joint sharing was further facilitated when the current principal of Meredith was appointed to administer both buildings in January of 1974. This has resulted in the plant and transportation force being combined under one head custodian for both buildings.

An addition to the original structure opened in 1972. This addition included three general classrooms, a music room, and the remodeling of existing rooms to provide additional art and homemaking spaces. This addition allowed the removal of three portable classrooms that had been in use for several years. While the capacity of the original building was 750 students, enrollment had climbed to a high of 1,011 students in September of 1968. The use of the portable classrooms plus classroom space at Hoover was required to accommodate the overflow of students. A boundary change in 1968 transferred several students to Franklin and enrollment has gradually moved to approximately 850 students per year the past few years.

The school is continuing to maintain its student population, largely because of the open enrollment and the voluntary transfer program. Approximately 10 per cent of the current enrollment is made up of students who live outside the designated attendance area.

The school operates on a basically traditional structure with various patterns of instruction, including team teaching and individualized approaches. Recent years have seen the addition of specialized personnel, including a police liaison officer, a social worker assigned to all schools in the area, a specific learning disabilities resource person, specialized reading instructor, and a special education resource person. Thus, while the thrust is still toward providing a basic background in the academic areas, increased provision is made to help all students according to their needs and abilities..

Meredith received national publicity in an article, A Junior High Little School, written by Dr. Robert Denny and Dr. Victor Mastin for the June, 1963, of the American School Board Journal. This article was reprinted in the October, 1963, issue of Midland Schools.

Detailed information about Meredith:

Original Building

Size - 81,350 square feet

Contract let - March 18, 1961 Site acquired (gift) - 1957

Construction started - May 1, 1961 Cost - General contractor

Mechanical contractor Electrical contractor

Total (Cost per square foot \$16.90) Architect's fee \$68,690

Equipment \$188,000



Merrill Jr. High

Principals of Merrill have been:
1961- 1974 Edward Bigot
1974 - John I. Barrett

MERRILL JR. HIGH SCHOOL
52nd and Grand
Grades 7, 8, 9

Merrill Jr. High School was opened for students in September, 1961. This building honored the memory of a man who had devoted the major portion of his life to the education of boys and girls in Des Moines, Mr. Albert W. Merrill.

Mr. Merrill's long tenure is given below:

- Principal, Forest Home High School 1892 - 93
- Teacher, West High School1901 - 11
- Principal, North High School 1918 - 23
- Assistant Superintendent 1923 - 34
- Acting Superintendent 1934 - 37
- Superintendent of Schools 1937 - 41

With the opening of Merrill, the junior high at Roosevelt ceased to exist and it became a senior high unit. Merrill too, provided some relief for Hanawalt Elementary School. It is interesting to read in the Grieder Building Study of 1939, that the site at 52nd and Grand should house all of the elementary pupils at Hanawalt "plus a small junior high." The reverse has happened with a small elementary enrollment attending with a much larger junior high group. Jordan Elementary School stood on the Merrill site-in the early part of the century-

Specific information about Merrill is given in an abbreviated fashion below:

- Contract let September 15, 1959
- Site acquired 1944 to 1959 - 9.5 acres
- Date construction started - September 19, 1959 24 classrooms
- Grades 7 through 9
- Plus 4 elementary classrooms
- 750 students
- Facilities
- Staff offices, cafeteria, master kitchen
- Lecture room seating 250
- Double gymnasium with folding bleachers seating 500

Library
Future Expansion
Two story classroom addition
Contents 89,500 square feet 900,000 cubic feet

Cost

General contractor	\$1,081,147
Mechanical contractor	268,500
Electrical contractor	98,493
Total	\$1,448,140
Architects fee	\$ 42,407

Cost per square foot - \$16.18, exclusive of Architect's fee

Builders - William Knudson & Sons, A. J. Allen Plumbing & Heating Co., Weston Electric

Grades fifth and sixth remained at Merrill until the Fall of 1973 when the construction of a new addition to Hanawalt Elementary School allowed for the departure of the elementary grades. During this time the peak enrollment was 867 in 1968. Beginning in 1968 Merrill was designated as a receiving school for the Voluntary Transfer Program initiated by the school district to provide for better city wide integration of minority students. The first year eighteen students were bused to Merrill. The program expanded over the years so that 72 students were scheduled to attend Merrill in the Fall of 1975.

Merrill has maintained a rather traditional curriculum through the years in terms of courses offered and skills taught. Most students tend to take a full schedule with many students taking a foreign language and many others involved in excellent vocal and instrumental music programs (Band and Orchestra). In 1972 Merrill became the first secondary school to provide a program for students with learning disabilities. For the next two years, until other schools developed programs, students were enrolled from all areas of Des Moines. Recently the school has been actively involved in other district programs such as Career Education, Business-Education Alliance, and remedial reading.

Mr. Edward Bigot opened Merrill in 1961 and continued in the post of principal until his retirement in 1974.



Weeks Jr. High

Principals of Weeks Junior High include:

- 1953 - 1961 Edward G. Bigot
- 1961 - 1962 Warren W. Nixon
- 1962 - 1965 Erwin A. Hafeustein
- 1965 - Carl Millsap

NATHAN WEEKS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

S.E. 9th and Park Avenue

Grades 7, 8, 9

On April 16, 1952, the school board asked for bids on construction of Nathan Weeks Junior High School. The bids were opened May 20 at a public hearing and A. H. Neumann and Brothers firm received the contract. This culminated years of planning a junior high school to serve the southeast area of Des Moines.

Construction started May 26, 1952. During the summer of 1953 a prolonged strike of local building unions (May 1 to July 8) caused a halt on construction. Twelve classrooms were completed by September 8, 1953. The rest of the building was ready for use December 8, 1953. The lunchroom was not completed until February 8, 1954. Construction is now going forward for an addition of ten classrooms and a library to be added at the west end of the building. This addition should be ready in the spring of 1966.

The move to name the school in memory of Nathan H. Weeks, for thirty-nine years a teacher and administrator in the Des Moines Public Schools and the first principal of Lincoln High School, was started by the Howe School Parent-Teacher Association. Mr. Weeks had been a long time resident of the district and active in all movements for the good of the area.

Other organizations and residents of the south side where Weeks was a leader in community activities then backed the idea. Included were the Build Lincoln Higher Club, the Lincoln High School P.T.A., and more than seventy-five individuals who signed a petition asking that the name be given to the new school.

Weeks, a graduate of Amherst College, who also attended Hartford Theological Seminary, entered the Des Moines School System as a history teacher at West High School in 1903. He later was appointed vice-principal of that building.

In the fall of 1923 he was assigned to the new Lincoln High School as its first principal. He continued in this position until 1935 when he asked to return to the teaching of social science at Lincoln. He taught until his retirement in 1942.

While at Lincoln he established a scholarship loan fund available to deserving Lincoln High graduates. The School Board voted to name the new junior high school for Nathan Weeks, July 18, 1951.

Remarks About Educational Program, Accomplishments, etc.

After the School Board approved preliminary plans for a junior high school to be located at S.E. 8th

and Park Avenue, the architects, Wetherell and Harrison were authorized to proceed with the preparation of working plans and specifications.

The building was to be located on 16.08 acres of land purchased from Edward Van Ginkel and Frank Gillaspay. It was to be of brick one and two story 356 by 252 feet.

Glass bricks were used in parts of the building. No plaster was used. Waylite concrete blocks were the principal material. The only wood floors were in the gymnasiums and the shops. Asphalt tiles were used on all other floors.

Although construction had begun May 26, 1952, a strike of building unions in 1953 held up completion of the building. Because of this strike school opened September 8, 1953, with only twelve westwing classrooms of the total nineteen finished. Therefore, double sessions consisting of six thirty-five minute periods were conducted morning and afternoon.

There were 462 students enrolled in the sixth through eighth grades. The sixth graders were students from over-crowded elementary schools. Later there were just seventh, eighth, and ninth grade students.

An old-fashioned hand bell was used to signal the end of classes because there were no clocks. The bell system was not yet working.

The nurse's quarters were used as temporary offices. Small cardboard boxes that had contained blocks of floor tile were used as teachers' mail boxes.

A school banner in memory of her husband was given to the school by Mrs. Alice Weeks. The banner was formally presented to the school at an assembly by Aaron Hutchens, Principal of Lincoln High School.

It was designed by Carl Linder, art teacher at Weeks. It carries a torch and a portion of a favorite motto of Mr. Weeks: "Striving for Better Things and Finer, Fuller Lives."

A framed portrait of Nathan Weeks was presented to the school by the Build Lincoln Higher Club. The presentation was made by Mrs. Fred Brown. Vice-principal Ralph Tomlinson accepted it.

The formal dedication of the \$1,053,787.43 building was held during a regular P.T.A. meeting February 23, 1954, at 7:30 p.m.

The speakers were Superintendent N. D. McCombs; President of the Board of Education, Mrs. James Shannahan; and Mrs. A. C. Hutchens, a friend of the Weeks family. Principal Edward G. Bigot, presided.

The large school contract awarded for Weeks junior high in March, 1955 was for ten classrooms and a library. The amount awarded in the contracts was for \$335,000. In the mid-1970s more room was needed at Weeks junior high for a shop so plans are being made for an industrial arts shop addition to be built.

The programs at Weeks junior high school in the mid-1970s include the Title III Career Interest Student Survey as well as the Title III Rent-a-Kid project. They also have a learning disabilities teacher. They participate in the Police-School Liaison project with McCombs as a team.

