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The University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Agriculture: The First Century Part III. Development of the College/IANR

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Part III. Development of the College/IANR

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Chapter 1. Organization and Reorganization

At the College of Agriculture/IANR Level

The structure of an organization such as the College of Agriculture/IANR changes as time goes along. Changes are needed to keep pace with changing times. The reasons are many but include such factors as demands of the clientele; changing situations due to technological advances and industrial development; shifts in the economy; relationships with other administrative units of the University; and a constantly changing staff, including administrators. Some of the modifications can be handled within the administrative units of the College/IANR, others have to be submitted to the higher administrative levels, still others to the Board of Regents, and finally even to the Legislature. Some of the changes may be noncontroversial, some may be somewhat controversial, and still others may be highly controversial — as will be noted in the discussion which follows.

Since 1871, there have been nine attempts to organize/reorganize the College of Agriculture, of which five were successful and four were unsuccessful. They were as follows:

Pre-College of Agriculture - 1871

Prior to the establishment of the College of Agriculture, at the Constitutional Convention held in 1871 (2, p 26), J. C. Campbell from Otoe County favored having the College of Agriculture independent of the state university. O. P. Mason, also from Otoe County, did not want the college in Lincoln, Omaha, or Nebraska City but on a farm “... in the country which God has made and the farmer is to inhabit.” A suggestion was also made that the new University building (on the City Campus) “... should be deemed the Agricultural College ... so as to show that we had in good faith complied with the provisions of the acts of Congress.” All of this discussion came to naught, for no references to an agricultural college appeared in the Constitution.

Establishment of the College of Agriculture - 1872

The Board of Regents established the College of Agriculture on June 25, 1872. However, no students enrolled until in the fall of 1874.

The Legislature Establishes the Industrial College - 1877

The Industrial College was created by an act of the Legislature in 1877 — just why it was so established is not entirely clear. It “... embraced agriculture, practical science, civil engineering, and the mechanic arts,” (1, p 44). In 1869, the Legislature had provided for both a College of Agriculture, and a College of Practical Science, Civil Engineering and Mechanics.
The new legislation combined the two colleges — the former at the time in a feeble condition, and the latter not yet functional.

**An Attempt to Make the College of Agriculture Independent of the UN - 1884-1885**

In January 1884, the State Board of Agriculture conducted an investigation of the Industrial College. Supported by damaging evidence from former staff members Thompson and Culbertson, the Board issued a report which was unfavorable to the University (2, pp 102-103). The Board found the course of study in agriculture to be of little or no benefit. Its recommendation, to correct the situation, was to separate agriculture from the rest of the University.

In accordance with the Board of Agriculture report, in 1885, a bill HR 216, was introduced into the House of Representatives to create a new institution to be known as the “College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts of Nebraska.” Such an institution, if it had been established, would have been analogous to such institutions as Iowa State, Kansas State and South Dakota State Universities. In anticipation of the bill passing, delegations from over the state came to the Legislative session at Lincoln to lobby for having the new university located in their respective cities. However, the bill failed to pass.

**Another Attempt at Removal From the University - 1889**

Another attempt at removal took place in 1889. This time it was the Legislature that “… ordered a thorough investigation of both the experiment station and the Industrial College …” (2, p 109). The investigating committee concluded that the College was a “total failure”. Again a bill was introduced, HR 453, calling for a separation of agriculture from the remainder of the University. The bill gained considerable support, including that of the *Omaha Herald*. However, on March 29, the day before adjournment, the bill was indefinitely postponed.

**Termination of the Industrial College - 1909**

The Industrial College was terminated in 1909 (2, p 203), with the College of Agriculture and the College of Engineering created in its place. Thus for the first time since 1877, the University once again had a College of Agriculture.

**Another Attempt at Removal - 1915**

Still another attempt at removal of the College of Agriculture from the rest of the University occurred in the 1915 Legislative session (2, p 204). Senator C. W. Beal of Custer County introduced a bill “… calling for the creation of a state agricultural activities board which would be responsible for all agricultural work in the state and would control the College of Agriculture, the experiment station, and the substations.” Representative W. J. Taylor, also of Custer County, supported Beal’s bill although he preferred his own plan which “… provided for the separation of the College of Agriculture from the University's administrative supervision and placed it directly under the Legislature …” Taylor was highly critical of the Regents. Chancellor Avery and the then critically ill Dean Bessey strongly opposed the Beal bill. When the vote came, the bill was defeated.

**Home Economics Emerges as a School and Then a College**

In 1962, Home Economics which had been a department within the College, gained the status of a School of Home Economics within the College. In 1963, in order to give home economics greater visibility, the name of the College was changed to the College of Agriculture and Home Economics. The senior author recalls that the only objection he encountered in appearing before the appropriate Legislative committee in support of the change was that some of the members thought the name was too long for popular usage. In 1970 the School of Home Economics became the College of Home Economics, parallel to the College of Agriculture within the administrative structure of the University. Home Economics extension and research remained administratively within the College of Agriculture, with appropriate linkages administratively with the College of Home Economics.

Contrary to some of the other changes and attempted changes in the administration of the College of Agriculture, the upgrading of Home Economics administratively within the University took place with little opposition and with much support of both the clientele and administrators within both the College and at the University level.

**The College of Agriculture Becomes the IANR - 1974**

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) created by the 1973 Nebraska Legislature and implemented on April 1, 1974, followed more than a decade of discussions, proposals and controversies on what the administrative structure of the College of Agriculture should be. The title IANR replaced that of the College of Agriculture, which it superseded, while the title College of Agriculture was used to denote the former Resident Instruction Division.

**Reorganization Suggested in the Glenny Report - 1961.**

The concept that the College of Agriculture was unique and should fit into the University administrative structure somewhat differently than the other colleges at Lincoln was expressed in 1961 by Glenny (3) as follows: “It is further recommended that the University consider the appointment of an academic
dean or vice chancellor to whom all deans of colleges would report except the graduate dean and perhaps the deans of the medical college and the agricultural college who are responsible for large and costly operations on campuses geographically separate from the main campus of the University.

Following issuance of the Glenny report and up through 1971, there were discussions and suggestions from time to time concerning upgrading the administrative position of the College of Agriculture within the University structure. Some agricultural leaders in the state were becoming increasingly concerned about the College "losing its place in the sun" because of the increasing size and complexity of the higher administrative structures within the University.

There was also increasing concern about the possible removal of the Cooperative Extension Service from under the aegis of the College of Agriculture (more on this in the discussion which follows). However, during this period the agricultural organizations of the state took no definitive action on this matter.

A Proposal to Unify the University Extensions.

Shortly after Chancellor Hardin appointed E. W. Janike Dean of Extension in 1965, he asked Janike and Frolik to attempt to come up with a plan to somehow bring the University Extension Division and the Cooperative Extension Service into unity. The two deans were unable to jointly come up with any such plan. However, some progress in coordinating the work of University Extension and the Cooperative Extension Service was effected as follows: "It was agreed in 1965 that the Dean of University Extension would sit on the Administrative Council of Agricultural Extension, and that a portion of the Dean of Extension's salary would be paid from Agricultural Extension funds. The Dean of Extension has in fact attended most meetings of the Agricultural Extension Council since that time and has been in a position to advise Agricultural Extension as to possible cooperative coordinated programs and to be kept abreast of developments in the Agricultural Extension programs."

Although continuing his interest in Cooperative Extension becoming more involved in other College programs, Hardin did not pursue his earlier proposal of unifying the two extensions, and the issue remained rather quiescent during the remainder of his tenure at Nebraska.

Proposal to Upgrade the College of Agriculture Within the University Organizational Structure.

As time went on lay agricultural leaders of the state were not unmindful of the fact that in some land grant universities, cooperative extension had been removed administratively from the colleges of agriculture and amalgamated with general university extensions; that there was some interest in the possibility of such a move being made in Nebraska; that the University had grown in size and complexity of administration resulting in the Dean of Agriculture having less and less direct liaison with top administration; and that while the College of Medicine had been upgraded administratively in the University structure, agriculture remained in its old status. Gradually these leaders began to make known their observations through expressions of concern and ultimately through political actions.

Noting the changes that were taking place within the University, the movements nationally, and expressions of concern coming from agricultural leaders in the state, Dean Frolik in 1969 proposed to President Soshnik and Acting Chancellor Merk Hobson that consideration be given to elevating the administrative status of the College of Agriculture within the University. Attention was called to the action which had taken place recently on upgrading the College of Medicine to the University Medical Center. The proposal could have provided a point of departure for further discussions. However, Frolik met with a negative reaction from Soshnik, and a very strongly worded rejection by Hobson. Following these reactions, Frolik withdrew his proposal.

In the years which followed, Frolik continued in his efforts to preserve the integrity of the College of Agriculture; however, this role was limited largely to serving as a resource person for individuals and organizations wanting to help the College of Agriculture. To have done more seemed to him would have been a breach of loyalty to his superiors, while to have done less would have been equally unfair to the farmers and agribusiness people who were trying to help the College through upgrading or at least maintaining its status. It was a fine line to walk, indeed. As might be expected, as controversy over status of the College heated up, he became a convenient target — some of the proponents of upgrading the status of the College thought he should have been more aggressive by actively supporting their efforts. On the other hand, a prominent University staff member suggested to Frolik that he should "... make those lay agricultural interests stop their efforts to upgrade the College..." — a much exaggerated concept of what Frolik could do. Still others thought Frolik should have involved the faculty in the controversy; which suggestion, however, should more properly have been directed to the lay individuals and organizations involved.

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1The inclusion of the former Omaha University as a part of the University on July 1, 1968 required the establishment of the University System.

2This included making a study on organization and administration of agriculture in land-grant universities (4).

