

APPENDIX FOUR
A PLAN FOR THE NEW CAMPUS¹

The Olmsted Report

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JUNE SECOND, 1906

DR. A. B. STORMS,
PRESIDENT OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE.
Dear Sir:—

Having visited the Iowa State College and having conferred with you and other members of the faculty and of the Board of Trustees, as to the probable future requirements of the College, we submit the following report.

We find that the main college campus is unusually large and beautiful.

We learn that when the college was started its first president, realizing that the bare prairie land, however beautiful in itself, was not attractive in its bare state as the setting for the College buildings, and feeling the need of shade, of relief from the glare of an unbroken sky, and of shelter from the fierce prairie winds, studied landscape gardening and directed the planting of the grounds with trees.

The original plan appears to have been the simple and natural one of housing the college at first in a large long building. It was located on the highest available spot, with its long axis north and south and faced east so as to command a good view down a gentle slope, across a wide grassy river bottom, toward the object in the vicinity having the greatest human interest, namely the little town of Ames, embowered in trees.

The gently sloping lawn east of the Main Hall was left mainly open, but was framed in, diversified and beautified by planting irregular masses of trees north and south of it. Care was taken to preserve vistas from and toward the Main Hall and sufficient, irregular open spaces were left in the more extensively planted southern part of the grounds and elsewhere for varied effects. A sheltering wind screen of trees was also planted along a north and south fence line a few rods back of the Main Hall.

The trees so planted have now grown to practically mature size and what can readily be inferred to have been the designed landscape effects have been duly realized. They are simple and beautiful as everyone who visits the

¹Manuscript in the Iowa State College archives.

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

grounds must at once appreciate. The first general plan was well conceived and served admirably for years.

The first modification of the plan necessitated by the growth of the college was not at all a serious one. When some additional minor buildings were to be built, they were located south and west of the Main Hall where they did not at all interfere with the central, open landscape.

The second modification of the plan occurred when several additional buildings of more ambitious architectural design and more imposing height and mass than those last above referred to came to be built. These were located north and northeast of the Main Hall and were boldly made to take every landscape advantage of the great central lawn by being placed in its borders and faced east and south upon it.

The third modification of the original plan occurred when the large Dairy Building was located at the east or lower end of the great Central Lawn and faced west upon it. This large building has practically obstructed the only distant view and has had the effect of frankly closing off the landscape connection of the great central lawn with the broad, open slopes and extensive meadows beyond (east).

The fourth modification of the original plan occurred when the large and imposing Engineering Hall was placed well back of the Main Hall, yet not directly back of it, the idea being that there would be some view of the central lawn from it and that it would be seen from many parts of the central lawn.

The plan so inaugurated and modified was similar to that followed at the Ohio State University and at Lawrenceville School, namely, a naturalistic park having a central lawn diversified in grades and by groups of trees and single trees surrounded by picturesque buildings of irregular plan and masses and free architectural style intended to harmonize with the irregular masses of foliage and with each other. At Iowa State College, however, there had developed a strong reluctance to placing the buildings on all sides of the lawn. This was due, however, more to appreciation of the beauty of trees as such than to regard for the greater and nobler beauty of landscape, for the Dairy Building was permitted to block the principal view directly in front of the Main Hall. However, this is done and with the growth of the College it would have been necessary for some building to be placed where it would block that view.

The fundamental conception of a plan or scheme thus developed is admirable. It is commonly designated the "Park plan" or "landscape" plan, implying thereby a naturalistic landscape treatment. This is an erroneous narrowing of the meaning of both park and landscape, since both a park and a landscape can be absolutely formal and yet be beautiful, although the

APPENDIX

people of this country have, with comparatively few exceptions, had but little experience of beautiful formal parks or landscapes.

The plan as so far developed has been very satisfactory and has been greatly admired and would continue to be so were it not for the difficulties.