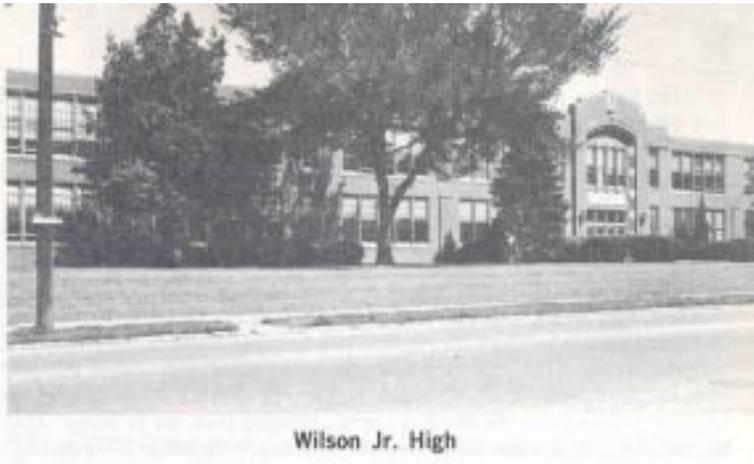
Three rooms of the new addition were opened in February 1966 to begin a Title I Federal Program to improve the teaching of reading and mathematics.

With the opening of the entire new addition, eleven classrooms and a library, in the fall of 1966, Weeks entered a program of modular scheduling, Weeks still uses a combination of modular scheduling with block-time programs.

A fire in the office started by an electrical short in a ceiling caused about \$2,000 damage in August of 1969. After that all ceiling light fixtures were lowered from the ceiling.

School enrollment reached a high of 960 students in 1969. Three mobile units helped house the students. Some of the overcrowded conditions have been eliminated by decreased enrollment. New industrial arts facilities are being planned.

The educational program at Weeks has included individualized programs in mathematics and emphasis on "studying yourself" in relation to the world in social science. A real improvement has been made over the past few years in the quality of the music programs, the number of students participating, and the size of the audiences at the programs.



Woodrow Wilson principals have been:
1925 - 1954 Everett Davis
1954 - 1959 Raymond Bishop
1959 - 1962 Walter Beasley
1962 - 1966 Wendell Webb
1967 - 1968 Don Blackman
1968 - 1972 Rolland Brownell
1972 - Richard Tuller

WILSON JR. HIGH SCHOOL Grades 7, 8, 9
E. 24th and University

HISTORY OF WOODROW WILSON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Woodrow Wilson Junior High School was opened in 1925. There were 28 teachers and 925 pupils. This enrollment steadily increased until in 1954 it was above 1200. The enrollment was 1067 in 1974. A slight decline in enrollment, to approximately 980, is indicated for the 1975-1976 school year. The staff in 1975 is 44 classroom teachers, a principal, vice principal, assistant principal, a full-time nurse, two full-time counselors, and a full-time librarian.

Before opening the first year, a student council was organized. Each contributing grade school sent several of its outstanding pupils to confer with the principal and advisers. A constitution was drawn up and under this constitution Wilson has enjoyed a strong and meaningful student council until this date.

The school's colors have always been black and gold; and the school's symbol is the Chanticleer. The school motto is "Our Spirit Never Defeated." The campus is appointed by unusual trees and flowers planted by Wilson's first principal, Everett Davis. The tennis courts were built with funds made available by paper drives and the W.P.A. labor force. One of these courts was hard-surfaced by the city recreation department in 1964.

The track, which is considered one of the best junior high tracks in the city, was built by Woodrow Wilson students under the direction of the physical education teachers. The overall athletic record of Woodrow Wilson Junior High is outstanding.

Through the years, Woodrow Wilson has sponsored many fine operettas and other musical entertainments. At the present, the annual Christmas program, Father-Son Night, the Mother-Daughter Tea, and the Spring Festival of the Arts are looked forward to by the community.

The library was opened in 1956. The school district allowed \$1500 and two released periods for a librarian. There is now a full-time qualified librarian and 8,500 volumes.

A full-time nurse is on duty all day. Team Teaching and individualized instruction have become integral parts of the program at Wilson.

The school paper, THE CHANTICLEER, has been instrumental through the years in forming a strong school spirit.

The seventies have seen Wilson continue to grow - to the extent that it was necessary to add a portable classroom in the fall of 1974. Much of the continued growth has been the result of new housing, the Pleasant Hill area at the eastern edge of the District. A new open space elementary school,

Pleasant Hill, has been constructed. To accommodate the increase in enrollment, the number of periods in the day have been extended from six to seven. Also, curriculum offerings have been increased so as to provide twenty-one electives at the ninth grade level, sixteen at the eighth and eleven at the seventh grade level.

Pilot projects in career education and learning disabilities also became a part of the Wilson scene in the seventies. Both programs have been highly successful and, when coupled with the upcoming expansion of Special Education, greatly enhance the services rendered to students.

In 1975-76 school year marks the golden anniversary of Woodrow Wilson Junior High School. That it ranks among the leaders in Iowa is a fitting tribute, not only to its name sake, but to the thousands who have passed through its stately portals.

DOUGLASS LEARNING CENTER

Housed at YMCA Building 2nd and Locust

HISTORY OF THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS LEARNING CENTER

During the 1969-70 school year the unrest of junior high students, especially in the inner-city schools, became apparent. With this situation, a tentative plan was formulated to develop an alternative school to house these junior high students.

A suitable location was found in the vacant St. Ambrose School building located at Fifth and Ascension. Richard E. Peters was named to direct the school. Before a program could be developed, spring arrived and there was unrest once again in the junior high schools. In order to show good faith to the teachers of these schools, the District moved swiftly. With no formal plan at hand, the school opened its doors on April 27, 1970. The school was named the "Parallel School" and generally followed the pattern of the other Junior High Schools in the District.

The student body was composed of those students that were generally unruly in their Home Schools. At the close of the school year, one hundred thirty-eight students had been assigned to the "Parallel School." It had been a trying ordeal for the students, five staff members and the District. It did however fulfill its main purpose, to remove disruptive students from their Junior High School, there-by showing the teachers of Des Moines that the District understood their teaching problems.

During the summer that followed, a committee worked on a philosophy and curriculum for the school. It was at one of these meetings that the idea of changing the name from "Parallel" to Frederick Douglass Learning Center was suggested. The thought was to name the school after a renowned black person, due to the fact that 90% of the student body was black. Frederick Douglass was chosen because of his anti-slavery belief. In history he was referred to as the nation's most renowned abolitionist. With a new name chosen, the next steps were to work on objectives, curriculum, a home and staff.

The first year the use of Behavior Modification was successful. The students apparently accepted this approach, but by November the money allocated for the token system was depleted so other methods in the realm of Behavior Modification were used.

The 1971-72 school year brought two changes: New Horizon's, a work experience program was introduced to the students and Behavior Modification was dropped.

The 1972-73 school year brought more changes: a secretary was added to the staff, an educational aide was lost, and a waiting list developed. The list of 20-25 students stayed somewhat constant during the school year. Even though the school was designed for fifty students this number rose to sixty students

during the school year, because of the large number on the waiting list.

The 1973-74 school year continued about the same as the previous year. Enrollment remained at sixty for the school year, and the waiting list remained about the same too. The Douglass Learning Center added an assistant director.

The 1974-75 school year showed the greatest growth since the Center's beginning in 1970. A Learning Disabilities teacher, a Resource Teacher of Emotionally Disturbed Children, a Science teacher and a part time Nurse, have, given strength and support to the educational program at the Douglass Learning Center. With additional staff came an increase in the number of students served from sixty to eighty. Even though the number of students allowed to attend the Douglass Learning Center increased, the waiting list increased too, from 20-25 to 30-35. Apparently the services provided by the Douglass Learning Center are being accepted by the various Junior High schools in the District.



East High

Principals at were at East:

1885 - 1891 Frank Plummer

1891 - 1901 Elmer E. White

1901 - 1918 Miss May Goodrell

1918 - 1934 A. J. Burton

1934 - 1954 O. G. Pritchard

1954 - 1964 D. Q. "Duke" Williams

1964 - 1970 Gareld Jackson

1970 - Earl Bridgewater

EAST HIGH SCHOOL

East 13th and Walker

East High School, like the other Des Moines High schools, has been housed in several different buildings in its long and illustrious history. East High first existed in the Bryant School at East 9th and Grand which was the only schoolhouse in East Des Moines. In simple chronology the dates and buildings are:

1861 - 1877 Bryant School (top floor) East 9th and Grand

1877 - 1891 Webster School (top floor) East 12th and Lyon

In 1888 the freshman class of East High was moved back to Bryant due to overcrowding.

1891 - 1911 East High-Built as a senior high with laboratories, auditorium and cafeteria.
East 12th and Court

1911 A "new" East High at 13th and Walker.

Additions in 1955 and one slated for 1966.

In making formal plans for a high school, the East Des Moines Board of Education has some definite ideas about their aims and goals. They appointed a committee of Honorable James Wright, William Matthews and D. E. Jones to draw up and report a plan or course of study for said school.

"We would state that it is the sincere desire and wish of the Board, as this school is now organized

upon a solid basis, that the people of East Des Moines be requested to unite with us in sustaining it by generous support.

“We would recommend as a standard of admission to, the high school that each applicant be required to spell and read well, and write a fair hand, understand the rules of arithmetic so far as to solve questions in fractions, must understand descriptive geography and be able to define the parts of speech and analyze plain English sentences.

“We further recommend that females entering the high school be permitted (at their own option) to substitute for geometry, trigonometry and survey, drawing, music and other branches suitable for young ladies such as French, German or Latin.