On February 28, 1972, D. B. Varner who followed Hardin as chancellor, presented a summary of a preliminary copy of "Towards Excellence", a five-year plan for the University (7) to the College of Agriculture and College of Home Economics Advisory Council (5). The report had been prepared by the "President's Planning Seminar", a group of 12 University administrators headed by Varner. In his presentation Varner "... discussed the possible consolidation of the Agricultural Extension Service with Academic Extension" (5). Later in the day after Varner had left the meeting, there was considerable discussion of his presentation. The Council was not happy with what the members considered the little attention agriculture had received in the "five-year plan". Referring specifically to Varner's statement above, a resolution was passed to the effect "... that the Council strongly urges that the Agricultural Extension Service be retained in the College of Agriculture". Paul Monson, Council member, "... suggested that the main problem is that the College of Agriculture spokesman had no input in the five-year plan ... He suggested that ... representatives of the Council visit with President Varner and Chancellor Zumberge about the possibility of the Dean of the College of Agriculture being involved directly in policy matters dealing with agriculture" (5).

Varner received further opposition to his proposal on April 10, 1972, when President Clare R. Porter of the Agriculture Builders of Nebraska, Inc. wrote to him as follows: "... you mentioned ... the possible consolidation of Agricultural Extension and General Extension of the University ... Several of us considered this same proposal a number of years ago and opposed such consolidation. On April 7, 1972, the Board of Directors of ABN Inc. again reviewed this possible consolidation of extension work. We would oppose this consolidation ..." (6)

In 1972, Dean Frolik made a study of the organization and administrative structure of agriculture in land-grant universities, made possible by Chancellor Zumberge's concurrence and willingness to permit John L. Adams to take over the dean's functions for a two-month period. The results of the study were summarized in a report (4), and distributed among others to all members of the Faculty of the College of Agriculture on December 7, 1972 (20).

The report outlined the organization of agriculture within land-grant universities of the 50 states. Frolik found that in 29 land grant universities the organization consisted of the traditional college of agriculture with the three main subdivisions — extension, station, and resident instruction. In 11 universities, the director of extension reported to someone other than the administrative head of agriculture, which was also true of the director of the station in three of these 11 states. He also found that in 10 states, the agricultural segment of the University had been upgraded to an administrative structure above that of most other colleges of the University, most often with the title of "institute" or "center".

Frolik concluded his study with a series of eight tenets, the one having to do primarily with organization as follows: "Group 3 has much to recommend it. The administrative heads of agriculture hold positions of responsibilities significantly broader than those of the typical academic deans. In fact, the directors who report to the administrative head of agriculture hold administrative responsibilities more nearly comparable to those of other academic deans. The term 'institute' or 'center' more nearly connotes the structure of a typical agricultural triad than does the word 'college'" (4).

On June 20, 1972 (8), a group of "concerned citizens" wrote to Chancellor James Zumberge as follows: "... we are unalterably opposed to the merging of the Agricultural Extension Service with the General Extension program of the University ... to implement President Varner's dynamic water resources and livestock development plans, we feel that a viable and independent Agricultural Extension Service ... is an absolute necessity ... the recent upgrading of the Medical College to an independent Medical Center headed by a chancellor has given visibility to the concerted effort to improve that operation. Would not a similar upgrading of the College of Agriculture to a Center lend stature to a like effort to build up this vital part of our University?"

Meeting Called to Attempt Conciliation.

A meeting was held at the Cornhusker Radisson Hotel in Lincoln on June 26, 1972 to consider the problem of the agricultural organization within the University. It had been called by President Clare Porter of the ABN, Inc and the invitees consisted primarily of key officers of various Nebraska farm organizations. Twenty-eight persons attended the forenoon meeting which included College of Agriculture administrators. In addition President D. B. Varner, plus four other University administrators, attended the afternoon session. Among other matters there had been concern on the part of the farm leaders over the way funds were being budgeted for Extension and the Station. According to the minutes of the meeting: "It was agreed that a separate fund line appear in the State Legislative budget including both the Station and Extension. This means that Agricultural Extension will not be consolidated with General Extension at the University, Lincoln and that this plan will not obviate the coordination of Agricultural Extension and General Extension." (9).
Objections to August 5, 1972 Edition of “Towards Excellence”.

Although a good deal of optimism was expressed following the June 26 meeting, it became obvious at a meeting of the College of Agriculture and College of Home Economics Advisory Council on October 1 and 2, 1972, that the concerns of the members over the position of agriculture in the University had not been allayed (10). It was stated that although agriculture was more adequately recognized in the August 5, 1972, edition of the “Towards Excellence” plan (11) than in the preliminary write-up (7), the members noted “continued reference to ‘coordination’ of Agricultural Extension and General Extension; the proposal for the formation of a Natural Resources Institute, with the Director responsible directly to the Chancellor, presumably to contain much expertise now in the College of Agriculture and the mention of the coordination of Life Sciences and Agriculture leave the future of agriculture unclear.” It was resolved that “... Agricultural Extension (remain) in ... the College of Agriculture ... that the Natural Resources Institute ... would not involve transfer of personnel or programs from the present lines of administration (meaning from the College of Agriculture) ... and that this Council proposed the formation of an Agricultural Extension Center whose chief executive officer would report directly to the President of the University” (10).

It was agreed at the Council meeting that the resolutions would be discussed with Chancellor Zumberge and President Varner prior to being presented to the Board of Regents (10). On October 21, William Krejci, chairman of the Council, wrote to President Varner and to Chancellor Zumberge that because of pressing farm work, he and the other committee members could not meet with Varner and Zumberge very soon to discuss the above resolutions, and hence he was providing the information in his letters. He also offered to meet with Varner and Zumberge to discuss the resolutions “... after the corn is out” (12).

Agricultural Organizations Favor Establishment of an Agricultural Center.

On December 12, 1972, Clare Porter reported that four agricultural organizations in the state, including the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation, and the Farmers Union of Nebraska, had passed resolutions favoring the establishment of an Agricultural Center in the University, with a chancellor of Agriculture responsible directly to the president of the University (13). On December 19, he reported the support via resolutions of nine agricultural organizations (14). The legislative route was being suggested as the best means of making the plan a reality.

The First Zumberge Plan.

In a proposal dated December 27, 1972, Chancellor Zumberge recommended the establishment of a Di-

vision of Agriculture Services and Research, headed by a vice chancellor, which would encompass the Station and Extension. The College of Agriculture was to be redefined to include only resident instruction and the “School of Curtis”, to be headed by a dean reporting directly to the vice chancellor for academic affairs. The dean of the College of Agriculture and the directors of the Station and Extension were to be members of the Chancellor’s Council (16). This proposal was conciliatory on Zumberge’s part but had the serious shortcoming of splitting the traditional triad of agriculture by separating agricultural resident instruction administratively from research and extension.


Frolik who had earlier made a commitment to AID, Department of State, to spend January and February 1973 in Vietnam, left Lincoln late in December for that country. Since he was facing upcoming retirement from the University on June 30, 1974, he felt that it was better for others who would be here long after that time to represent the College of Agriculture in the nearing negotiations. Accordingly he stayed with his commitment to go to Vietnam with Acting Dean Ottoson and Director Adams representing the College during this two-month period.

Other principals involved in the possible reorganization as of January 1, 1973 were: D. B. Varner, president; James Zumberge, chancellor; William Krejci, chairman of the College of Agriculture and College of Home Economics Advisory Council; Clare R. Porter, president of ABN, Inc.; John Klinker, president, Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation; John Klosterman, Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association; and Senator Maurice Kremer, member of the Nebraska Legislature. Numerous others were involved in varying degrees.

A final version of “Towards Excellence”, as adopted by the Board of Regents, January 6, 1973 (15), clarified and modified the portions of the report to which the College of Agriculture and College of Home Economics Advisory Council had expressed serious objections at their October 1 and 2, 1972 meeting. We can find no record of the Council’s reaction to this publication but feel confident that had the August 5, 1972 version (11) been worded like the January 6 version (15), the Council would have voiced few, if any, objections.


To their annual meeting held at Grand Island on January 19, 1973, ABN, Inc. invited representatives of a group of Nebraska farm organizations, College of Agriculture students, faculty, and administrators, University administrators and Regents, and the press (17).

4Subsequently chairman of the Ag 40 Group.
A total of 35 persons attended the meeting. The chief topic of discussion was the proposed Agricultural Center. Varner read a prepared statement (copy not available) which summarized the events leading up to the “present area of disagreement.” He also suggested “... that the Dean’s Advisory Board should go further and be advisory to the Chancellor and the President.”

The minutes of the meeting are not entirely clear on Zumberge’s presentation. There was attached to the minutes a copy of his “A proposal for the creation of a Division of Agriculture” dated January 18, 1973 (18). This constituted an expansion of his previous proposal (16), along with some modifications. He still had the Dean of the College of Agriculture “... directly responsible for budget and program purposes to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs ... the Vice Chancellor for Agriculture shall be responsible for providing leadership for all agricultural affairs in the University ... as senior agricultural administrator in the University System, he will be expected to provide advice and counsel for the President and the Board of Regents on agricultural matters ... the faculty of the Division of Agriculture shall include all members of the staff holding appointments in Extension, the Station, and the College of Agriculture, the School of Technical Agriculture at Curtis” (18). In the minutes Zumberge was quoted as stating that his plan “... preserves the important triad” (17). By this time Zumberge’s proposal might better have been entitled a “compromise”.

The minutes of the January 19, 1973, meeting also included the following statement: “John Klosterman brought up the point that there is some misunderstanding about the term ‘Center’. Most groups do not want a Center exemplified by the ‘Med Center’. Agriculture wants a responsible voice at administrative level to represent agriculture,” (17). According to the minutes of the meeting, Waldo suggested “... a committee to condense and solidify opinion and come up with a recommendation for the University to follow ... all farm groups and University faculty should be represented ... John Klosterman volunteered his group for the same purpose ...” (17).

LB 149 Is Introduced in the Legislature.

Senator Maurice Kremer and Gerald H. Stromer introduced LB 149 with the first reading at the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee of the eighty-third Legislature, held on January 9, 1973. The bill provided for the establishment within the University of a Nebraska Agricultural Center administered by a chancellor. The Center was to include but not be limited to the three chief traditional divisions, each to have a dean as chief executive officer.