First, the trees planted were mainly of soft wooded and short lived varieties, so that every year many are broken by storms and rendered feeble and shapeless by crowding, in consequence of which they are gradually becoming decrepit and succumbing to drought and cold and insects.

Second, the College has outgrown and will continue to outgrow the informal landscape plan through increase in the number of students and teaching force and through differentiation and development of methods of instruction. The result is that many more and much larger buildings are required and in the inconvenience of widely separated buildings is more felt every year, and the lawns are more worn out year by year by the enormous increase in traffic from building to building.

Moreover, a marked change of fashion in architecture has occurred, as a result of which the newer buildings besides being much larger than the older ones are now designed in the exceedingly formal, classic style and with very pronounced symmetry in at least the front elevation. The increased size of the buildings tends to make them out of scale with the trees and lawns and being constantly more numerous the buildings dominate and supersede the comparatively small and modest naturalistic landscape treatment. The formal buildings come to demand, most obviously and urgently formal relations to each other, and their symmetry cries for recognition in the laying out of the roads and walks and plantations among the buildings.

While it seems inevitable that good taste requires that formality and symmetry of design should be increasingly evident in the grounds between and immediately about the buildings it does not follow that the naturalistic park landscape at a greater distance from the aggregation of buildings should not be preserved and extended, particularly in the broken southern part of the campus and wherever the ground is rolling and irregular.

The first difficulty although distressing and important requires only time and intelligent effort unremittingly applied to be overcome. It can be and is being mitigated by gradually cutting the poorer trees and replanting wherever desirable with oaks and long lived trees.

The second difficulty is a great one and while matters have perhaps gone too far to enable an ideal and perfectly satisfactory plan to be devised and carried out, yet if the principles of design and the practical requirements of college business are clearly appreciated and constantly applied, reasonably creditable and satisfactory results can be looked forward to. It will soon strike anyone approaching the problem from this point of view that certain

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

of the informally designed buildings will, in time, through the erection of classic style buildings about them, come to have an aspect of incongruity which will imply that they must be removed when the college can afford to do so.

We may mention, by way of illustration rather than as a complete summary, some of the ideas or principles which ought to have careful consideration in connection with planning the grounds and buildings.

First, the students' working buildings should form a central nucleus corresponding to the business center of the town.

Second, the residential buildings should be relegated to an outer zone.

Third, the business buildings should be assembled according to their uses. The main lecture room buildings, corresponding to the office buildings of financial institutions in a town, may be given central and prominent locations, as can also the library, the chapel, the administration office building, when there is a separate one, and others the purposes of which are quiet and dignified and for which a relatively costly and formal style of architecture is appropriate. Those studies which require laboratories, involving disagreeable noises or smells, or for which more or less cheap and temporary accommodations for experimenting or storage and like utilitarian purposes may be needed, from time to time, should be accommodated in buildings so situated that they can have rear premises without offense to the appearance to the grounds as a whole. Some of this class of buildings may often best be a little out of the center, as are usually the factories of a town.

Fourth, the business buildings should be distributed according to the department of instruction. If the buildings were small and numerous rather than large and few, this would often be looked after better than it is with less confusion. In that case there might be a radiating street for each department and as it grew it would naturally expand outward along its street instead of pushing circumferentially into its neighbor's territory. The idea is simple enough and when once appreciated, it will doubtless govern the selection of sites fairly well hereafter.

The Engineering and Agricultural Departments will need most space reserved for expansion, but they should spread outward and not across into the space needed for the expansion of the Departments of Horticulture, of Domestic Science, of the Library, of the Museum, of the Languages, of Elementary Mathematics, Chemistry and other Sciences common to two or more departments, not to mention Physical Culture which so far as it is conducted in a gymnasium ought to be centrally located and to have room to expand.