“We would further recommend that an examining committee of the board be appointed consisting of not less than three persons, assisted by the principal of said school, to meet all pupils desiring admission to the high school for examination, at such time and place as may here- after be agreed upon; at which time certificates of admission will be given to all applicants found qualified.

“We would beg leave to recommend the use of Easton’s Grammar Arithmetic instead of both Ray’s Practical and Higher, believing that the pupil will acquire as much knowledge of arithmetic from the study of one sooner than the two. We are, however, at the same time opposed to the frequent change of text books.”

As Des Moines grew in population and as the public of the late 1800’s came to accept education beyond the eighth grade as necessary and important, the enrollment of East High increased. In 1871 the first class graduated—only one member: Miss Elizabeth Mathews who comprised the class roll. The dropout rate of the 187-0 era must have been unusually high because there were no more graduates until 1875!

As noted above, the high school moved to the third floor of the Webster building in September, 1877. But there were still no laboratories, gymnasium or cafeteria. In one end of the large room they spread mats and hung some rings and they called this the gym. There were three recitation rooms in addition to the large study-gym room at Webster.

In 1888 school enrollments required the freshman class to, move back to Bryant. In 1890 the high school used still another floor at Webster. Fortunately Webster had the “new” brick annex on the grounds to accommodate their pupils. This annex was known as the Louisa Mae Alcott building which honored a popular author of the day.

In the spring of 1891 a new East High was completed containing facilities specifically designed as a, senior high school. There were laboratories, sewing rooms, cooking rooms, auditorium, cafeteria in addition to recitation rooms. The superintendent of schools had his office on the first floor. The training school for primary teachers was held in the basement. The students were very proud of their new building and marched from Webster led by the freshman class and the principal, Mr. Elmer White. The new unit at East 12th and Court started with about 200 and soon grew to 700.

By 1901, only 10 years after the new building was occupied, the first step was taken toward a new structure. The Board of Directors of the East Des Moines School District purchased a square block of ground bounded by East 14th, East 13th, Maple and Walker Streets. The land was purchased from the state of Iowa at a cost of \$8,000.

On May 21, 1907, the city of Des Moines was consolidated into one school district, The consolidation was finally approved by the Supreme Court of Iowa in an opinion handed down on July 7, 1908. By this time the conditions at East High were such as to demand immediate relief. The new school board agreed that a new building adequate “to the present needs and future needs, should be built.”

The cost of the building would have increased the indebtedness of the school district beyond the legal

limit. The Thirty-third General Assembly passed a bill allowing school districts of cities having a population of 65,000 or over to become indebted up to two and one-half percent of the actual value of the taxable property within the district, for the purpose of building and furnishing, a schoolhouse. This bill was Chapter 184 of the Acts of the Thirty-third General Assembly, May 21, 1909.

One of the provisions of the bill was that before an indebtedness in excess of the pre-existing legal limit could be contracted, a petition signed by 2,500 electors, owners of real estate, asking for the erection of such a building, must be presented to the Board.

Such a petition was prepared and circulated among the business men of Des Moines by a committee appointed by the East Des Moines Commercial League. East High students speedily circulated many petitions. On December 21, 1909, a petition with 2,994 names was presented to the Board. On March 14, 1910, the favorable vote was 7,695 for, and 2,153 against, issuing \$400,000 worth of bonds for the erection of a new East High School. At this election women were allowed to vote.

Ground for the building was broken September 6, 1910, by Miss May Goodrell, principal. The cornerstone was laid January 18, 1911, by Miss Goodrell. Superintendent William Riddell gave the formal address. A few of the thirty-eight items that were placed in the corner stone were:

1. A Bible
2. An American flag
3. An Iowa Official Register
4. A Masonic directory
5. A copy each of the Register and Leader, the Daily Capitol, the Evening Tribune, the Daily News and Plain Talk
6. Copies of the school directory 1907-1911
7. Copies of the superintendents reports, 1907-08 and 1908-09.
8. Portraits of Amos Hiatt, for 20 years superintendent of East D.M.,
Mr. W. O. Riddle, first superintendent of the consolidated D.M. district, Miss Goodrell, principal of East High
9. A football extra of each of the evening papers announcing East High victories.
10. Names of the Greater Des Moines Committee
11. A copy of the Des Moines plan of government

Finally on May 17, 1912, after many trials and hardships the students and teachers marched triumphantly to the new school. Because the new building had cost so much, \$400,000, it was impossible to have it furnished that spring. For this reason, the entire student body turned out with vehicles of every description to carry desks, chairs, equipment, books and waste-baskets from their old building to the new East High. A parade was formed by the students who marched to the new building, led by the GAR. Drum Corps of Kinsman Post No. 7. Within three hours after the moving began, the students were reciting lessons!

East High was designed by the architects, Bird and Rawson. They used the classical style with the front entrance patterned after the north portico of the Erechtheum; the northeast door is taken from the Choragic Monument of Lysicrates; the northwest from the Tower Temple to Hephaestus. Throughout the building simplicity of the classic style is a factor. Much of the credit for the style and harmony of the building "is due to J. A. McKinney, who was president of the school board at that time."

The motto, "For the Service of Humanity" over the front entrance was submitted by Charles A. Cumming in a contest held for that purpose. The ivy planted in 1915 was sent from Harvard University.

The interest in athletics by East High students has always been very keen. Until 1893 baseball was the chief sport but it became less popular when track and football were begun in 1894. In 1895 the first track meet was held with the following high schools participating--East, West, North and Capitol Park.

Neither Oak Park nor Grant Park entered this contest. East won the first meet as well as those for the next three years.

Football was not common at this time and few boys knew how to play the game. Burdair Hartung, who owned a football used for Rugby, learned the game of football and taught it to some of his classmates who then formed a team. Football was adopted as a school sport through the efforts of Miss Millicent Cuplin, a teacher at East High in 1894. In that year, East played six games, losing only one. These victories in football seemed to call for school colors. The colors of Scarlet and Black, Grinnell College colors, were adopted by the East High Athletic Association.

The need for the development of a higher type of sportsmanship was seen as the football games often ended in a free-for-all. In 1904 Mr. S. A. Foster, offered the Foster Trophy to the Des Moines High School that won the city championship three years in succession. At the same time the students must conduct themselves in an orderly and friendly manner towards the opposing teams. East won this trophy, an American flag in 1910.

The students who largely handled the athletic program, had much difficulty in finding a suitable athletic field. An old cemetery at East 15th and Maple was leased and converted into an athletic field. The tiling and grading cost about \$2,800 and the senior class bought the bleachers with money obtained from a special benefit. The school board, convinced that this was a 'worthy' project, contributed a, fence-and thus the "Alumni Field," dedicated by a large bonfire and speeches, was complete. The students expressed the wish that George Garton, Fred Van Liew Clark Beard, and J. A. McKinney should always have free admission to the field because of their untiring efforts in securing it.

Curriculum Changes at East High

The curriculum grew as fast as the enrollment. The subjects offered now are quite different from the first course. Different languages were introduced into the curriculum—German in 1903, Spanish in 1915 and French in 1918. The study of German was discontinued in 1917 but has since been resumed.

There were three four-year courses offered in 1908:

1. Latin
2. Scientific
3. Business

Every student was required to complete four years of English, three years of mathematics and two and one-half years of history. In addition the requirements of the respective courses were:

Latin--four years

Science--three years plus an extra year of mathematics

Business--commercial geography, bookkeeping, commercial law,. and stenography.

Students were allowed to elect subjects in the third and fourth years only.

When manual training was introduced into the school in 1908, Miss Goodrell made the following report to Superintendent W. O. Riddell: "We are gratified that manual training has been added to the course at East High. I have waited long for this and have asked for it several times in the past seven years."

In the same year, Miss Goodrell reported about the beginning and development of cooking classes in the school. "It was this desire that our school keep abreast of the times in providing means for the more practical side of education that led us four years ago to begin a series of cooking demonstrations once a week for all girls who desired to attend. The effort was materially assisted by the kindness of Mr. Jansen Haines of the Des Moines Gas Company, in donating a stove for our use. The demonstrations were given after school hours in the afternoon and the expenses were met by the proceeds of entertain-

ments. The interest was so great, the course so successful, that, it was repeated the next year. The third year a slight change was made. Mr. Haines extended his interest by donating the services of Mrs. Sarah Moore, demonstrator for the gas company and met all expenses of the food demonstrations. The past year we have enjoyed the privilege of Mrs. Moore's services, the school, however, meeting the other expenses."

Through the years clubs have played a very important part in the school life of many students. The first formal club organization was the Boys' Debating Society which was recommended in 1901 by Miss Goodrell. The next club which lived any time at all was the Bible Club for boys, organized December, 1915. The Bicycle Club was a girls organization. The student council was introduced into East High in 1919 by Principal A. J. Burton.

The school publication, the QUILL, was started in the spring of 1905 by Miss Mary Patterson. The QUILL was quarterly until 1930 when it became a semi-annual and in 1963 became an annual. The SCROLL, a biweekly newspaper was started in 1930 by Mr. Kenneth Stratton.

When Miss Goodrell was graduated from East High in 1877, she conceived the idea of an Alumni Association and assisted in its organization. At first the meetings were held annually, later semi-annually when there were graduating classes in both January and June. In recent years with just June classes, the East High Alumni Association has met the first or second week of each June. Graduates come from many of the fifty states and even from foreign countries. It is reputed to be the oldest high school alumni organization in the United States.