Faculty Votes to Remain in the UNL.

At a meeting of the faculty of the College of Agriculture held January 26, 1973, (19) the following motions were passed:

1) “that the Faculty of the College of Agriculture support negotiations currently going forward between the University System, University, and College of Agriculture administrative officers and the ag business leaders for the solution of the organizational problems currently facing the College of Agriculture and its place in the University System. After such deliberation the results shall be voted upon by mail ballot by the Faculty of the College of Agriculture.” Motion was seconded and carried.

2) “resolved that the Faculty of the College of Agriculture endorse in general principle the Zumberge plan for reorganization of University administration.” Motion for adoption of the resolution was seconded and carried.

On February 28, 1973, Acting Dean Ottoson, reported to the faculty by memo (20) on the status of the organizational structure of the College. He stated that since the faculty meeting held on January 26, there had been two more negotiating meetings held which involved University administrators and agricultural leaders. Out of these meetings had come a plan for establishing the “Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources” (16). Ottoson outlined the main features of the plan and in accordance with action taken at the January 26 meeting, asked the faculty to indicate by mail ballot support or opposition to the plan. On March 23, 1973, Frolik advised the faculty by memo (21) that the results of the mail ballot on the “Compromise plan for and Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources” had been 326 for and 34 against.

LB 149, as Amended, and Signed by the Governor.

LB 149, as amended, in accordance with the compromises arrived at by agreement of the principals involved, was passed by the Legislature on May 25, 1973, and approved by Governor Exon (22). The pertinent sections of LB 149 are as follows:

“Sec. 3. A University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be established at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, which shall embrace but not be limited to the following divisions or administrative units: (1) College of Agriculture; (2) School of Technical Agriculture at Curtis; (3) Agricultural Experiment Station; (4) Cooperative Extension Service; (5) Conservation and Survey Division; and (6) Water Resources Research Institute. The University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be headed by a vice chancellor and each division or administrative unit shall have

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3According to records of the ABN, Inc. Porter stated that the bill was prepared by the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation.

4The plan as outlined by Ottoson was virtually the same as that under which the IANR operates today.
a dean, director or other chief administrative officer.

"Sec. 4. The vice chancellor for the University of Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall be responsible for providing leadership for all agricultural and natural resources affairs in the University of Nebraska as they involve the office of chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the President and the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska. He shall coordinate agricultural, natural resources, and related matters of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As senior agricultural and natural resources administrator in the University of Nebraska, he and the chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln shall together provide advice and counsel to and assist the President and Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska in agricultural, natural resources, and related matters."

In addition to the provisions of LB 149, there was entered into a "Memorandum of Understanding between Agricultural Groups and University Administration as Developed in the Spring of 1973 . . ." (23). Some important features of the memorandum are as follows:

1) "The search committee for the vice chancellor . . . will include representation from agricultural leadership outside of the University."

2) "It is agreed that the various interests involved in the pre-public hearing discussions relating to LB 149 will jointly review the effectiveness of the changes brought about by this legislation in the organizational structure within six months after July 1, 1976, in order to provide for suggestions for possible improvements."

3) "The dean of the College of Agriculture and the chief administrative officers of the Station and the Extension shall be members of the Chancellor's Council."

4) "We understand that the title 'vice chancellor' will be used sparingly in the University so that the title will continue to imply senior status in University administration."

LB 149, A Workable Compromise

As LB 149 was amended, passed by the Legislature, and signed by Governor Exon, all parties were reasonably successful in getting their main points taken care of. Those who were most concerned with retaining the College of Agriculture/IANR under the aegis of the UNL, those who wanted to upgrade the College of Agriculture/IANR administratively so that the dean/vice chancellor for Agriculture and Natural Resources would have direct access to the president and the Board of Regents, and those who wanted to protect the integrity of the College of Agriculture/IANR7 were all at least reasonably well satisfied with the outcome. As with any organizational structure, only the test of time will tell if still further modifications will be thought necessary by the various interests involved.

References
1. Crawford, Robert P. 1925. These Fifty Years. AES Circular 26, Col of Agric, UN. UN Press, Lincoln.
10. Noyes, Clyde C., Secretary proton. Oct 1, 2, 1972. Minutes of the Col of Agric and Col of Home Ec Advisory Council meeting, Scottsbluff, NE.
16. Zumberge, James H. Dec 17, 1972. A proposal for the creation of a division of agriculture services and research at the UNL.

Particularly with respect to retaining the Cooperative Extension Service within the College of Agriculture/IANR.
At the Departmental Level — Agricultural Biochemistry

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The Department of Agricultural Biochemistry in the College of Agriculture/IANR has undergone two rather turbulent periods in its history, the first one covering the period of approximately 1953 to 1963, and the second one from 1970 to 1973. The first period started in 1953 shortly after Robert E. Feeney came to the University as the chairman of the newly organized Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition. The Department, first under his chairmanship and, subsequently, under John H. Pazur, vigorously supported a proposal to incorporate resident instruction as a function of the Department. The attempt was equally vigorously opposed by the Department of Chemistry (College of Arts & Sciences) where courses in biochemistry were being taught.

Reorganization No. 1

On November 23, 1959, Chancellor Clifford M. Hardin (22) stated: “For many months, we have had a problem of relations between the Departments of Biochemistry and Nutrition, and Chemistry. We have had a number of discussions with members of the faculty of both departments and with faculty members from other interested departments ... I should like to request that the two of you endeavor to work out a solution with the departments involved ...”. Hardin set forth five “ground rules” for guidance for the deans in seeking the solution (22).

On January 5, 1960, the two deans appointed a committee “... to address themselves to ... composing a program ... which would stabilize our joint efforts in the field of chemistry and biochemistry.” The committee consisted of Carl E. Georgi, Department of Bacteriology, chairman; Henry E. Baumgarten, chemistry; John H. Pazur, biochemistry and nutrition; and Ernest F. Peo, Jr., animal husbandry.

On December 28, 1960, the committee, after holding 12 meetings, made its findings and recommen-

dations to Frolik (who had succeeded Lambert as Dean) and to Dean Walter E. Militzer of the College of Arts and Sciences. The recommendations were (2):

a) they were “... unable to present a unanimous recommendation for a Biochemistry program for the two colleges and the University”.

b) “... two proposals are recommended by the committee for further study ... the committee favors the first proposal.”

c) Proposal 1: “Establishment of a separate teaching and research Department of Biochemistry at the University in one of the colleges.”

d) Proposal 2: “Development of complementary but separate programs in the two colleges.”

e) “The committee is of the opinion that the resolution of this problem can best be accomplished at the administrative level.”

Chairman Robert E. Feeney’s earlier attempts, and later those of Chairman John H. Pazur and their colleagues, came to fruition in 1963 when the Biochemistry and Nutrition Department in the College of Agriculture was authorized by the Board of Regents to become a teaching department along with its Station responsibilities. Accordingly, courses were listed in the Department in the 1963-64 College of Agriculture “Courses of Instruction” Bulletin. With a total of 10 courses being listed, the Department got off to an impressive start in teaching.

Reorganization No. 2

For a period of years following 1963, teaching of biochemistry in two departments (i.e., in chemistry in the College of Arts and Sciences, and in biochemistry and nutrition in the College of Agriculture) proceeded without any great problems, at least not any that surfaced officially. Peace, however, came to a halt in 1970.

The problem which started as what appeared to be a rather routine request in 1970 for the addition of a new course in the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition, turned into a proposal for merging biochemistry into one department. This set off a course of events involving three successive chancellors (presidents), several deans, other administrators, department chairs and many other faculty members, numerous meetings, many letters, and much “over the coffee” discussion. The problem started while Joseph Soshnik was president (the term is now chancellor), continued under Interim Chancellor C. Peter Magrath, and was finally resolved after Chancellor James H. Zumberge came on the scene.

The suggestion for a merger of biochemistry in the Departments of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, and Biochemistry and Nutrition, College of Agriculture emerged in an interesting manner. On October 27, 1970, Raymond L. Borchers (3) wrote:

“For the past several years, complaints about the teaching of Chemistry 246 and 247 (Biochem-

1In 1984, the importance of the organizational structure of biochemistry in biotechnology research was stated succinctly by Robert Seifert (1) as follows: “Researchers in the College of Agriculture, for example, may hardly know the staff people in biochemistry because they have been housed in different colleges or departments. Now they must not only get acquainted but begin to think about collaborative research.”

2By action of the Board of Regents on September 19, 1953, the chemistry segment of the Department of Chemurgy, and the Department of Agricultural Chemistry were combined into a new Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition (19).
istry), were expressed to me with the suggestion that our Department do something about it. Last spring our Department proposed and submitted, from the College of Agriculture to the Graduate Council, a request for a new course designed to meet these expressed teaching needs. Our course request was essentially ruled out.

“The response to the request by the executive dean for Graduate Studies, Norman Cromwell, was to establish an ad hoc committee . . . to present a specific proposal for the development of biochemistry on the Lincoln campus”.

Membership of the committee consisted of Robert B. Johnston and Walter E. Militzer of the Department of Chemistry; and Raymond L. Borchers and Herman W. Knoche of the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition. The committee issued its report (21) under the date of April 5, 1971, which was transmitted to Dean Cromwell under the date of April 21, 1971 (4).

The transmittal letter included the statement: “This proposal is unanimously approved in principle by the biochemistry faculty of the Department of Chemistry and by the faculty of the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition. Your immediate implementation of the proposal is strongly urged” (4).

Important points in the proposal (9, 21) were:

“We propose that the University create within the College of Arts and Sciences a Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics. The eventual goal of such a department would be to reside in a school or college of biological sciences . . .

“The present Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition would cease to exist as a department in the College of Agriculture (which has a teaching function), but could be constituted as a research unit in the Agricultural Research Division . . .