Fifth, until such time as the appropriations are large enough in proportion to the accommodations to enable buildings to be thoroughly fireproof

APPENDIX

throughout and of first class materials and of dignified size and proportions and style, they should be limited in height, to lessen the danger of loss of lives in case of fire and they should be of modest yet respectable materials, such as brick and unpretentious, yet by no means displeasing architectural design. Taking the country as a whole, there has been a notable improvement in the architecture of municipal schools, while many city halls, county court houses, and we regret to say, many college buildings are pretentious, but obviously very cheap imitations of costly cut stone architecture. Their columns and porticos and cornices and domes and cupolas are but little more durable in material or painstaking in workmanship than the frankly temporary buildings of the World's Fair. College professors should have too much intelligence and taste and love of honesty to endorse wooden or galvanized iron imitations of stone architecture.

Sixth, a sufficient similarity of materials used for the exteriors of buildings and in architectural style should be maintained to secure a harmonious general effect. An almost riotous license has prevailed in many of our most prosperous colleges which has reduced such a hodgepodge of architectural units as to be more distressing to persons of cultivated taste than the architectural beauty of individual buildings is gratifying. Some of these incongruities are being mitigated by tearing down the older and less costly buildings, and the fundamental necessity of a general harmony, with only local and minor contrasts, is far from being recognized by college architects and administrations.

Without going further into principles of design we will record some practical advice which may be of service in guiding the physical growth of the college.

The first difficulty when we come to the application of principle of design is the existence of a dummy railroad right in the ornamental front lawns of some of the most important buildings. It is convenient—very much so—but so are sewers and stables. For the same reason that we intelligent and refined Northerners do not admire the very convenient and economical open sewers in front of the dwellings of New Orleans and other semi-tropical cities, and for the same reasons that we would make its residents averse to an electric railway through Vandeventer Place or Westmoreland Place in St. Louis, or Fifth Avenue adjoining Central Park in New York, all concerned ought to feel willing to accede to the removal of this railroad and to the location of a modern electric railway back far enough of, that is north of, Margaret Hall, to leave room for needed additional working buildings. There could be a break in the lawns between what might be the college campus proper and its outlying dependencies. But to deliberately lay out a new electric railway with its long, heavy, dangerous, noisy, vulgar and

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

conspicuous cars, directly in front of handsome college buildings, cutting through their refined and beautiful broad lawns would seem to most intelligent and unprejudiced people an almost incredible yielding of love for the beautiful and appropriate to a blind, narrow-minded greed for utility and personal aversion to even the exertion of walking say 200 yards. If it had not been for the existence of the old dummy road, we doubt if the idea of running a great interurban electric railway close to the fronts of important college buildings and destroying the beauty of the lawns would ever have been proposed, much less ardently advocated or selfishly assented to by professors and students. True, the wishes of professors and students should ever receive respectful and careful attention from the Trustees, but we take it Trustees are appointed not to carry out the will of a majority of the professors or of the students, whatever it may be, but to use their best judgment and to decide in view of the future as well as with regard to present requirements and conditions. Colleges are permanent institutions, as a rule. They grow and change but much of what is done now will aid or hamper, beautify or permanently disfigure the grounds and through them part of the enjoyment of life of untold numbers of teaching force and students for many generations to come. Public opinion and that of the college community would, we firmly believe, always regret the decision (if it should be made) of the Trustees to allow the new interurban electric railway to run through the lawns and among the principal college buildings. The incongruity would inevitably become more marked with the erection of each new large, handsome college building in the future. We earnestly recommend that the location asked for by the new interurban electric railway be not granted, but that a location north of the college buildings that will accord with a reasonable plan for the disposition of future college buildings, such as that we shall now partially describe, be offered them. In closing our professional protest against the location of the proposed electric railway south of Margaret Hall, we beg to assure the Trustees, through you, that the electric railway, if so located, will very greatly interfere not only with the plan for location of future buildings which we shall advise, but we have been unable to think of any other disposition of buildings, that would be satisfactory, that would not be interfered with by the location of an electric railway as proposed. In other words we believe the location proposed was devised to meet present commercial requirements and with little or no regard for any reasonable or suitable plan for the disposition of future college buildings. We certainly could not recommend the Chemistry-Physics Hall to be where we have planned it, if the electric railway is to be there. Various sensitive instruments could not be used and many delicate experiments would be vitiated or become impossible in such close proximity

APPENDIX

to an electric railway. Most likely the college would have to spread its buildings over the beautiful lawn, and into the picturesque park, to avoid the electric railway, if located as proposed.