East High in the 1960s and 1970s

The rising enrollments of the 1960s in the East Des Moines area required that an addition be built at East High School. Also there was the matter of modernization of facilities and in the 1950s and 1960s an adequate high school library became a standard feature of all of the high schools in Des Moines. Thus, plans were drawn and contract let in September, 1966, for eight classrooms and library addition to be built at the south of the original East High school building. The decision was made to use the same stone exterior finish so that there would be harmony in design with the existing facility. In 1973 there was a new wing added to the north of East High School replacing the inadequate cafeteria and the old outmoded classrooms on the third floor. This modern new facility again emphasized the need to maintain a vigorous academic program at East High by providing the physical plant to carry it out. In addition there was an addition to the heating plant at this time. Both the new north wing and south wing were air-conditioned facilities.

Probably the most dramatic change in and around East High School has been the expansion of the school grounds. With the addition to the north, the city agreed to the closing of Walker Avenue and this incorporated into the immediate school grounds. Also, the square block to the west of East High School was acquired and converted to parking facilities. In 1975 an extensive plan was submitted to the School Board for landscaping and complete layout of the new land added around East High School. This plan totaled \$250,000 When completed with plantings, East High School will be not only the same splendid building that it was before, but will have a more adequate landscaped background to show the dignity of the building.

Other changes in the 1960s and 1970s that have taken place have been the expansion of the land area around Williams Field. Since this is now considered a city-wide stadium there was a need for adequate parking facilities. The city installed new mercury-vapored lights on the streets adjacent to the stadium so this was an improvement. Homes around the stadium were purchased and demolished. A gradual land

acquisition has been taking place between Williams Field and the East High School physical plant. The ultimate aim is to have an open corridor existing from the high school to the stadium area.

Plans have been discussed with the State Department of Public Instruction of having an open space driving range constructed on this site. While houses have been acquired and land acquisition has proceeded in this direction, final plans for such a city-wide facility have not been finalized as of the summer of 1975.

Curriculum Work in the 1970s

One of the exciting new curricular core areas that has been added at new East High School was the communications and media department. This is housed in the north wing of East High and provides a unique educational offering for the students. Other projects at East High in the mid 1970s include the New Horizons program as well as an East High mathematics laboratory. There is also a Title III Career Interest Student Survey project as well as Title III Rent-A-Kid (Career Guidance). East High has maintained a vigorous project carried out with Alliance of Business with IPALCO. There is also a home remodeling class at East High school that provides unique opportunities for students to renovate older homes in the district and have practical learning experiences at the same time. There is also an English laboratory as well as a learning disabilities project. Minimum performances tests are being developed in Math, American History, English and Biology. These tests establish minimal levels of achievements that all students should attain at some time during their senior high years.





Principals:

1962 - 1973 - Donald Wetter

1973 - Gerald Dockum

HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL

4800 Aurora Avenue

Herbert Hoover High School is located on a fifty acre tract of land in northwest Des Moines that was originally donated to the school district by the Meredith family. A junior high school, named after Edwin T. Meredith, was erected on the site in 1962 with future plans including the construction of a senior high school on the same campus.

Establishment of a senior high school on this site was the center of controversy for a number of years prior to its construction. The primary concern was whether there should be another high school added to the Des Moines district. In 1962 the voters rejected the school administration and the Board of Education's proposal to construct additions to North High and Roosevelt High to house the high school students who lived in the northwest section of the city. Such additions would have been in lieu of building an additional high school in this area.

Rejection of this bond issue was considered a mandate to build this additional high school, and the next bond issue in February 1964 included a northwest high school, which ultimately resulted in the construction of Hoover. This did not end the controversy, however, as the next issue involved whether or not the building should be air conditioned. At that time the school district had no air conditioned buildings and there was considerable discussion by the Board of Education and the community as to whether or not this "frill" should be included in this new building and a junior high school to be constructed in the southwest section of the city. Ultimately the decision was made to construct buildings that would include air conditioning, and Hoover High School and Brody Junior High School became the first school buildings in Des Moines to have climate control. Inclusion of this feature has resulted in Hoover High maintaining a large summer school enrollment ever since it was built and also serving as a meeting place for numerous school and community groups throughout the year. Three sessions of adult education classes are held in this building each year, including a summer session.

Contracts for a total of \$3,065,988 were let in March 1966 for the construction of the building. Inflation of the 1960's had eaten into the money that had been allocated from the bond issue, and several modifications of the original plans had to be made. Two additions in later years were primarily the result of those items being eliminated from the original plans. On July 8, 1964, John Haydon, a member of the Board of Education moved to name the new high school in honor of a native Iowa, Herbert Hoover. Mr. Hoover was born in Iowa in 1874 and died in 1964. During his illustrious career he served as chairman of the American Relief Committee during World War 1, where he achieved international status. He later served as Secretary of Commerce from 1921 until 1928, when he received the Republican nomination for President and later went on to defeat the Democratic candidate, Alfred E. Smith. Following his defeat by

Franklin Roosevelt in 1932, he served on many government and private committees, including the powerful Hoover Commission of 1953. A bust presented by this library and a personal letter from President Hoover to the President of the Board of Education in 1962 are both on display at Hoover High School.

The first principal of Hoover High School, Dr. Donald Wetter, assumed his duties on January 23, 1967, and he capably guided the selection of personnel, ordering of equipment, and the handling of the multitude of details necessary to open a new school. Much discussion was held before deciding the make-up of the first student body. It was finally decided the school would house only the tenth and eleventh grades during its first year of operation. These students, who would have been attending either North or Roosevelt began classes in September 1967. Much of the construction remained to be finished, but the use of classrooms at the adjacent Meredith Junior High and a great deal of ingenuity resulted in a smooth beginning for the school.

Enrollment the first year consisted of 429 sophomores and 402 juniors for a total student body of 811. September enrollments the following years of the school's existence are as follows:

1968 - 69 - 1255

1969 - 70 - 1299

1970 - 71 - 1292

1971 - 72 - 1320

1972 - 73 - 1265

1973 - 74 - 1215

1974 - 75.- 1134

Since the school attendance area is bounded on the north and west by other school districts, there is no room for further expansion of housing within the present school boundary area. Thus, unless district-wide boundary shifts are made in the future, it appears likely that total enrollment in the school will decrease, reflecting the nation-wide declining birth rate.

As mentioned earlier, a shortage of available funds necessitated a modification of plans on the existing structure. Thus, in April 1971, contracts were let for additional space for science, music, homemaking, and shop facilities. The total expenditure for this addition was \$366,700. Construction was completed and the first classes were held in these facilities in September 1972. Since only one gymnasium was built in the original construction, another facility was needed for physical education classes from the outset. On February 18, 1975, contracts totaling \$385,743 were let for this addition. Also, additional funds were allocated to install auditorium lighting, which had been omitted from the original plans. Completion of these projects thus provides a building very similar to the one recommended in the original plans but which had to be modified because of a shortage of appropriated funds at the time.

The school soon established its own identity, reflecting the enthusiasm and competence of the students, parents, and staff. While the primary emphasis since the school's beginning has been to provide a strong academic background for the students, extra activities have also been an integral part of the school's history. Students in the school soon excelled in all areas, including music, drama, debate and athletics in addition to their class work. The result is that at least one area of the school's program has received statewide recognition through winning a state competition in its area each year since the school was opened.

A large percentage of the graduates enroll in some type of post-high school training upon their graduation. Currently approximately 65% of the graduates seek additional training beyond the high school level. Although no comprehensive formal study has been made, it is obvious that a large percentage of these graduates complete their advanced training.

From its-beginning the school has maintained strong programs in the English, mathematics, foreign

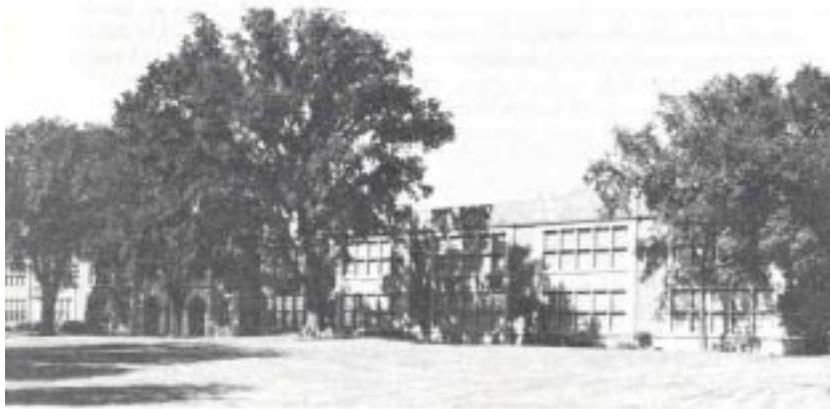
languages, science and social science areas, with most students enrolling in a full schedule of subjects from these areas. In recent years the addition of program in distributive education and office education have provided opportunities to combine school training with practical work experience. Students at Hoover have also participated in the Executive Intern program from its beginning in the 1974-75 school year. The art, industrial art and homemaking areas continued to develop their programs and courses to reflect the changing needs of the school community. The music department has enrolled large numbers of students in instrumental and vocal groups, with all groups receiving top ratings in state competition in their areas. The development of a wide variety of elective courses in the physical education area provides many opportunities for all students to develop their skills and increase their knowledge in activities that will help them to develop and maintain their physical health during and beyond their high school years. Nearly all students are enrolled in a daily physical education class throughout their three years at Hoover.

Even though the school has had only a small number of minority students enrolled since its opening, a conscious effort has been maintained throughout the years to develop curriculum that will include the contributions of the minorities that make up our country. The development of the Voluntary Transfer Program by the school district is beginning to result in a larger number of minority students from other areas of the district electing to enroll at Hoover.