“Those persons who do not wish to become a part of the new organization might request affiliation with another department in the College of Agriculture, the College of Arts and Sciences, or an independent research organization with the Agricultural Research Division.

“When the new Life Sciences complex is finished, move the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics into the new building as co-occupant with the other departments of biology.”

The proposal presented a knotty problem for various reasons, including:

a) Generally, the agriculture and home economics faculties were concerned that such action might result in a reduction in the quality and relevance of biochemistry teaching for their students.

b) Establishing a “home” for the Station segment of biochemistry and nutrition as suggested by the committee.

c) There was a proposal during this time by the Graduate Council (5, 9) that the PhD program in biochemistry and nutrition be suspended. At that time all PhD programs in UNL were being reviewed for the purpose of reducing the number to “. . . improve quality . . . and to save money.”

In a letter addressed to Norman Cromwell, dean of the Graduate College (and copy received by Frolik on May 21, 1971), Wendell L. Gauger, chairman of another committee, reported: “This communication is the report of the ad hoc committee appointed by you to review the doctoral program in the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition. It includes also a similar review on the biochemistry section of the Department of Chemistry. These two units are in the process of merging . . . a good deal of this review explores the merger . . . the departments must be housed together . . . The merger would consolidate . . . strength . . . The Committee unanimously recommends continuation of the (PhD) program as set forth in the merger” (6).

On June 9, 1971, President Soshnik called a meeting of administrators to consider the biochemistry problem. Frolik insisted that the Station portion of the department remain within the College of Agriculture. No substantive agreements were reached and after considerable discussion, the meeting was adjourned with plans to meet again (23).

On June 23, 1971, Graduate College Executive Dean Norman Cromwell (5, 9) called a meeting of a small number of administrators at which he announced that he would prepare a report that would provide for suspending the PhD program in Biochemistry and Nutrition. His action was confirmed in the Graduate Studies Bulletin of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 1972-73.

In a letter dated May 25, 1972 to Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College James A. Rutledge, the graduate faculty of the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition strongly protested the suspension of the PhD program in their Department. They stated that the action was “. . . arbitrary, hasty and based on political expediency . . .” and recommended removal of the suspension (20).

Soshnik’s successor, Interim Chancellor C. Peter Magrath (8), took a rather conciliatory position, with some of his suggestions being (paraphrased):

• Retain the present administrative structure of departments.
• Establish an interdepartmental committee to coordinate teaching.
• Department of Chemistry should consider courtesy appointments for members of the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition.

Chancellor Zumberge, on July 12, 1972, directed Deans Frolik and Melvin D. George (Arts and Sciences) to work out a combination of biochemistry, including biochemistry and nutrition and the biochemistry section of chemistry (9). Further, Zumberge informed Frolik that retaining the Experiment Station section of biochemistry administratively as a laboratory in the College of Agriculture was not acceptable. This left Frolik with no choice but to dismantle the Biochemistry and Nutrition Department and reassign
Station biochemistry and nutrition staff positions to other existing departments.

The proposed reassignment of Station staff to other departments, and shifting all teaching to the proposed Biological Sciences Division in the College of Arts and Sciences, caused consternation among the faculties of Agriculture and Home Economics (9). The Biochemistry and Nutrition staff continued to support unifying all biochemistry teaching into the proposed Biological Sciences Division, but they wanted to continue their research in a separate administrative unit in the Experiment Station, i.e., not be assigned to other College of Agriculture departments (7). On the other hand, faculty members in several other departments expressed concern over what might happen to the quality and relevance of instruction if courses were shifted out of the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition/College of Agriculture.

A complete airing of the "biochemistry problem" took place at a meeting of the joint faculties of Agriculture and Home Economics on October 20, 1972 (10). After a good deal of discussion, the meeting was adjourned without any motions having been passed. The matter was considered further at a second joint meeting of the above two faculties held on November 10, 1972 (11). The essence of action taken at this meeting was that the matter be turned over to Chancellor Zumberge and the deans of the three colleges involved (including Graduate) for final resolution, to be followed by such reorganization as was indicated.

Meanwhile, on November 6, 1972, Vice Chancellor Virginia Y. Trotter (12) wrote to Dean Frolik that Chancellor Zumberge had decided "...that you may keep Biochemistry Experiment Station component together as a viable group. They should not be divided and put into separate departments". Thus, one sub-problem, on which the faculty had spent considerable time, was solved by the chancellor's cancellation of his previous edict.

The students, too, got involved. On November 6, 1972, Phil Lamb, president of the Ag Advisory Board (student organization), wrote to Trotter, Frolik, and Roy G. Arnold that the Board recommended retaining Biochemistry and Nutrition as it existed on the East Campus (13).

Action taken at the faculty meeting on November 10, 1972 did not dispel the dialogue, individual and group letters, nor meetings on the "biochemistry problem". Frolik attempted, in preparing successive versions of reorganization plans, to incorporate the various suggestions set forth by the faculty and others. Of course, no one plan could incorporate the diversity of opinions on what should be done. However, after a meeting of Zumberge, Trotter, George and Frolik, on April 24, 1973, Frolik and George submitted their final recommendations which conformed to the agreements reached at the above meeting (14).

Thus, the "biochemistry problem" was finally resolved (though not permanently) with the Board of Regents taking the following action on June 23, 1973 (15):

"Approval is given to incorporate in the School of Life Sciences (the name has since been changed to "Biological Sciences") in the College of Arts and Sciences the teaching budget and teaching personnel from the Department of Biochemistry and Nutrition in the College of Agriculture with the elimination of that Department and the establishment of the Agricultural Biochemistry Laboratory in the Experiment Station in the College of Agriculture."

Reorganization No. 3

The Laboratory of Agricultural Biochemistry with the administrator carrying the title of "head" had an administrative life of seven years, i.e., from 1973 to 1980. On the latter date (following a request of the staff of the Agricultural Biochemistry Laboratory) the Department status was restored. With action taken by the Board of Regents on February 16, 1980, the teaching budget was returned from the College of Arts and Sciences to the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Courses in biochemistry are now listed and cross-listed in the Department of Agricultural Biochemistry in the College of Agriculture, and in the Department of Chemistry and in the School of Biological Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences. Of the 26 courses listed in Agricultural Biochemistry, all but two are cross-listed in either Chemistry or the School of Biological Sciences, or both (17, 18). The close coordination among the three units is obvious.

As of 1986-87 the Department of Agricultural Biochemistry had not regained the authority of granting academic degrees — these are now available in the general area of biochemistry only in the Department of Chemistry and in the School of Biological Sciences (17, 18). In 1963 the department had been authorized to grant the BS and MS degrees and in 1965 the PhD degree (9), all of which have been lost.

Reorganization No. 4 Underway

Reorganization No. 4 as of this writing (May 1987) appears to be well underway. According to the Agricultural Research Division News of April 1987 (24), "The proposal recommends the Department of Agricultural Biochemistry be renamed the Department of Biochemistry and that a Center for Biological Chemistry be established. If approved the Center would be responsible for the development and administration of the graduate and undergraduate programs in bio-

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*The Laboratory was a quasi-department and had to be administered by a person with a title other than "chairman". Hence, the administrator was given the title "head". All IANR chairmen were given the title of "head" in 1977.
chemistry. The undergraduate major could enroll in either the College of Agriculture or the College of Arts and Sciences... since there are currently vacant biochemistry positions in both the Department of Agricultural Biochemistry and the Department of Chemistry this is an opportune time to implement this proposal".

References
10. Snyder, Helen R. Oct 20, 1972. Minutes of a joint meeting of the Faculties of the Col of Agric and Col of Home Ec, UNL.
17. UNL undergraduate bulletin. 1986, 1(1).
23. Frolik, Elvin F. June 9, 1971. Notes taken on meeting called by Soshnik to consider the biochemistry situation. UNL.

At a Program Level — Natural Resources

On December 10, 1965 Dean Frolik, at the suggestion of Director Eldridge, appointed a nine-member committee to make a rather thorough study of the field of natural resources (1). The charge to the committee included: 1) assembling information on instruction, research and extension on existing natural resources programs in colleges throughout the United States; and 2) analyzing the desirable and undesirable features of these programs. The thinking included possibilities for establishing a program in this general area in the College of Agriculture, UN.

Initially, Clayton K. Yeutter chaired the committee. When he accepted a position on Governor Norbert Tiemann's staff in 1967, James V. Drew was appointed chairman. On November 17, 1967, the committee issued its report (2). It proposed a program covering the field of natural resources, along with a proposed budgetary increase to cover recommended expanded activities. Included in the recommendations was "Eventual redesignation of the College of Agriculture as the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources" (2).

Subsequently a natural resources curriculum was established in the College of Agriculture, with the first majors consisting of 14 students being graduated in 1972 (3).

The possibility of establishing a Department of Natural Resources in the College received considerable attention. In 1972 the following disciplines were suggested for inclusion in such a department: forestry, wildlife, climatology, and conservation (6).

On February 13, 1973, David P. McGill as chairman assembled a rather large committee, appointed by Dean Frolik, to consider the question of whether or not to recommend establishment of a Department of Natural Resources. At a second meeting held on April 24, 1973 (with the consideration of LR 149 by the Legislature well along) the committee recommended against establishment of such a department (7). In accordance with the committee recommendation, the idea was dropped.

Meanwhile, in 1972 Chancellor Zumberge proposed establishing a Natural Resources Institute in the UNL, which he stated on September 19, 1972 would "... likely be a research type institute initially" (3).

In the fall of 1972 Zumberge established a search committee under the chairmanship of Howard W. Ottonson to suggest candidates for a vice chancellor to head up a UNL Institute of Natural Resources. In the spring of 1973, Zumberge changed the charge to the committee to "... studying teaching, and to a lesser extent, research programs of UNL in the natural resources area" (4).

The University asking budget that went forward from the Board of Regents to the Governor and to the 1973 Legislature included the following statement: "The Natural Resources Center will be con-
cerned with the University-wide research activity in three major areas—the environment, energy, and natural resources. . . . The initial focus of the Center will be in the area of environment” (5).