Hereafter, there should be a more orderly disposition of buildings and if present fashion controls there will be more symmetrical buildings, so that the motives of an architect in squeezing the heterogeneous requirements of the interior accommodations into formal and symmetrical exteriors ought to be followed in the placing of buildings, with respect to each other.

The relation of the Engineering Building to the Main Building is not as formal as it should have been to correspond with the symmetry in design of each of these buildings. The two buildings are parallel with each other but "Staggered," as the mechanical engineer would say, so as to give the Engineering Building a view upon the Central lawn and conversely to enable it to be seen from it. This is an idea and a good one for informal and smaller buildings, such as professors' residences, but its application in the present case is unfortunate in its results. More and probably still larger formal buildings have yet to be located.

We advise that sites for four large buildings be reserved, in two rows, two buildings to be north of Engineering Hall and two North of Main Hall. Let that next north of Engineering Hall be rather near to it, say within about 60 or 80 feet of it. This we think should be a long building, north and south, with two wings, projecting westward, and should be for chemistry and physics, the northerly part being for chemistry.

In the Main Building row there should be a large building with its center directly east of the center of the Chemistry-Physics Hall. This building in continuation of the class of buildings devoted to the Humanities and not requiring laboratories should, we think, be a joint library and museum, so planned that in time the library with its reading and study rooms may take more and more of the building, so that eventually the Applied Art Department may be moved into another building. Probably the best idea would be to make this building into a series of units around one or more interior courts, which could when completed be roofed and lighted from ampleclere story windows or by skylights. Its situation is such that it should have two fronts, facing east and west. While centered on Chemistry-Physics Hall it could eventually be much longer. It might even extend south to a point as far north of the east and west axis of Engineering Hall as the north end of the Main Hall is south of it.

North of the Chemistry-Physics Hall would be a site which might be occupied by a somewhat temporary Assembly Hall. We believe it is hardly worth while to have such a building of monumental construction and design, since its purpose is to contain, as a single audience, the whole body of

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

students and instruction force and numerous visitors. It would perhaps be best to have a steel and wire lathing and cement floor and ceiling that would be non-inflammable and yet not too costly to replace when the need arises as it surely will. When it is to be superseded, this site may be in more pressing demand for a science laboratory building. In that case the larger assembly hall can be erected further from the central buildings.

The corresponding site east of this in the Humanities Row can be used for a school of Pedagogy or for a school of Arts and Crafts or Applied Art or of Music or Oratory or some other profession.

Directly back of the Main Hall and south of Engineering Hall is a site which calls for a small building. This might perhaps be an office building, for doing business with the students particularly. It would relieve the Main Hall from this burden and enable it to be devoted more exclusively to lectures and studies. Possibly it might not be as convenient for the students. If so, it might be used for Faculty and Committee Meetings and for the President's office, which would leave space in the Main Hall for lecture purposes.

Further south in the Science Row, there would be a site for a Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Hall, similar in size and style to the present Engineering Hall and correspondingly related in distance and direction from the Main Hall.

When still other buildings of the same dignified size and style are needed for the Department of Engineering it is likely that they would better be west of the Engineering Hall in a row parallel with it and far enough to leave a large "Back Yard" sort of area for one story, cheap shops and sheds and odds and ends. It may be this ugly area could be partially closed in and to a great extent hidden by additional good looking buildings along the north and south sides of the rectangle or square. This should be studied, and if feasible, kept in mind. Presumably the north side of the Northerly buildings should line with the north side of the present Engineering Hall and the south side of the Southerly buildings with the south end of the future Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Hall.