The first evaluation of Hoover by the North Central Association was conducted by a team that visited the school November 4, 5, and 6, 1969. Recommendations of the team were accomplished where ever financial resources and physical facilities would allow. During the school year 1975-76 the Hoover staff again engaged in their self-evaluation with a follow-up visit, by the North Central team during the fall of 1976.

The first principal of the school was Dr. Donald Wetter, who served in this capacity from the opening of the school in 1967 until December 1973, when he was appointed as Executive Director of Secondary Education for the Des Moines School District. Mr. Gerald Dockum was then appointed to the position, at which time the administration of Hoover High School and adjoining Meredith Junior High School was combined under one principal. Implementation of this centralized administration included combining, the custodial force into one total unit, sharing of teachers in specialized teaching areas and further sharing of physical facilities in addition to the combined food service plan that had been utilized ever since both buildings began operation.

Looking ahead, the emphasis will continue to be centered on meeting the changing needs of the students and the society in which they live. The addition of a resource teacher to work with students who are identified as having specific learning disabilities and the implementation of a career education program are only two examples of programs that will continue to help implement the purpose of the school as stated in the opening lines of its philosophy, "The primary concern of education at Hoover High School is to encourage the student in the fullest possible development of his intellectual abilities, his capacities as a person and as a member of society."



Lincoln High

Principals of Lincoln High include:
1923-1935 - Nathan H. Weeks
1935-1968 - Aaron C. Hutchens
1958 - - Melvin J. Bowen

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL Gr. 10-12
S.W. 9th and Bell

In September, 1966, Lincoln High School became solely a senior high school for the first time since it opened in September, 1923 as a 6 year junior-senior high school. Beginning in September, 1967, Lincoln will house only grades 10-12. The post WWI growth in Des Moines and the boom era of the 1920's required many new classrooms to house the high enrollments. The public school philosophy of the first two decades had looked to the 8-4 program; eight years elementary and a 4 year high school. The 1920's saw the rise of the junior high school philosophy or the 6-3-3 plan; six years elementary, three years junior high and three years senior high.

The Building of Abraham Lincoln High School

The bonds which were to pay for the building of Abraham Lincoln High School were voted March 18, 1918. They were sold as the money was needed between the years of 1918 and 1923. The site selected was west of Southwest Ninth Street.

Samuel Bell bought the land from the government in the early 1850's. When it was purchased for the High School, most of it belonged to his daughter, Mrs. Rachel Mosier, although there is a list of some half-dozen owners besides. It was condemned for school purposes in 1919, costing the school district \$49,280.80 including appraiser's fees and cost of condemnation.

Work was started on October 7, 1921. The architectural work was given to Proudfoot, Bird, and Rawson, the general contract to J. E. Lovejoy; and the heating and plumbing contract went to the Van Dyke Heating and Plumbing Company. The cost of the building was \$775,492.25; fixtures and furnishing increased it to a grand total of \$949,754.95.

The ceremonies that marked the laying of the corner-stone of the Abraham Lincoln High School Monday, May 16, 1922, were very impressive. J. W. Studebaker, the superintendent of schools, made a brief address, after which he spread the mortar and helped put the corner-stone in place. Mrs. MacKinnon, former president of the board of education, who was largely responsible for the school in south Des Moines, helped Mr. Studebaker. One of the interesting spectators at the laying of the corner-stone was Mrs. R. A. Mosier, pioneer resident of Des Moines.

In 1923 Lincoln High School contained fifty-five rooms. There were two gymnasiums, a swimming pool, home economics laboratories, art and music rooms, a cafeteria, spacious offices, and an auditorium with a capacity of 1,300 persons.

There are a number of prized possessions in Lincoln High School. In the floor of the vestibule is the school monogram done in bronze, surrounded by a design in variegated marble. On the south wall is a portrait of "The Boy Lincoln" painted by Russell Cowles, a former student of West High School. On the north wall is "Lincoln the Statesman" painted by William Reaser. In the Main corridor is a bronze bust of Lincoln, the work of Laurence Stewart, former student of East High.

The corner stone of the old Lincoln School, which used to be at Ninth and Mulberry Streets, has been set as a memorial on the Lincoln High lawn. It was presented to the school with appropriate ceremonies when the old school was demolished. This corner stone is only one of the many reminders of President Lincoln that are preserved by the school. There is a steel engraving of the Lincoln family when Lincoln was in office, also one of the President himself, both presented to the school by Fred Foss. A piece of log from Lincoln's cabin birth place was presented by W. L. King, a former school teacher. An engraving of the national monument in the Soldiers' National Cemetery, which was dedicated by President Lincoln with his famous Gettysburg address, is also in the collection. In the auditorium above the stage are the words of that famous address done in gold.

Fire Destroyed Lincoln Shops--1957

In April, 1957, fire destroyed the shops building annex at Lincoln High. The loss was estimated at \$300,000. The two-story annex was burned out by the blaze. Equipment in its three classrooms and four shops (laboratories or auto mechanics, mechanical drawing, wood and metal working classes) was destroyed. Cause of the spectacular blaze, discovered at 12:07 a.m., was not determined. City Fire Marshal, George Soderquist said, however, that investigators had found no evidence of arson.

The school was closed Wednesday, but classes were resumed in the main Building Thursday morning. Classes ordinarily held in the shops building were held in the school lunch room, library, auditorium and in hallways. They included one English and two arithmetic classes. All shop work was abandoned temporarily.

"We are overcrowded now (Lincoln had about 1,650 students), but we will make out some way," Principal Hutchens said.

The continued growth of housing in South Des Moines has resulted in a number of new elementary schools being built in the 1960s and 1970s. In turn, as elementary schools were built there was a demand for junior highs to house these students. For example, in the late 1940s the Lincoln building was both a junior and senior high school. It was identical in many ways to Roosevelt which was also built as a six-year high school in the 1920s. Through the years, junior high schools that were built, Weeks in 1953, Kurtz in 1959, Brody in 1966, and McCombs in 1973. This called for more space required at the senior high level. While some students in South Des Moines attend Tech High a majority of them go to Lincoln. Thus, there has been a need to build an adequate educational facility to house these students.

The decision was made to add eight classrooms, and contracts were let in May, 1971 for this addition. The total of contracts were \$355,719. In the fall of 1974 the educational needs of South Des Moines were carefully examined and plans were drawn for an addition that would enable the school to dispense with the use of portable classrooms. Contracts were let in the sum of \$544,950.00, General Contract, \$79,694.00, Mechanical Contract and \$43,361.00 Electrical Contract, totaling \$668,005.00

Contracts were also awarded in the spring of 1975 for the expansion of the fixed bleachers at Hutchens Field. Since this is a municipal stadium for the use of all of the high school units, it was decided that this additional seating must be added for the accommodation of the spectators. This contract was in the amount of \$55,643.00 and provided 2,272 number of seats. It is hoped that this will be ready for use in the fall of 1975. In the 1920s when both Lincoln and Roosevelt were built, little thought was given

to parking lots, inasmuch as cars were relatively few. Certainly, in the 1930s, 1940s, and well into the 1950s not too many high school students drove cars. Since the attendance area at Lincoln High School serves the entire southern section of the city it has been necessary for a great many students to provide their own transportation. The diminishing service of public transit, streetcars, and limited bus transportation was another factor that put the burden on families to provide transportations for their youngsters to school. After a great deal of study, land was acquired north of Lincoln for a parking lot. An exit was purchased on Kirkwood so that the traffic flow would be away from the school building proper. The facilities that were added to Lincoln in many ways are comparable to those that were added in and around Roosevelt to accommodate the automobile traffic. In addition to the parking lot, physical education facilities were expanded in the area north of Lincoln and east of the stadium. These included a softball field and tennis courts. It is anticipated that the new parking lot will be open in the fall of 1975 for use by students as well as spectators at the Hutchens Stadium. This should be a boom for all of the high schools that schedule their games at Hutchens and Williams Fields. Again, the parking in and around the stadium is in line with the additional parking that is taken place at the Williams site. Educational programs in the mid-1970s include an Alliance with Business and in this case, Bankers Life of Des Moines. They participate in the handicapped driver training program as well as the Pre Career Industrial Workshop. One of the most extensive programs in the city is offered at Lincoln High School called Opportunities Unlimited. This provides courses and work programs for students who might otherwise drop out of high school. A number of mini courses have been developed in the area of English and language arts. There is a mathematics laboratory as well as a special reading program. Lincoln also has a work study program as well as classes for students with learning disabilities. Lincoln won the 1975 Boys' State Basketball Championship for the State of Iowa. The last time a Des Moines school won was in 1965.

1966 Addition of Gym; Pool, and Cafeteria

1972 Addition of 8 Classrooms

1975 Addition 5 classrooms, Media, Center, and Shops Building

In the late '60's and '70's the Lincoln High School faculty and administration concentrated its efforts on educational programs that would improve the instruction of the youth of the Lincoln High community. To reflect the individual needs of students and varying students ability, every department evaluated programs in these terms recognizing the wide scope of students who attend Lincoln High School.

The results of these self-evaluations and new programs resulted in a broad elective program of 180 different courses. Efforts were also made by the instructional staff to articulate the programs of the elementary, junior high schools, and senior high school in the southtown community. Some of the major accomplishments of this concentrated effort are:

1. A broad new English program which offers many different electives based upon the needs of the students. An English pre-test was given to students in the ninth grade coming to Lincoln.
2. The math department brought into existence a math laboratory experience to individualize instruction so students could progress at a faster rate or special instruction would be given to those students who are in need of additional help. The results has been a decided increase in attendance in the math department and the drop-outs have been non-existent.
3. The math lab concept has since been expanded to include lab classes in social science and science.
4. The Railsplitter, the Lincoln High newspaper, continued to receive merit recognition from the National Scholastic Press Association, Columbia School of Journalism. This is the highest recognition given to a high school publication.
5. The music program has been expanded with increased emphasis to the extent that the vocal and

instructional groups received many awards. The Swing Choir received many first place contest awards locally, in the State and the Midwest and was recognized as one of the outstanding music groups in the United States.