Apparently Zumberge’s proposal and the committee he had appointed simply ceased to exist with the passage by the Legislature on May 25, 1973 of LB 149 which provided for the establishment of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Chapter 2. A Century of Campus Growth

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The Many Names of Ag Campus

Readers of this history will find the College Campus identified by several names - used interchangeably. No records can be found indicating the campus was ever officially named the College of Agriculture Campus, or “Ag” Campus1. However, these names were generally (not always) used within the University from the time the College was reestablished as a separate entity in 19092 until the Board of Regents adopted the name East Campus in 1964 (2). With the establishment of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics that year, “Ag” could no longer claim an exclusive right to the unofficial campus title.

“Ag” became even less appropriate as other University entities moved from the City Campus to the East Campus. In 1967, the College of Dentistry moved into a new building toward the east edge of East Campus. The Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center, north of the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, was built in 1972, and in 1975 a new building for the College of Law was completed on the east edge of East Campus. The Barkley Memorial Center, which houses the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders, was built in 1976 just east of the College of Dentistry.

The Law College building is now called Ross McCollum Hall, and a courtroom addition, completed in 1984, is formally named Sherman S. Welpton Courtroom.

The Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Center has been named in honor of the late Terry M. Carpenter, a Nebraska State Senator from Scottsbluff.

Before the East Campus name was adopted, the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education had been completed in 1961 at 33rd and Holdrege Streets. The Center — often called the Kellogg Center but never officially so named 3 — is available to the University of Nebraska as a whole.

Conferences and other activities made possible by the Center resulted in more visitors and more contacts between faculty members and people from within the state and around the world. In a major way, East Campus became the University’s front door.

Chancellor Clifford M. Hardin deserves great credit for laying the groundwork for the Kellogg Foundation Grant.

For many years Nebraska people, particularly those living in Lincoln, referred to the campus as the “State Farm”, “Farm Campus”, “College Farm”, “University Farm Campus”, the “Station Farm”, and “the Farm” (3). In its earliest years it was even called the “out of town” farm (37).

These names persisted well into the present century. In the twenties and thirties, Lincoln people en-

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1A search of the Board of Regents minutes from June 2, 1869 through 1964 does not reveal that the Regents ever gave the campus any name until they named it the East Campus.

2From 1877 until 1909, Agriculture was a part of the Industrial College.

References

joyed Sunday dinners in the Home Economics cafeteria at the "State Farm". As late as 1933, a reference to the "University Farm Campus" appeared in the minutes of the Board of Regents (4).

People in the College of Agriculture objected rather vehemently to the name "State Farm" because it gave no connotation of an educational institution. Some believed it might suggest a penal institution. According to William J. Loeffel's history of the Animal Husbandry Department, a visitor once asked one of the campus gardeners if he was an inmate (10).

Even so, the various "farm" names emerged with some logic because some farming activity was always associated with the College. In the early years when the College was headquartered on the City Campus, a farm near the site of the present State Fairgrounds was used as a model farm and for crop variety testing. In June of 1874, the Regents authorized purchase of land known as the Culver farm at the present campus site (5). The Culver land replaced the earlier model farm and was used primarily as a teaching and research laboratory.

That tract of land (saline) did not prove to be very desirable, and it was soon replaced with the Moses M. Culver half-section (presently the East Campus). The land had been purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Culver in 1866 for $1200 and was sold to the University by them on June 25, 1874 for $17,600 (5, 56). This addition of land to the University proved to be a wise move. Today, in addition to the IANR, a number of other University state and federal agencies are housed on the East Campus. Much of the area not devoted to buildings and associated uses is still used for agricultural experimentation and instruction.

Harvey Culbertson, farm superintendent from 1875 to 1881, wrote that the college farm "consists of 320 acres of good land. It is located two miles from Lincoln, in a northeasterly direction . . . There are about 175 acres under the plow, 20 acres in grove, 8 acres in orchard, one acre of vineyard, (the) balance in prairie grass for pasture and meadow." The farm was divided into 40 acre tracts by means of osage hedge.

"Of livestock," Culbertson wrote, "there are 50 head of cattle, work horses, one imported Clydesdale stallion and one half-blood Clydesdale mare, and 100 pigs of grades and full-blooded" (39).

Over the years there have been pressures on the University to dispose of portions of the Culver land. For example, the senior author recalls a major oil company wanting to purchase a portion of the southeast corner of the campus for a filling station. Also a Lincoln Council member some years back suggested that since the University was making only "light" use of the land, a strip along much of the outer boundary should be sold to private interests, which would develop the land for houses and businesses. One of his arguments was that this would put the land "back on the tax roles".

On June 27, 1956, Comptroller John K. Selleck wrote Dean W. V. Lambert that Mr. Hoagland of the Hoagland Hardware Co., 2431 North 48th Street, suggested the University sell a strip of land 150 to 200 feet wide along the west side of 48th Street. In his opinion the land would bring one million dollars. Selleck also said he thought there was considerable resentment building up against the University "... from the forces in University Place ..." because they wanted to attract more business than the College of Agriculture activities could produce (57). Fortunately the Board of Regents stood fast and over the years have never sold any portion of the East Campus for private business (although there have been some trades to better block out the Campus).

Two Buildings in 1875

In his book, "These Fifty Years," R. P. Crawford wrote that in 1875 "There were two buildings of consequence at the farm, one the little stone house that was on the property when it was purchased by the University and the other the large frame house, erected in 1875, which was torn down in the fall of 1923" (8).

In 1923, according to Crawford, there were "nine great buildings devoted exclusively to experimentation and instruction, among them the finest agricultural engineering building in the world, a dairy building famous (throughout) the West, and the best equipped animal pathology plant in the Mississippi Valley. Instead of an unattractive farmstead of the 70's, (visitors) would have found a magnificent campus laid out with trees and flower beds, a paved street running alongside the farm, and street cars to the door of the institution" (9).

The College of Agriculture - the Campus Beautiful

Crawford was probably expressing the feelings of everyone who visited the College of Agriculture. It
has been known for its beautiful campus, especially with respect to landscaping.

Outstanding features over the years have been the mall which in earlier years was known for the many floral plantings on the inside, bordered by stately oaks between the roadway and sidewalk; the former arboretum located where the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education and Love Cooperative Hall now stand; the area of trees and grass north of Holdrege Street from the old arboretum east to the Maxwell Arboretum; the Maxwell Arboretum located between the C. Y. Thompson Library and the College of Dentistry; and the floral plantings which formerly lined Center Street up to the dairy barn, built in 1926.

Adding an interesting and to some a nostalgic touch to the campus are a number of class memorials provided by School of Agriculture classes from 1911 through 1929. These are described in Part VII, Chapter 1.

The heart of the Campus is the mall. The planning of the mall must have been done very early, although we do not know when it was conceived or by whom. The mall had been well established by 1908 as shown by a photograph taken that year, with the present Agricultural Communications Building and Agricultural Hall in place, along with the old Home Economics Building which was located where the present Home Economics Building now stands, and the old frame Horticulture Building located where the present Plant Industry Building is situated. The roadway and the sidewalks surrounding the mall were in place in 1908, as they are today, except that there was no building yet located at the north end where L. W. Chase Hall now stands (40).

Much credit for the beautification of the East Campus belongs to W. H. Dunman who was landscape gardener for the University from 1909 until he retired July 1, 1946. Dunman was a native of the United Kingdom. From 14 to 20 years of age, he worked in the Sandringham Gardens, a 14,000 acre estate belonging to King Edward VII. This was a hunting estate devoted to beautiful plantings, the production of flowers and vegetables, and with about 125 acres in gardens, including greenhouses in which peaches and grapes were grown so that the royal family could have fresh fruit the year around. Dunman immigrated to Canada and then to the U.S. He was living at Colorado Springs when Regent George Coupland prevailed upon him to come to the University of Nebraska (41, p 7).

Dunman was an authority on landscape green spaces. He established many of the extensive perennial woody plantings on campus, and at the same time maintained beautiful herbaceous floral plantings. The Campus reached its acme of beauty about 1930, just before the drought and depression began to take their toll.

Dunman's efforts were accompanied by strong support from the students and faculty. In the October 1926 issue of the *Cornhusker Countryman*, the editors called attention to the fact that "The College of Agriculture has one of the most beautiful campuses in the country . . . The campus is usually included in every sight-seeing tour by Lincoln visitors." The *Countryman* also stated: "One of our campus laws denies all students the privilege of cutting across lawns".

A stronger editorial appeared in the December 1926 issue of the *Countryman*. It stated that cutting the campus "... at one time was punishable by dipping in the horse tank and running of the offenders through padding lines . . . Such a practice (cutting the campus) threatens the beauty of Ag campus. It promises well to put our campus in equally as disgraceful condition as the downtown campus . . . He (the Ag student) does not want the entrance to the buildings and sides of the walks covered with a carpet of cigarettes instead of grass as is the condition now existing in front of most of the buildings on the city campus . . ."

By 1928-29, Ag Club could find no way to enforce the rule against smoking on campus and hence abolished it (42, p 18). Strong feelings against cutting across campus lasted much longer. In February 1951 a student, Charles Stuber, wrote in part: "Do the cow paths bisecting the lawns on Ag campus add anything to the attractiveness? No! . . . All of the Ag students know that the campus has lost much of its beauty due to the ruination of its once luxurious lawns . . ." Stuber believed that some form of punishment for the "cutters" was necessary, but thought that the former method of dunking in a tank would be too extreme, especially when the temperature was ten degrees below zero. He concluded that appearance before the

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4Dunman was known as somewhat of a crosspatch because he would immediately take to task anyone caught taking (including gathering flowers) or in any way damaging any of his beloved plantings.

5Just whose law was not made clear.

6Not the horse tank installed for Farmers Fair.
Dean, followed by dismissal for repeated violators might be more appropriate (43, p 7).