It has been contemplated that the athletic and baseball field, now crowded by Engineering Hall, should be given up and a new athletic field located in the nearly level land in the southwest corner of the college campus. This may do for a term of years sufficiently long to fully justify the eventual relinquishment of the ground for buildings and the transfer of the athletic field to some distant location, either down toward the river or north of the railroad. Its great convenience, especially after the proposed electric railway has been run, as we have recommended, along the side west of the area where the grand stand would be, is certainly sufficient to warrant running

APPENDIX

the risk of having to lose the investment eventually. The fact that it is nearly all underdrained already would make it cost less than a site near the river, which moreover would have to be dyked and at times drained by pumping to make it available.

The most convenient site for a men's gymnasium would seem to be southwest of the present Engineering laboratory and at the northeast corner of the Athletic field. It should be considerably further south of the straight east and west road than the new Social Hall, because it may prove necessary to move that road south to make suitable space for the proposed Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Hall.

When the more pressing needs of the College for students' working buildings have been met, we believe the policy of building dormitories will be inaugurated. When sites for dormitories come to be in demand, it seems clear enough that the women's dormitories will be north of Margaret Hall, but far enough from it to leave space for working buildings for the women students. The men's dormitories would best be in the nearly level area that would remain between the westerly row of Engineering Department buildings above referred to and the west boundry of the college campus. Both men's and women's dormitories if long and narrow should run north and south so all rooms will have sun either morning or afternoon. Each of the men's dormitories should be centered on the east and west axis of either Engineering Hall, Main Hall, or Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Hall, or else the space between them should center on one or the other of these axes, and the north ends of the northerly ones should line up with the north end of Engineering Hall and the south ends of the southerly ones should be on the east and west line correspondingly south of the east and west axis of Main Hall. In this way an orderly grouping of buildings will eventually result which will prove more satisfactory in every way than the irregular, hand to mouth, shortsighted way of locating each building without regard to the many other buildings which the needs of the future will cause to be erected.

It would seem reasonable to lay out definitely what may for convenience be called a street, only it would be mostly turf, 80 ft. or 100 ft. wide, running east and west immediately north of Engineering Hall and another equidistant south of the east and west axis of Main Hall. The latter may be wider than the other so as to center exactly on the Social Hall around which the little roadway can pass by a gentle curve. The Social Hall can be considered as the eastern terminus of the southerly straight road. This location of the southerly road will determine the north side of the Men's Gymnasium, if it is put near the northeast corner of the new Athletic Field.

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

There would be another open strip or street probably 100 feet or 150 feet wide extending northward from the central lawn just east of the suggested large Library-Museum building. The next large working building for women could face west on this. It is assumed of course that Morrill Hall being poorly built and out of harmony in style, presumably, with the new Library, would be eliminated, but the new library could be finished first. Another grassy street running north could be reserved between the present Agricultural Hall and Margaret Hall. It should be 100 feet or 120 feet wide. If located next the Agricultural Hall there would be a space west of it for another Woman's working building facing east.

There would remain a site for another woman's working building between the two suggested and facing north toward the street. About 100 feet north of the existing east and west little roadway. In this street would, we think, properly be the electric railway as suggested in our preliminary report.

The woman's dormitories would best be placed around an open rectangle north of the electric railway street. There could well be two long ones running north and south on the west side of the quadrangle and two on the east side with square buildings in the middle of the north and south sides. The dormitories unless fire proof should be only two stories high. To give greater accommodations they might be longer than usual, but they should be so designed as to express their residential character, as by low ceilings, compared with the working buildings, bay windows, balconies, chimneys for open fire places and the like. They should in fact have a decidedly domestic effect, avoiding the usual plain barracks or factory aspect so common in college dormitories. It would be economical to have a central dining hall and kitchen at the middle of the north side and a social hall in the middle of the south side.