6. Lincoln High School offered and brought into existence one of the broadest, extensive programs for students with special needs. The program was entitled "Opportunities Unlimited". It provides pre-career classes and career experience for students who might otherwise drop out of high school.

7. The homemaking department received a special grant to provide a career education program in collaboration with Area XI Community College to provide career education to students who might otherwise drop out of high school.

These are just some of the programs and projects providing instructional areas for all students. This is based on the philosophy of Lincoln High School which is, "Recognizing the wide spectrum of the Southside Community, Lincoln High School is dedicated to the acceptance of each individual, and to the development of the individual's capacity for learning."



NORTH HIGH SCHOOL
501 Holcomb Avenue

North High Principals:

- 1889 - 1892 Miss Louis Patterson
- 1892 - 1893 Mrs. A. W. Merrill
- 1893 - 1894 Mr. E. N. McKay
- 1894 - 1897 Mr. Samuel Cart
- 1897 - 1898 Mr. C. N. Clifford
- 1898 - 1900 Mr. A. W. Brell
- 1900 - 1904 Mr. W. E. Rummel
- 1904 - Jan. 1905 Mr. W. A. Cruisinberry
- 1905 - June, 1905 Miss Amelia Morton
- 1905 - 1915 Mr. J. G. Grundy
- 1915 - 1918 Mr. E. J. Eaton
- 1918 - 1923 Mr. A. W. Merrill
- 1923 - 1927 Mr. Curtis Threlkeld
- 1927 - 1935 Mr. H. T. Steeper
- 1935 - 1958 Mr. S. E. Thompson
- 1958 - 1961 Mr. Aaron Hutchins
- 1961 - 1963 Dr. Robert Denny
- 1963 - 1966 Dr. Donald Wetter
- 1967 - 1972 Mir. Wendell Webb
- 1972 - Mr. Rolland BFownell

History of North High School

In 1880, there was incorporated in one of the suburbs of Des Moines, a new town, called North Des Moines. It lay in a beautifully wooded tract of land extending from the river on the east to Twenty-first street on the west, and from North Street, now University Avenue, on the south to Washington Street, or perhaps farther, on the north to about Ovid Street.

Forest Home School Journal, Vol. 1, No. 1, published December 22, 1885, and certainly the first school publication in North Des Moines, speaks glowingly of the advantages of this new and rapidly growing town. One of those advantages was the very new Sixth Avenue bridge, which furnished a way by which the people on the north side of the river could reach the heart of the city of Des Moines without traveling by the Capitol

building. Another was the street railway system, which provided horse-drawn cars as far north on Ninth Street as to Forest Avenue. Also the town possessed three churches, the North Park Congregational on Eighth and North; the Westminster Presbyterian on Twenty-first Street, and the Bethel Evangelical. Another great attraction for new settlers in this location was Des Moines University, which had been moved from the city of Des Moines to the corner of Ninth and Washington and which offered an excellent liberal arts education to all who would take it.

Forest Home School was situated on Forest Avenue between Thirteenth and Fourteenth Streets. In 1885 the principal of this school was Mr. A. M. Miller. Following him for two or three years came Mr. D. G. Perkins, for whom Perkins grade school of the present time is named. By 1889 two rooms had been added to the building and plans had been carried out to establish a high school. Mr. O. E. Smith had come to be superintendent of all the North Des Moines schools, for by this time the town had grown and other schools had been built, Summit, later called Given; Oakland, now Sabin being among them and also Lake Park, now Clarkson.

North Des Moines High School was then definitely launched in the fall of 1889, upon its long and honorable career. The high school department made use of three rooms and the hallway. One of these rooms known as the main room seated about seventy-five students and was used chiefly as a study hall, but it was often necessary for the teacher in charge of the study group to hear her classes therein. The time came when it was necessary for classes to be met in the hall, or down in the kindergarten room in the after- noons, and even as some of the students of that time may distinctly remember down in a cellar room, where physics and chemistry classes were held in very close quarters and with very little equipment.

The first principal of North High was Miss Louise Patterson, a graduate of Grinnell College and a very lovely sweet spirited woman who left the impress of her own sincerity on the lives and ideals of many of her pupils. Following her as principal while she continued as a teacher of English in the school came Mr. A. W. Merrill, who stayed only one year at North at that time. The next year saw two principals come and go, Mr. E. N. McKay, and Mr. Samuel Cart. During these years there were besides the principal usually two other full time teachers and drawing and music teachers who also served the grade schools.

At that time those boys and girls who did not intend to go to college were very likely to drop out of school while still in the grades or at the end of the ninth grade.

A few years later than this, statistics showed that only ten percent of the fourteen-year-old boys were in school. With this in mind it is not surprising to discover that a rather large percent of the earlier graduating classes went on into college-four out of six in the first class; and four out of the five in the second, the fifth one in this group taking a business college training after high school, and so on, of course, the percentage decreasing as the larger numbers remained in high school until graduation. The curriculum at that time consisted of strictly college entrance subjects, English, Latin, Greek, German, mathematics, history and science with a little art and music.

In the early 1920's, North High was becoming overcrowded. This condition was taken care of in the year 1921 and on for a while by rearranging the whole schedule for the day and running the classes in two shifts with home room period for the sophomores, juniors, and seniors at 8:15 a.m. with six forty minute periods until lunch period at 12:43, when many of these students went home for the rest of the day.

In January, 1928, West Senior High was given up, because of the small number of students there. About one hundred of these students transferred to Roosevelt and over four hundred to North. Several teachers who had been at West also came to North. Every effort was put forth by all concerned to

bring about as speedy and as perfect an amalgamation of the two groups of students as possible. Home rooms were formed of equal numbers of both groups, and the school went forward as usual, soon losing sight of the North and West idea entirely.

The year 1929 marked the first activity toward again acquiring more room, which was then greatly needed because of the increasing number of pupils coming every semester from the three tributary junior high schools. Some years before the city had voted a \$300,000 bond issue for improvement of the West High building, but for some reason the plan had not been carried out. The question of transferring this money to be used for an addition to North High building was placed before the voters in March and was decided favorable for North. As a result of this action, North High gained the whole new building facing Seventh street including the boys' gymnasium, swimming pool, nurse's rooms, a much enlarged stage, and a complete change in the interior of the oldest building too Complicated to be detailed here, but providing several extra class rooms, the little theatre, and the club or music room as they are now.

1939 - GRIEDER STUDY OF DES MOINES SCHOOLS

The Grieder Report in 1939 on building needs said:

"It is recommended that North High eventually be abandoned and a new senior school located on the site known as Haugo's Sycamore Hill Plat 2, across the river at N. Union and Sheridan. This recommendation was transmitted to the Board of Education March 4, 1939. Subsequently the Board of Education decided not to avail itself of the opportunity to acquire this site, and the city has sold it to private parties.

"Proposal No. 2. A less desirable site except from the point of view of present transit facilities lies adjacent to the north edge of Union Park, between Second and Sixth Avenues, and extending north to Sheridan. Its area is about twenty-five acres. The land is low, would require a very large fill, and does not occupy a commanding position as does the first site.

"Plant investment at North is so large that the operation of a school at this center for some years to come is imperative. As recently as 1930 approximately \$200,00 was spent in remodeling the 1895 section and building a new addition for gymnasiums shop. Probably North cannot be abandoned for fifteen or twenty years. But when that time comes by far the best move will be to the large site recommended above. Immediate acquisition is strongly urged to protect the interests of the district in the future. Any other policy must be characterized as short-sighted."

"The decision as to whether or not North shall be abandoned will affect the construction program. If North is to be retained for fifteen or twenty years capital and maintenance outlays should be kept at a minimum; if longer, the 1895 section should be torn out and replaced with new construction. The Survey staff can recommend, however, no other move than eventually relocating across the river."

1957 -"NEW" NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Knezevich in his 1957 School Building Study reported as follows:

"It is difficult at this time to report on "Old" North and "New" North. During the time of the study "Old" North was being utilized for senior high school purposes but scheduled for abandonment for such purposes in the 1957-58 school year. "New" North by the same token was not yet completed. The various types of facilities provided at the "New" North High School are indicated below. The interchangeable classrooms are fairly large as the median will be approximately 752 square feet. Excellent special purpose facilities are also noted. Instrumental and vocal music rooms will have over 1,800 square feet. The boys' gymnasium has over 13,000 square feet, and the girls' gymnasium has almost 5500 square feet. There are an excellent pool and a pool stadium with a sizable seating capacity. The science rooms are large, the biology room having over 1,800 square feet. Excellent facilities are provided for industrial arts

education with auto and metal shops as well as wood shops. A student center is likewise provided. A large auditorium seating 1,800 people is included in this building. "New" North will be placed on a site of 24 acres in addition to an athletic field which is located across the road from the new building.

North High in the '70s

During the early 1970's many new courses were introduced in an attempt to provide for individual interests and differences with an emphasis on career education. Some of these courses are as follow:

Creative Writing, Journalism Graphics, Semantics, Film Arts, Guided Individualized Reading, Contemporary Literature, Expository Writing, Anthropology, Sociology, Public Issues, American Political Behavior, Asian Studies, Emerging Nations, Geography Project, Office Education, Music Theater, Experimental Child Care, Firestone Project (a career education course with Firestone Tire Company, Aerospace and Leadership Education (AFJROTC) and many others including part-time work programs and independent study.