In more recent years, the problem has been alleviated by constructing sidewalks to cover the direct routes taken by students (and faculty). In spite of this the “cutters” do not appear to be an endangered species, as there continue to be some pathways on campus.

The deterioration of campus plantings which started with the severe drought of the 30’s along with the great depression with its accompanying lack of funds continued on through WW II when help to do grounds upkeep was scarce. Following WW II and to the present time, there has been much marked improvement in the City Campus landscaping, while the East Campus remained in a holding pattern until about 1975. Actually, there was some loss when much of the old arboretum was destroyed with the construction of the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education.

Today the situation is markedly improved. Starting in 1978, Wilbur Dasenbrock, director of grounds, took the lead in restoration of landscaping on the East Campus which is now considered fairly well completed. There remain, of course, tasks of replacement but principal emphasis now is on flowers, both perennial and annual. The Department of Grounds has the half-time services of a campus landscape architect, Kim Todd, a most important position in planning for new buildings and beautifying areas such as parking lots. Heavy clay soils exposed principally when buildings were built have been covered with topsoil strip-mined on remote areas of the Campus, along with generous use of compost.

Funds continue to be limited, but Dasenbrock and his colleagues, with careful planning, good management, improved morale of the workers, and considerable improvising, have developed good landscaping and are continuing to increase the beauty of both campuses.

Some Venerable Buildings

Campus buildings and their histories are described in many sections of this book and most buildings, both existing and razed, are included in the inventory in Table 1. The authors believe the ones described here deserve special note.

Table 2 shows land acquisitions for East Campus and its environs over some 70 years. See footnote 1 of the table for information about land disposals.

Both tables are at the end of this chapter.

Agricultural Administration Annex

In 1896 a small dairy building was erected on the farm campus, the first building for purely instructional purposes. A dairy laboratory was on the lower floor and a lecture room on the second floor. The following summer an addition to the building was erected and the entire structure veneered with brick (11). This is the building that during the twenties and early thirties housed the Poultry Department on the first floor and the Rural Economics Department on the second floor. Students of that period well recall the smells emanating from the first floor into the classrooms on the second floor.

After a second dairy building was constructed in 1916 (Dairy Industry Hall, later named H. C. Filley Hall)\(^\text{3}\), the first dairy building was named Rural Economics Hall. The Rural Economics Department moved to Dairy Industry in 1935 and in 1936 the old building was renamed Poultry Husbandry Hall. The Poultry Department remained there until 1954, when it moved to what is now Mussehl Hall.

In 1956 the building was occupied by the Department of Information (later to become the Department of Agricultural Communications). The building then was renamed Agricultural Administration Annex.

After Information moved to the old Experiment Station Hall in 1960, various units with small staffs were assigned to the Annex. These included TVA, the Turkish program, and the Nebraska Opportunity Volunteer Action (NOVA) program. Having housed the Poultry Department and later the Turkish program, the building came to be known affectionately as “Turkey Hall.”

A still later nickname was “Kleis Hall.” This came about while Robert W. Kleis was chairman of the East Campus Facilities Committee from 1967 to 1975. By this time the building was in embarrassingly poor condition. It was far from windproof, and the stairs were creaky. When staff members came to Kleis with urgent requests for additional office and laboratory space, he would offer quarters in the old building. He had few takers. Perhaps partially in retaliation, the staff

\(^{3}\)Filley headed the Department of Agricultural Economics from 1914 to 1949.
came to call the building "Kleis Hall." It was no great honor.

The Agricultural Administration Annex was built in 1896 at a cost of $6,900. It was razed in April 1973 at a cost of $6,800.

Just before the building was demolished, two brown recluse spiders were found in it. This prompted a search of other buildings on the campus by entomologists Bob Roselle and Dave Keith. Other brown recluse spiders had been found in Experiment Station Hall when it was remodeled for Ag Communications. The brown recluse, occasionally but not commonly found in this area, is described by entomologists as "seriously poisonous" (12).

**Agricultural Communications Building**

Built in 1899 at a cost of $27,500, this is now the oldest structure on East Campus. Designed by the Lincoln architectural firm of Roberts and Woods, it was originally called the Agricultural Experiment Station Building and later Experiment Station Hall.

Much of the building's history can be traced to the architect's linen and india ink original drawings which have been saved by the University and are among those stored in a specially designed vault in the Physical Plant (13).

The building was constructed with an arch over the front door. The name Agricultural Experiment Station, cast in concrete, was affixed on a horizontal line above the arch. When the building was renamed Department of Information (now Agricultural Communications) in 1960, the old sign was covered with a board which is still there. No doubt it was less expensive to affix the covering board than it would have been to chip off the old concrete lettering.

Initially in the basement there was a bicycle room, two horticulture workrooms and a laboratory for agricultural chemistry and soils research. On the first floor were bacteriological, ag chemistry and soils laboratories, offices, an accounting division, and a mailing room. On the second floor were the library, entomology and botany laboratories and classrooms (13).

The library and botany moved across the mall to Agricultural Hall when that building was completed in 1905 (14).

Extension Agronomists Paul Stewart and Dominic Gross moved from Experiment Station Hall to Plant Industry Hall in about 1935. The soils section remained in Experiment Station Hall until June 1, 1952, when it moved into the new Keim Hall. It was in the northeast corner of the basement of Experiment Station Hall that Agronomy Professor R. A. Olson originated the soil testing program in 1946.

W. W. Burr, a soils scientist who headed the Agronomy Department from 1916 to 1932, officed in Experiment Station Hall until he became dean of the College and moved into Agricultural Hall. A cigar smoker in those years, Burr did not think it was proper to smoke in the dean's office. After moving to Ag Hall, he walked back across the mall for an occasional cigar in his old quarters. Dean Burr was not known as a smoker in later years.

The Department of Agricultural Chemistry, an original occupant of Experiment Station Hall, remained there until the building was extensively remodeled in 1960 to make a new home for the Department of Information, known since 1973 as Agricultural Communications.

C. W. Ackerson, chairman of agricultural chemistry, and F. E. Mussehl, chairman of poultry husbandry, cooperated in a number of chick feeding trials in the basement of Experiment Station Hall. As in the case of the Administration Annex, odors sometimes drifted to the second floor (15) and even lingered for a time after Agricultural Communications arrived.

Although the building has some drawbacks as a communications center, for the most part it has served its present tenant very well and now houses a variety of sophisticated communications equipment. (See Part V, Chapter 2.)

For a time in the early sixties, the Ag Communications restroom arrangement attracted some campus attention. There are two restrooms — one in the basement and one on the second floor where a number of women staff members had offices. To eliminate long trips down the stairs to the women's restroom and a tiring return climb, the second-floor facilities were used by both men and women. Conflicts in usage were avoided — with a few notable exceptions — by rotating an arrow on a door sign to indicate the room was occupied by either men or women. The exceptions (none intentional) led to elimination of the double use policy and a return to a conventional restroom arrangement.

**The Beef Barn**

Demolition of the beef barn on East Campus in 1986 brought student-days recollections to hundreds
of College of Agriculture alumni.
The barn was built in 1923 at a cost of $24,720 to house the University breeding herd, show cattle, steers for experimental feeding and livestock for classroom instruction. It was torn down in 1986 to make way for a $19 million animal science complex connecting Marvel Baker Hall with the Loeffel Meat Laboratory.
The two-story structure was 132 by 38 feet. On the ground floor were offices, a locker room and bath, 14 box stalls, one enclosed calving room for cold weather, a wagon dump, an elevator, and a grinding and mixing room.
Students lived on the second floor of the barn and took care of the cattle. In a Nebraska Farmer interview with George Round (16), one of the students who lived there in the mid-thirties — Paul Pierce of Hastings — said his sleeping quarters were like “manna from heaven,” because he was working his way through the University. He saved $6 room rent which he had previously paid for staying elsewhere.
His barn living quarters included a gas plate for cooking. Pierce stripped the cows for milk to go with his daily breakfast of oatmeal. He was paid 15 cents per hour for his labor.
Charley Johnson was in charge of the barn in those days, and he saw to it that Pierce and the other boys got up at 4:15 a.m. to do the chores.
“Pierce recalls some of the other young men who worked with him,” Round wrote. “One was Lawrence ’Doc’ Condon. Condon got his nickname from operating on tomcats that disturbed the occupants of the upper floor of the barn when the latter were attempting to . . . sleep. Condon today is a farmer living near Creighton in northeast Nebraska.”
Vince Arthaud was one of Pierce’s co-workers at the beef barn. One of the jobs was to unload heavy sacks of feed and then stack them in the haymow. Pierce weighed only 120 pounds.
Ray Bohy was manager and herdsman at the beef barn from 1947 to 1977. In an interview with Rhonda Winings for the Nebraska Alumnus (17), Bohy said he remembered at least 130 students working on the barn crew during his 30 years. They lived in the barn throughout the year including holidays. Since they could not go home for the holidays, the Bohy’s home was opened to the members of the barn crew.
Bohy moved to the University Field Laboratory at Mead when the herd was transferred there in 1970.
Chris Votaw Vinton and Kathy Geiger Wittler lived in the barn in 1972 when it housed pigs (18). In looking back over her college days, Vinton said living in the barn was an adventure but that “sometimes it was a pretty odorific place.” She said “dusting was hopeless and the living was very primitive.”
Bruce Treffer, later to become extension agent for Garfield, Loup and Wheeler Counties, called the beef barn crew “kind of a family. You depended a lot on each other” (18). Treffer worked at the barn and then managed it in 1977-78. (See Part V, Chapter 7.)