The next wide grassy street would be east of the present Horticultural establishment. The space between this street and that last described would not be very large but would probably be sufficient for both the Biological Department and the Horticultural Department. It seems the best available space for these purposes. Botany, Zoology, Physiology, and other sciences of vegetables and animal life should have adequate recognition and should eventually be provided with laboratories and collections of living specimens under glass, as well as outdoor working collections. Biology and Horticulture might be at first accommodated so far as lecture rooms and professors' studies are concerned in a building together here, instead of having Botany accommodated in the top story of the Main Hall along with the Humanity studies. If after further study the space here should prove inadequate, these departments might be provided for Northwest of Engineer-

APPENDIX

ing Hall, although the space would be limited by the cultivation patches of the Department of Agriculture, unless it should be decided that these experiments could be transferred to some more distant ground.

It has been proposed to locate an Animal Husbandry Building on the knoll in the southwest corner of the pasture east of the road that crosses the Railroad. This appears to accord well with the general plan which we have outlined, but care should be taken to keep it well south of the proposed electric railway street and on the east side of the proposed grassy north and south street east of the present Horticultural Building. The location of the proposed new Agricultural Hall would influence the location of this 120 foot grassy street and be affected by it. The two should be considered together and when determined the proposed Animal Husbandry Building can be located to fit the proposed street. Unless there is some reason to the contrary, the center line of the road to the railway may as well be taken as the axis for the reserved space, the new Agricultural Hall east wing being kept 60 feet west from this center line and the west front of the Animal Husbandry building being kept 60 feet east of it. The grade of the Animal Husbandry Building should be established with due regard to the probable profile of the electric railway street, and probably that would require that a few feet in depth of the top of the knoll should be cut off. The land southward of this is conveniently located for an important future building of the Department of Agriculture, but is in need of grading. It will help it greatly to set the new Animal Husbandry Building lower than the present surface of the knoll and to use the earth to fill up the low ground. There would be sites for two or three agricultural buildings. They should, if possible, have imposing front buildings but may have work shops or laboratories in their rears.

The proposed Agricultural Hall, already authorized, is to be longer than and perhaps fully as imposing as the new Main Hall, recently occupied, and it will be closely similar to it in architectural design. Such a building is far too important to appear to have been placed casually on a little rise of ground and without symmetrical relation to the Main Building in any direction from it except East. It is true there are disadvantages in placing it at the lower end of the Central lawn facing the Main Building, but the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

Without having studied out a comprehensive plan for the disposition of numerous other buildings which will probably have to be built hereafter, it seems a reasonably safe proposition to keep this building far enough west of the new Dairy Building to permit of the extension southward in a straight line of the straight road already existing just east of the Horticultural Building. This will minimize the disadvantage of seeming to somewhat efface

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

the relation of the Dairy Building to the Central Lawn. There will still be a broad and handsome view of the Central Lawn from the Dairy Building past the north end of the proposed Agricultural Hall and plenty of good views will remain of the front of the Dairy Building from the northern part of the central lawn, and doubtless eventually a sufficient view will be opened up to and from the Dairy Building past the southern end of the proposed Agricultural Hall by the partial thinning out of the existing trees at present needed for screening the small residences existing there.

Located as proposed, the finished grade line along the west front of Agricultural Hall should be raised by filling to about five or six feet above the existing surface at the middle of the front. (Less at the ends). The slope of the ground toward the east is such that to preserve a desirable degree of harmony with the landscape conditions, the finished grade line along the east side of the long part of the building ought to be about three feet lower than we have advised for the west front, and at the east end of the proposed projecting wing at the middle of the building, the finished grade should be about two feet lower yet. It would even be reasonable to have the finished grade along the east front of the building low enough to expose the whole basement, thus making it possible to plan useful lecture or other students' working rooms in it.