The North High Band spent eight days in Hawaii in June, 1972, and performed in the 100th Annual King Kamehameha Day Celebration. The trip was made possible by a personal invitation from the Governor of Hawaii, the Honorable John Burns. North was the first mainland high school band ever to participate in the celebration and they were so well received that they were given an open invitation to return, which they did in 1975. The "Polar Bear Band" also played in Washington, D.C. in the 1973 Inaugural Parade.

Girls' athletics became more prominent in the early 1970's, as volleyball, basketball, track and softball were added to the list. These activities were well under way before the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare mandated that schools must provide; equal, opportunity for both sexes to participate in intramural interscholastic athletics. More will be done in this area in the future.

In the mid-1970's the school administration, the North High parents and the school board are all studying the problem of declining enrollment at North High School. With a building capacity of 1500 and a total enrollment of 700 students, together with a census forecast of still fewer students within the North boundaries, the following solutions were considered:

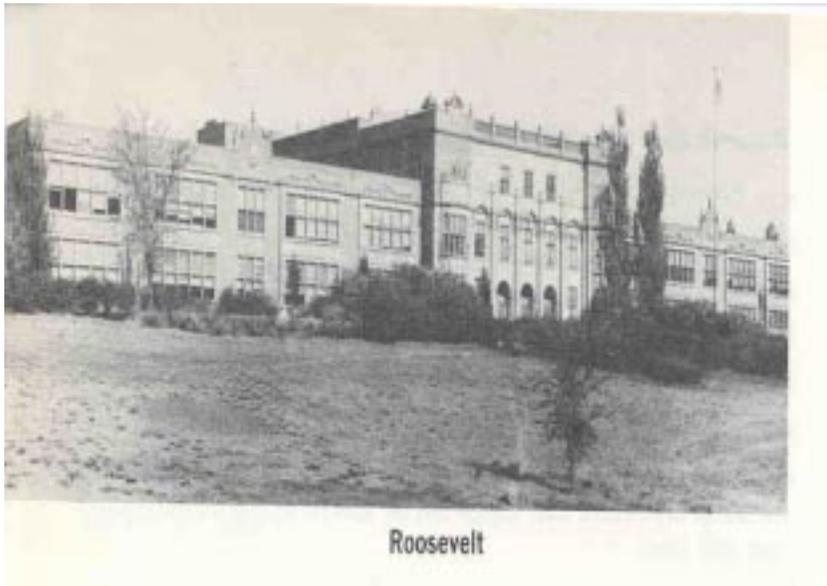
1. Adding a ninth grade
2. Adjusting high school boundaries
3. Moving Des Moines Technical High School to North
4. Closing North High School and making it into a "Fundamental" junior high school.

These concerns would probably not be necessary had the bond issue election in 1963 passed. More than 25,000 voters went to the polls, the largest turnout in the city's history for a school bond election, at that time to vote on a bond issue of \$5,975,000 and a 3-year school house tax levy that would raise an estimated \$2,200,000. These amounts, plus \$400,000 remaining from a building program begun in 1959, would have financed an \$8,500,000 project including 88 elementary classrooms, a new junior high school, an expansion of 2 junior high schools and an expansion of 3 senior high schools. North High was one of the senior high schools slated to be expanded with a \$500,000 project.

The tax levy received approval of more than 63 per cent of the voters but the bond issue carried only 59 per cent while 60 per cent was required. A shift of 208 votes would have given the bond issue the necessary votes to pass.

The next year, 30,874 voters went to the polls and passed a new bond issue that provided for a \$9,800,00 building program which included \$3,200,00 for the new Hoover High School, \$1,800,00 for a new south side junior high school, and five new elementary schools. Additions to two elementary schools, Weeks Junior High, East High and Lincoln High were also included in this project.

The school bond issue of the late 1960's provided for an expansion of the library at North High School and the addition of two classrooms. The contract let for this expansion was \$99,400.



1972 - Addition of Counseling rooms, Art rooms, Band and Orchestra rooms

1974 - Addition of Metal Shop

Principals who served at Roosevelt:

1923 - 1934 Robert R. Cook

1934 - 1939 J. Edgar Stonecipher

1939 - 1941 C. O. Hoyt

1941 - 1954 Emmet J. Hasty

1954 - 1965 Delmar H. Battrick

1965 - 1966 Charles D. Rowley

1967 - Bruce Gardner

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

45th and Center

Site-38.4 Acres

Theodore Roosevelt High School is nearly half a century old. Construction work on the building began April 1, 1922. It was completed in the fall of 1923 and dedicated on March 2, 1924.

While West High was the first high school building in this district a high school had been conducted for a number of years in Lincoln school at 9th and Mulberry.

Although many may have the impression that the history of Roosevelt started upon its completion October 1, 1923, the history really began in February, 1917, when the first petitions for the school were filed in the office of the president of the school board.

In 1921 the contracts, amounting to approximately a million dollars, were let to Kucharo Construction Company. The actual construction was begun in the spring of 1922. In September of the same year the corner stone was laid.

Although work on the school was not yet finished, the first school session opened in September, 1923. On March 2 of the following year, the dedication of the still unfinished building took place.

The twenty-three acre tract of land upon which the building was erected was selected because of its location and natural beauty. The building, when completed, cost \$1,065,000; the school equipment \$160,000; the site \$65,000; and the landscaping drives, playgrounds, and athletic fields \$30,000. The total cost was \$1,331,600.

Here is a capsule report of the first year at Roosevelt.

September, 1924--School opened with an enrollment of 1,282. Auditorium unfinished and so the cafeteria was used for assemblies with stools, boxes and the floor for seats.

The campus-bare, ungraded, not a shrub, not a walk. Organizations for the first semester were:

1. Student Council made up of representatives from each home room.
2. Band, orchestra, junior orchestra, boys' glee club, girls' glee club, Cadman Club (a ninth grade girls' glee club), Treble Club (junior high girls' glee club with fifty members).
3. Dramatic clubs--Sothorn and Marlowe, Thespian, The Marionettes Maude Adams Club, Otis Skinner Club, Walker Whiteside Club, Punch and Judy Club.
4. The Theodian Literary Club,

5. The Athenian Art Club.
6. The junior Art Club.
7. The Forensic and Debating Club (senior high).
8. Junior Parliamentary Law and Debating Club.
9. Latin Club.
10. Science Club.
11. Senior High Radio Club.
12. Junior High Science and Radio Club.
13. Canhute Campfire Club.

Second semester organizations:

1. Theodore Roosevelt Chapter of the National Honor Society
2. Ocawasin Campfire Club.
3. Junior High Corral.

Graduating classes: January -- 17 graduated. June-88 graduated.

The school is of modified Gothic style and presents one of Des Moines' finest views when seen from Polk Boulevard. The building has been greatly enlarged in the last forty years. The counseling addition, and most recently, the new library, science wing, boys' gym, swimming pool, and teachers' dining room have been added. The old boys' gym has been made over for the mechanical arts department, and the old pool is now a wrestling room.

The auditorium, with a seating capacity of 2,036, occupies a large area of the Roosevelt interior. The auditorium has served the school, and has also been the site of many attractions for the entire community. The auditorium has been the scene for action-packed pep assemblies; serious Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter assemblies; all-school movies; school plays; the Senior Frolics; and other events. Another auditorium which is much smaller (capacity 174) is the home of the dramatic and speech department. The band and orchestra rehearse on the stage of the large auditorium. The choral groups have a large music room on the third floor. The art and journalism department has supervised the publication of a school paper and annual since 1924.

The homemaking department, industrial arts department, and the commercial department help give TRHS students a choice of good vocational courses. Distributive education is a new field that has recently been added to give students on-the-job-training. Of course the academic subjects, language, English, mathematics, science, and history, are strongly emphasized at Roosevelt. The spacious new reference library contains 12,000 volumes, not including pamphlets and bound magazine volumes.

There has been an enthusiastic display of TRHS spirit toward athletics. In football, the Riders have won the City Series nine times and tied for it three times. The 1954 eleven went undefeated and were crowned mythical State champions. Roosevelt's basketball teams have gone to the State Tournament several times. The Riders were State Champions in 1934 and runners up in 1929, 1933, and 1954. In 1959 TRHS placed third in the State Tournament and played in the quarter finals in 1953 and 1961. In 1965 they were State Champions once again.

The school has won national fame in swimming. Roosevelt has regularly placed members of its teams on the All-American swimming lists. TRHS has won the state swimming title twelve times and tied once. In the city, the Riders have won thirty-two consecutive City swimming meets. Wrestling was resumed in 1955 after fifteen years without a team at Roosevelt. The Roosevelt golf and tennis have placed first in the City tournaments for many years.

The track team has been a frequent winner at the Valley Relays, Drake Relays, Oskaloosa Relays, and the indoor and outdoor State meets. The cross country team was started in 1957. The Riders' baseball team has had its share of victories in city and state competition.

Roosevelt is not a one-sport school. It has produced winners in all fields of athletics. Athletics at TRHS have become an essential and integral part in the lives of the students.

Here is a summary of the various additions to Roosevelt High School.

1. Counseling Addition--1954

Square Ft.--720 Cost-\$10,300

2. Main Addition-(Physical Education, Library, Science)-1962 Square Ft.-58,260 Cost-\$1,197,160

3. Kitchen and Cafeteria Remodeling--1964

Square Ft.-700 (dishwasher area) Cost-\$32,000

Cost includes complete remodeling of kitchen and part of cafeteria, plus the addition of dishroom building.