The Old Horticulture Building
(58, p 20; 59, pp 5, 21)

The old Horticulture Building was erected in 1904 where the Plant Industry Building now stands. It consisted of a wooden, full two-story structure and two large, attractive greenhouses on the south side of the main building. There was a classroom on the first floor.
That it was not the first horticulture building on the campus is shown by the fact that in 1910 R. A. Emerson referred to it as “. . . palatial in comparison with the building used in the early ’90s.”
L. W. Chase of the Department of Farm Mechanics also had an office in the building for a short time in 1904.
To make room for the Plant Industry Building which was constructed in 1913 on the same site, the old Horticulture Building was moved to a location east of Plant Industry and directly north of Machinery Hall.
About 1919, because of overcrowded conditions in the Home Economics cafeteria, the old Horticulture Building became the Cafeteria Annex, for exclusive use of the faculty. Still later the building was used for storage.
But this was not the end of the story. The final chapter was that except for the classroom which was
The old Horticulture Building, erected in 1904 where Plant Industry now stands, was later moved to the east and finally demolished in 1928.

retained for storage by Extension, the old building became the residence of landscape gardener W. H. Dunman and family. The senior author remembers the home as being beautifully landscaped, with a peacock roaming the premises. Finally in 1928 the structure was demolished.

A Disagreement About Buildings

In 1931 the Judging Pavilion, which also housed the seed laboratory, was heavily damaged by fire. The building was restored the same year and a separate seed laboratory was constructed.

Behind the scenes, there was much more to the story of the fire and its aftermath. Chancellor Burnett and Dean Burr differed for several months on restoration of the Animal Husbandry and Agronomy components of the burned building.

On May 18, three days after the fire, Burnett gave the Board of Regents an estimate of $35,000 for restoring the Judging Pavilion and furniture. At the same time, he proposed that a separate fireproof building be erected at an estimated cost of $30,000 to house the seed laboratory, a major casualty of the fire. He suggested that an appropriation of $65,000 would be necessary (44).

It was not a good time to ask for money. The State Legislature had adjourned on May 2. However, a special session was called for June 9 “to make appropriations for maintenance for State Government” (45).

During the special session, the Legislature provided a $75,000 appropriation to reconstruct the Judging Pavilion and build a fireproof seed house ($10,000 more than Burnett had suggested) (46).

The Judging Pavilion was restored for $28,000, leaving about $47,000 which appeared to be available to construct a seed house. At this point Burnett, former head of the Animal Husbandry Department, and Burr, former head of the Agronomy Department, disagreed on how the remaining money would actually be spent.

In a September 10 letter to Burr, Burnett “wondered” if it would be possible to use the unexpended funds “to erect a (building) between Animal Husbandry and the dairy barn with a suitable seed laboratory on the second floor and with a killing floor and refrigerator for the meats laboratory” on the first floor (47).

Burnett had a compelling reason to want a new meats laboratory. When William J. Loeffel joined the Animal Husbandry staff in 1919, Burnett had promised him that a new laboratory would soon be provided.

In another letter (48), Burnett wrote that if the seed house was to be only a place for threshing grains, the building cost should be kept within $10,000 and the balance of the unexpended funds used “in connection with an Animal Husbandry meat and judging laboratory or held over . . . and used as a leverage to secure a Home Economics (building) appropriation.”

He also said he would “not like to go back to the Legislature and show them a $30,000 to $40,000 seed house erected at a time of business depression like this.” This was in sharp contrast to his original proposal for a $30,000 seed house.

Burr had something different in mind — “a laboratory for grain judging, a fumigation room, a work room and the housing of all departmental supplies for both soils and crops, as well as seed storage facilities.” Further, Burr suggested that “an additional $20,000 to $25,000 would make possible a brick structure to house the entire (Agronomy) department staff” (49).  

As part of the same exchange, Burnett wrote that he did not feel “having a battery of office men occupying adjoining rooms facing on the quadrangle (had) much bearing on the progress which will be made in agriculture” (48). Burr replied that “If we could house the Department of Agronomy together the question of offices facing on the quadrangle would have no bearing whatever” (49).

As it turned out, Agronomy got its seed house, completed in 1933 at a cost of $33,500. This later became Kiesselbach Crops Research Laboratory. Animal Husbandry waited until 1953 to get a new meat laboratory, and Agronomy did not have a building to house the bulk of the Department until 1952 (Keim Hall).

Behlen Building - Atomic Blast Survivor

Less well known among campus structures is a metal building which faced up to the atomic blast in the civil defense test of May 1955 at Yucca Flat, Nevada.

The frameless metal building, which was one of two of similar design used in the test, is a gift to the College of Agriculture from the producer, the Behlen Manufacturing Company of Columbus, Nebraska.

The building stands between the campus power

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*F D. Keim was at the time acting chairman of the Department of Agronomy. It's a fairly safe guess that he was pushing hard for a complete Department of Agronomy building.

**The present term for the “quadrangle” is the “mall.”*
This drawing of University Hall on the City Campus, identified as “College of Agriculture”, appeared in an 1871 USDA report. It may have been so named to show that the University had fulfilled the stipulations of the Morrill Act. The USDA report was discovered by Curtis Clegg while working at Goodwill Industries in Lincoln.

The building is constructed of channel ridged, fluted steel panels which are bolted to a concrete footing and to each other to form walls and roof. It was virtually undamaged in the Nevada blast. Its door was knocked ajar and a few window panes were broken.

A bronze plaque noting the building’s historical significance is attached to the entrance door. It reads: “This Behlen building was located 15,000 feet from a nuclear explosion at the Atomic Energy Commission’s Nevada Test Test Site at 5 a.m. May 5, 1955. The force of the explosion was equal to 30,000 tons of TNT” (30).

“U” Hall Might Have Been Named for Agriculture

University Hall on the City Campus seems at first to have come fairly close to acquiring the name “College of Agriculture,” and in one government publication it was so called.

Delegates to a constitutional convention convened in Lincoln in June of 1871 spent considerable time on University affairs. The delegates were not sure that the University, as then established, fulfilled the stipulations of the Morrill Act. The U.S. gave Nebraska two grants of land, one of 90,000 acres to endow a college “for the benefit of agriculture and mechanic arts” (54, pp 26, 27).

Experience Estabrook of Douglas County said that Congress required a building for the Agricultural College to comply with the law, and suggested that the building already erected (University Hall) “should be deemed the Agricultural College ... so as to show that we had in good faith complied with the provisions of the acts of Congress.”

The first courses in agriculture were, in fact, taught in University Hall.

The delegates later decided to drop the subject. However, a U.S. Department of Agriculture Report for 1871 (55, p 322), includes a drawing of University Hall with this caption — “University of Nebraska (College of Agriculture), Lincoln, Nebraska.” It seems reasonable to speculate that whoever provided the drawing may have had in mind Estabrook’s concern about complying with the Morrill Act.
Transportation — a Major Problem

In the early days of the Agricultural College, transportation between the University's two campuses was a major problem. The streets were not paved and rains left them virtually impassable. Many staff members had driving horses. Dean Burnett drove a French Coach horse named Dolly (10, p 206).

The first street cars came only to 27th and Holdrege, which still left a considerable walk to reach the campus. But on July 31, 1903, "public exercises" celebrated the opening of a "new car line to the State Farm." A newspaper account said the line "will be opened at 4:00 p.m. today. A special car will leave the post office at 3:30 p.m." Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews offered a welcome and Governor J. H. Mickey gave an address and drove a silver spike (19).

Although the cars were first designated "State Farm," the name was later changed to "Agr. College" because of the stigma that some staff and students felt was connected with the farm title.

Later, an interurban trolley rail line also served the area. The interurban route extended from downtown Lincoln to Bethany and University Place (7), crossing 33rd Street south of Y Street, and 38th Street north of Dudley Street.

About 1912 Holdrege Street was paved with vitriified brick. This job was done by prisoners from the Penitentiary, who were housed in the Judging Pavilion (later Animal Husbandry Hall) (10, p 207).

In 1935 the President of the Board of Regents was authorized to sign a petition for paving 33rd Street from Holdrege to Leighton (20). The paving was completed in 1936 (36).

For the times, street cars and city buses which replaced the street cars in the latter '20s, represented an important solution to College of Agriculture transportation problems. However, students were looking for a still better way. Their efforts brought about an intercampus bus system which now provides nonstop transportation between the East Campus and the City Campus.

The shortcomings of street cars were treated editorially in January 1926 (50, p 10) in the *Cornhusker Countryman* by editor Amos Gramlich: "Unless one has had the experience of depending on the Lincoln Traction Company for transportation", he wrote, "little can he realize the inconvenience of our college location. The time spent on street cars is a total loss to the student and in some cases amounts to between eight and ten hours a week . . . Other universities have the same problem. Some have met the difficulty by providing free street cars connecting the Ag campus with the other11. Could not a bus line between our two campus sites be used to advantage?"

Again in March 1939, *Cornhusker Countryman* editor Rex Brown made a plea for an intercampus bus. He pointed out that Harold Benn (Ag student), president of the University Student Council, had appointed a student committee with a faculty adviser to serve as a nucleus for building an organization to carry on a drive to make the intercampus bus a reality (51, p 6).

The concept of an intercampus bus finally came to

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11 The senior author can verify this statement. When he entered graduate work at the University of Minnesota in the fall of 1945, there was still an intercampus street car operating between the St. Paul and Minneapolis campuses, with no charge for student use.
fruition when, after a good deal of effort, Director Franklin E. Eldridge and Business Manager Carl A. Donaldson succeeded in getting an intercampus bus system established in the fall of 1963. Almost 4,000 passengers used the new service during the first week (53). The lesson to be learned from this experience is that some things take time, often much time — in this case over a half a century from the time a street car first came as far as the East Campus in 1903.

Today, being without an intercampus bus would be unthinkable. Student use of the bus is heavy, indeed. The chief reason is the parking problem which Rex Brown did not mention and which Amos Gramlich probably did not even envisage might be a problem. Shortage of parking space is an evil which has come in more modern times with affluency making it possible for many students to have automobiles.

Getting Along with the Neighbors

College administrators and faculty tried over the years to maintain good relations with the surrounding community. Dozens of staff members themselves bought or built homes in the Hazellhurst addition south of Holdrege Street and other nearby areas, so they too lived as campus neighbors.