If some other adjustment of the finished grade along the east front of the building is not made, it will be, we can only suppose, from motives of economy in the construction of the building. Such an economy we can hardly believe to be wise or necessary at the expense of the good appearance of the building in its relation to its surroundings, including not only the ground surfaces but trees in the vicinity and especially the Dairy Building. This is just one of the points of design in which the Trustees and Professors are liable, through lack of sufficient experience in such special matters, to yield to the idea of economizing in masonry and fall into the irremediable error of setting the building too low, or of necessitating the creation by filling, of ugly grades and a gawky relationship of the building to the local landscape, of which it will become the dominating feature. We venture to lay particular stress on this important matter, because we did not have a conference with the Architect, and as we have known of many cases in which architects have set buildings too low in order to save in expense of foundations, or have insisted upon a level grade line all about the building when a slight slope would have been much more harmonious with the landscape, and also because we noticed that the Dean of the Department of Agriculture has become so impressed with the same application of the motive of economy as to have seemingly lessened his fear of producing an ugly result in the way indicated. In short, the question of grades about this

APPENDIX

building is an unusually important and difficult one, and we recommend that we be authorized, after learning, through correspondence, if possible, of the views of the Dean and of the Architect, to prepare grading plans for the surroundings of this building. If this is to be done, the area likely to be affected, and a margin of about 200 feet in addition, extended eastward to the east side of the circuit drive, should be cross-sectioned at intervals of twenty-five feet and trees located and a plat sent us as soon as possible.

The fact that a large area remaining free of important working buildings in the southern part of the College Campus is so irregular in topography and that it is well furnished with the trees originally planted, makes it exceedingly desirable to reserve it mainly for landscape effect.

Another objection to having buildings in this part of the campus is a practical one, but in its bearing upon the beauty of the landscape it is a very important one. This is that if there are buildings there it will inevitably follow in time that the great natural lawn will become traversed in many directions by short cut paths and these would for the most part have to be improved as a matter of comfort and convenience into regular walks with hard smooth pavement. This may seem incredible to many who hardly notice the few short cut paths now being worn in the grass, but we have had occasion to study this matter in many cases for years and we cannot too strongly express our conviction that buildings on the south side of the central lawn will inevitably lead to cutting it up with broad walks. The location of the New Agricultural Hall as proposed will compel the leaving out of a walk east and west through the southern part of the lawn. This can be laid out on a long graceful curve with branches at each end to meet the requirements of foot traffic, and by keeping it slightly depressed and somewhat among groups of trees existing or to be planted, it will be comparatively unobtrusive. No doubt other walks will have to be laid out from the new building to other points. All this is bad enough, but a moderate area of lawn between the new Agricultural Hall and the Main Hall can be kept free from walks. If more buildings are put around the south side of the central lawn, a great part of its natural beauty would unquestionably be lost by cutting it up with walks. With the limited number of students having occasion to cross the lawn, the wearing of short cut paths has not been marked, but the trouble is bound to increase faster than the increase in the number of students and teaching force. The present Music Hall should be eliminated from the south side of the central lawn as soon as other provision can be made for music.

We suggest that the present Veterinary School be altered and improved into a hospital for students. The new Veterinary Hospital can be in the southeastern part of the College grounds, away from all other buildings and

HISTORY OF IOWA STATE COLLEGE

frequented grounds and convenient of access for persons bringing diseased animals to it. It should be surrounded by trees but not shaded by them.

It does not seem to be a good policy for the college to provide its teaching force with dwelling houses, for various practical reasons, but certain attendants of barns and greenhouses must live close to their work, as they are liable to have to work at any hour of the night as well as during the day. These cottages are not necessarily large. If they are made of wood, they can be moved when necessary at no great cost, as it seems well to have them close to the working places their occupants have to go to, but generally a little further out from the central lawn. By suitable planting they can be made unobtrusive.

Many other topics might be discussed, but we must leave them for consideration as they arise.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) OLMSTED BROTHERS