Freeway construction in 1966 is drastically changing the land south and west of the school. A portion of the southwest corner of the campus was taken by the highway commission for the relocation of Center Street. Revamping the front grounds area is taking place in 1966, 1967.

Roosevelt High School has explored new various curriculum courses in the 1950's and 1960's. In several cases the experimental work in BSCS biology, CHEMS chemistry, to name two, have been extended and adopted by other high schools. Roosevelt consistently sends about 8570 of its graduates to college who represent the Des Moines Schools on college campuses throughout the nation.

Roosevelt High in the 1970s

Roosevelt High School had several school additions in the 1960s. In August, 1971 a contract was awarded for \$181,000 for the addition of counseling rooms, art rooms, band and orchestra rooms. The main addition included here was the fact that the band and orchestra rooms for the first time would have a section for their own use rather than the stage of the auditorium that had been their home for almost 50 years. The counseling room addition was an expansion of the original one that took place in the 1950s. Again in August of 1974 there was a need seen for a metal shop addition. The contract was let for \$145,000 for a separate metal shop addition. This in turn reflected the change in the study body request and the need for an educational space to meet their needs.

Roosevelt High School in the 1970s continues to be a high achieving academic high school that sends probably the highest number of its students to college of any of the senior high units. The curricular program includes a number of unique programs. To name a few of them are:

Independent Study

Pass/ Fail Option

Student Supervised Lunchroom

Student Faculty Liaison Committee

Faculty Senate

Title III Career Interest Study Survey

Title III Rent-A-Kid Career Guidance

Handicapped Drivers Education program

Police-School Liaison program

Open Campus

It is felt that Roosevelt High School is continuing to meet the needs of youngsters in expanding its offerings of its programs for the requirements of the student body that it serves.



Principals-
1942 - 1946 Perry Frazier
1946 - 1969 Elmer Betz
1969 - Don Blackman

DES MOINES TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

1800 Grand
Site 4.1 acres

A technical high school for Des Moines was established in 1942 in the building which was formerly known as West High School. It was an out-growth of a program of training adults for employment in defense activities which the school system had been asked to provide. The late Roy O. Woolman, director of industrial education, took an active part in the organization of the technical high school.

From 1942 until the end of World War II the high school program and the training of adult workers for industrial firms engaged in defense activities were carried on side by side. Meanwhile the school had grown from an enrollment of less than 300 the first year to approximately 450. This later enrollment was augmented by returning veterans seeking technical education. At times the number of veterans in training exceeded 250.

After the war enrollment in the technical high school grew more rapidly, exceeding 700 in 1948, 900 in 1952, and 1100 in 1954. There was little growth in enrollment between 1954 and 1957, due primarily to crowded conditions at the former location. Since it was apparent that there would be an increasing number of high school students in the city and that the technical high school would continue to grow, the Board of Education was faced with the necessity of providing more facilities. The present enrollment of about 2000 shows the trend.

Late in 1951 it was learned that the Solar Aircraft Company planned to vacate the building at 18th and Grand Avenue. This building was constructed about 1916 by the Ford Motor Company for use as an assembly plant. It was acquired by the Solar Aircraft Company about 1940, being used as a plant for fabricating parts for jet engines. After study of many problems involved, it became evident that this building would provide the space required by a growing technical high school.

A plan was developed to bring together at this location the technical high school, the administrative offices of the Board of Education, the furniture factory and repair shop, and the supply department and warehousing for the district. This program was presented to the voters who authorized the purchase of the building in May, 1952. According to agreement it was then leased to the Solar Aircraft Company while their new plant was under construction.

The original building is approximately 450 feet long, 120 feet wide, 5 stories high in front, plus a ground floor level under the entire building and a sub-basement under approximately two-thirds of the building. The addition at the front of the building houses the auditorium; radio and television broadcasting booths, offices,

and equipment; separate gymnasiums for boys and girls; and a swimming pool. The construction of the original building was such that it could not house any of these activities.

There is ample space for the technical high school to grow by increasing enrollments in various areas and by providing instruction in new areas not now included. In addition the school will continue to expand in providing educational opportunities for adults.

Tech High School in the mid-1970s continues to offer its specialized program of vocational and technical education to the students of the entire Des Moines school district. During the 1970s the following programs have been added:

1. Licensed Practical Nursing
2. Agri-Business
3. Marine Corps Jr. R.O.T.C.
4. Business Education
 - A. M.T.S.T. training
 - B. Legal secretarial training
 - C. Medical secretarial Training
 - D. Personnel receptionist training
 - E. Business Communications
5. Trades and Industry Elective Courses
 - A. General metals
 - B. Practical electricity
 - C. Industrial safety
 - D. Blueprint reading and estimating
 - E. Aero-science
6. Academics
 - A. Math laboratory
 - B. Reading laboratory
 - C. World geography
 - D. Value-conflicts
 - E. U. W. Today
 - F. Revised English curriculum

A contract was let in June of 1970 for expanding the counseling and library space at Tech High. This area also includes the Career Placement Center. The contract amounted to \$50,000. An additional contract was awarded in 1974 for installation of air-conditioning of this space.

The Tech High aviation laboratory existed for a number of years at E 18th and Euclid. This was a site acquired from the U.S. Government as a surplus site. The need for a new aviation laboratory became apparent and contracts were awarded in August 1974 for a new building on a site at the Des Moines Airport, S.W. 31st and McKinley. This new laboratory, approved by F.A.A., was completed in September 1975.

The students from the following major areas of job entry education are participating in a house building project each year. Students of Des Moines Tech have completed their fourth house.

Carpentry
Cabinet Making
Printing (Publicity)

Sheet Metal
Electricity
Refrigeration-Air Conditioning
Painting/Decorating

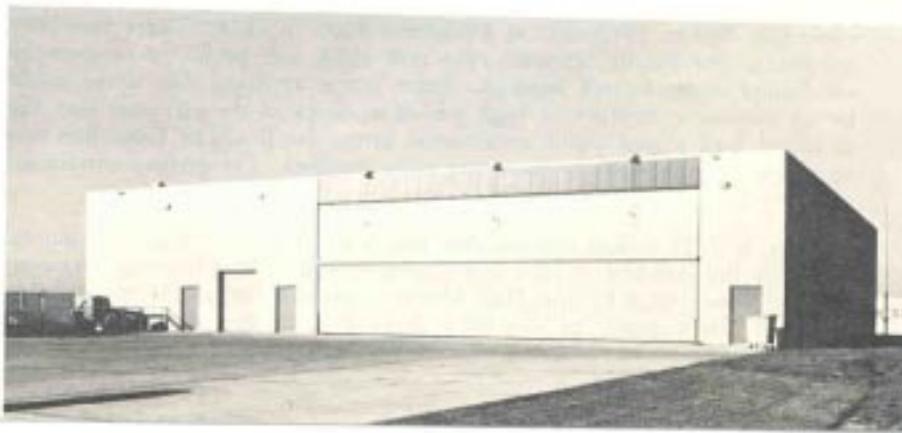
Additional programs at Des Moines Tech include:

Title I Secondary Reading
New Horizons
Title III Career Interest Student Survey
Title III Rent-A-Kid Career Placement
Alliance of Business with Pittsburg-Des Moines Steel
Handicapped Driver Education
Police-School Liaison Program
Business Education Co-op Program
Office and Secretarial Co-op
Program School-Community Worker Program
Trades and Industry Co-op Program
Learning Resource Teacher for the Hearing Impaired
Learning Disabilities Teacher

Des Moines Technical High School is one of the few secondary schools in our nation offering 29 major areas of job entry education. Students may also enroll in a college preparatory academic program or a general education academic program in addition to one of the major areas of job entry training.

Each year approximately 90% of the senior class are gainfully employed and 24% are college bound.

TECH AVIATION LAB.



Greater Des Moines Education Centers
1452 - 2nd Avenue
1961 - Indianola Road

Directors:
1968-1974 Charles S. Greenwood
1974 - Vincent Scavo

In 1968, following a wave of racial incidents in the schools, and during a time when some students were beginning to question the more restrictive aspects of schools on their personal freedoms, the Board of Education opted to open a voluntary attendance program for dropouts. That program was also to be made available to certain expellees by Board action and to “kickouts” after a 30 day waiting period. Space was made available at the Julia B. Mayer Community Center on the near north side (known previously, for years, as the Jewish Community Center). The program opened in January, 1969. By June of that year the enrollment had outgrown that facility and the present site of the North Greater Des Moines Education Center was leased. The school, located at 1452 - 2nd Avenue, was named by the students.

In December, 1972, a South Center was opened in a leased facility at 1961 Indianola Avenue. This Center was the result of a push by the Community Development Agency to expand the program. Both Centers presently serve students in the ninth grade and above who have not adjusted to the conventional school setting. The popularity of these alternative education centers has shown that they serve a unique segment of the school population. Special programs in the Centers in addition to the usual secondary curriculum offerings (highly individualized) include:

- Pre-Career Industrial Workshop
- Career Placement and Credit
- Vocational Exploration
- Neighborhood Youth Corps II
- Governor’s Youth Opportunity Program
- Driver’s Education Directors

Drake University—1896



2nd County Courthouse
1951 - 1901 - 6th and Court



Old City Hall
2nd and Locust - 1900



Roosevelt
Building Center

Pietz Hill - 1918



Ft. Des Moines - 1915



Mr. Merrill and 2 students



Traffic Boys 1930's
Sabin School



Locust Street Bridge
and Coliseum



Beginning of Grays Lake