Occasional problems developed, many associated with animals kept on the campus. One of Ray Bohy's more vivid memories, for example, involves the escape of 150 calves in 1959. They got out the night they were brought to town, and roamed over a large area. The calves were rounded up by noon the next day, but by then some sidewalks needed cleaning (17).

Dogs owned by campus employees, and perhaps by neighbors, caused some problems for the Animal Husbandry staff, too. W. J. Loeffel once complained to Dean Lambert that stray dogs had destroyed sheep and pigs and chased horses into fences. In a letter to Dean Lambert, Loeffel wrote that “there are several campus employees who bring their dogs to the campus every day and let them roam at will. I believe it would be very helpful if you would write them letters instructing them to leave their dogs at home” (31).

The problem of animals on campus was largely solved after the University Field Laboratory at Mead (now the Agricultural Research and Development Center) was established in 1962 and within a few years most animals from the East Campus and Havelock Farms were moved there. The dairy cows were moved to Mead in February 1966 (38).

Beef cattle, sheep, swine and occasionally horses are brought to the campus temporarily for class work and judging practice. Some animals used in research and teaching are kept in Marvel L. Baker Hall, but these are inside the building in a nutrition/physiology laboratory. Only poultry are regularly kept in Lincoln. There are 5,000 to 6,000 chickens on the north edge of the campus proper and, in the spring, about 1,500 turkeys (32).

Tractor testing noise has caused some friction with campus neighbors. In 1955 Charles Fowler, Director of the Division of Buildings and Grounds, advised the College that people living west of 33rd street “voiced considerable objection” to the noise of tractors during the night. Lloyd W. Hurlbut, chairman of Agricultural Engineering, explained that it was sometimes necessary to get on the earthen test course with a sprinkler wagon (pulled by a tractor) early in the morning to prepare the soil for tractor testing, but predicted that “the new concrete test course will eliminate the need . . .” for soil preparation at irregular hours (33).

The concrete course was completed in 1966, but in 1968 a complaint was directed publicly at tractor testing, this time in the Sunday Journal and Star’s “Action Line.” The writer, identified only by initials, asked: “What can be done about tractor testing noise on NU’s East Campus. I live on No. 43rd Street. On Nov. 25 they were testing two hours after midnight” (34).

Action Line, quoting Robert Kleis, answered that a heavy testing schedule was to blame, but said the College “apologizes for the . . . noise.” Kleis said the laboratory would be moved to the Field Laboratory at Mead, “but not for some time” (35).

Night testing was discontinued in about 1970, but complaints about noise at night continued. It is now believed that the noise came from blowers on commercial grain dryers northwest of the campus, which did run at night (35).

Trees Are Part of Campus History

First Memorial Trees

The first trees to shade the Agricultural Campus mall appear to be those planted April 22, 1909 in observance of Arbor Day. State and University dignitaries gathered that afternoon in the assembly room in Agricultural Hall to hear talks by Regent George Coupland, Governor Ashton C. Shallenberger, Dean Charles E. Bessey, Isaac Pollard, Will Owen Jones, G. W. Wattles, and C. S. Harrison (21).

Following the talks, the first of 17 memorial trees was planted by Joy Morton in honor of J. Sterling Morton — founder of Arbor Day — just west of and in line with the south end of Experiment Station Hall.

Succeeding trees extended north along the mall (between the sidewalk and the street) to a point between the north end of Plant Industry Hall and what is now Center Drive (36). They were planted by C. J. Ernst, the annual Tractor Power and Safety Day was moved to the Field Laboratory, but the Tractor Testing Laboratory remains on the Lincoln campus.

The trees are clearly visible in an aerial view of the College of Agriculture reproduced on pages 146 and 147 of Centennial History of the University of Nebraska, P. Frontier University, 1896-1919, by Robert Manley, University Press, 1969. (The picture was taken in 1926 or later (it shows the “new” dairy barn which was built in 1926), although the picture caption indicates it was taken in “the beginning of the 1920s.”)
Governor Shallenberger, Regent William G. Whitmore, Regent Frederick H. Abbott, Regent Victor G. Lyford, Regent Charles B. Anderson, Regent George Coupland, Regent Whitmore (for Regent Charles S. Allen), Dean Bessey, Isaac Pollard (for the State Horticultural Society), W. R. Mellor (for the State Board of Agriculture), Reverend Harrison (representing the Nebraska Park and Foresters' Association), C. H. Rudge (for former Governor Robert W. Furnas), A. R. Shedd (for the Alumni Association of the School of Agriculture), Otto H. Liebers (for the Senior Class of the School of Agriculture), and Chancellor Samuel Avery (22).

None of the original trees, all believed to have been pin oaks\(^{14}\) remain, although other trees around the mall which probably were planted soon after 1909 are still in place. [There were suggestions that similar plantings be continued from year to year (23)]. Many of this latter group, however, were also being removed in 1986.

A growth ring count made in 1986 on a large dead tree on the west side of the mall near the north end of Agricultural Hall — in this case a red oak — indicated an age of about 68 to 73 years\(^{15}\), which would mean the tree was planted between 1913 and 1918.

**The Russian Oak and Other Controversies.**

Trees have always had influential friends on the East Campus. Those friends, and other Nebraskans, came to the rescue when a 63-year old oak was schedule for removal in 1968.

The tree was to be sacrificed because it lay in the path of a planned improved campus entrance on Holdrege opposite 38th Street, but it quickly became the center of a “Save that Tree” campaign. Eventually, plans for the entrance were changed enough to allow the tree to remain.

At the time, the *Summer Nebraskan* observed that “It seems . . . the University has a long tradition of insensitivity to rare trees, unless some sort of clamor is raised in defense of the tree” (27).

A myth was circulating to the effect that this was a Russian white oak grown from acorns brought from Russia in 1905 by former Horticulture professor Rollins A. Emerson. Although it was later learned that Emerson had never visited Russia (25), the tree was no less valuable in the eyes of tree lovers.

University foresters now identify the tree as an English oak (*Quercus robur*), native to the USSR and other European countries, and a member of the white oak group (26). It is similar to the burr oak and well adapted to Nebraska. According to Walter Bagley, professor emeritus/Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife, the campus oak that was spared is the mother of oaks now growing in many parts of the state. There are several other English oaks now in the Statewide Arboretum on the campus.

According to a 1968 *Summer Nebraskan*, Dean Elvin Frolik — who played a prominent part in saving the oak — had already gained “a reputation for saving trees on East Campus” (27). A utility tunnel was to be constructed in a collision course with a concolor fir tree given to the University by the Nebraska Association of Nurserymen in 1964 as a living Christmas tree. Frolik persuaded campus planning officials to alter the course of the tunnel and the tree is still growing. It is decorated each Christmas for a Yuletide tree lighting ceremony that has become a campus tradition.

A marker for the living Christmas Tree is made from part of a stone seat that had been presented to the College by the School of Agriculture class of 1925 as a Holdrege Street entrance bench, and which was later broken. The slab from the bench was recut and engraved as a marker. (See also Part IX, Chapter 4.)

\(^{14}\)Some staff members remember the original trees as pin oaks and recall they were frequently affected by chlorosis, a common disease of the species.

\(^{15}\)Tom D. Wardle of the Nebraska Forest Service counted 63 growth rings and estimated that 5 to 10 rings were missing at the center, due to rot. He estimated the tree's total age at approximately 68 to 73 years (24).
Rare Trees Lost to Bulldozer

Mistaken identity accounted for the loss of a group of rare trees during construction of the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education. Horticulture Professor H. O. Werner told the Summer Nebraskan in a 1968 interview that a collection by Charles Bessey was planted in the arboretum bounded by Holdrege and 33rd Streets — the same area designated later to be the site of the Center (27).

"Considerable discord arose among various . . . plant specialists on and off campus," Werner said. "After careful planning and many painful decisions, a number of rare and valuable trees were marked for salvation. But the bulldozer inadvertently destroyed the marked trees and only some of the unmarked trees remained." Werner said no one could really be blamed for the mistake.

"Still, one of the finest collections of its kind, anywhere, is gone forever," he said.

The Maxwell Arboretum

East and south of C. Y. Thompson Library are more than 200 different species and cultivars of trees and shrubs that make up an arboretum named for Earl G. Maxwell, extension forester from 1934 through 1952. Most of the big trees in the arboretum were planted by Maxwell in the early 1940's when he established the area as a test planting site.

The arboretum now has a two-fold purpose: aesthetic and educational. "The purpose is to display plants that grow well in Nebraska, so people can see how they look in their natural setting," according to horticulturist George Briggs (28).

Trees in the arboretum are labeled with both common and scientific names. The labeling was started in the mid-sixties by the Lincoln chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America. The labeling was done by D. E. Hutchinson, extension conservationist from 1945 to 1947.

More recently the labeling has been done by the University Grounds Department.

Some of the trees planted by Maxwell, such as two bald cypresses from the deep south and several eastern and European oak trees, have done surprisingly well in view of the fact that they were not considered adaptable to Nebraska's harsh climate.

Several more recent plantings, such as a flowering dogwood given to the state in 1981 by the governor of Virginia, magnolias and Korean boxwoods show that plants from many different locales can do well in Nebraska if given proper planting and care.

The arboretum is supported primarily through private donations and gifts of trees and other plants.

A wooden gazebo built in memory of Karl Loerch, extension forester from 1952 to 1970, forms an entryway to the tree area from a parking area along the East Campus Loop.

In 1969, the Maxwell Arboretum became one of the first sites in the Statewide Arboretum, of which Briggs is now director. The arboretum has 25 sites around the state.

Table 1. East Campus Buildings
(Original and Succeeding Names)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s)</th>
<th>Year Built</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Building</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Economics Hall - 1917</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poultry Husbandry Hall - 1936</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Administration Annex - 1956 (building razed in 1973)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(was on the north side of Holdrege Street just west of where Arbor Drive enters the East Campus)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Agriculture</em>, January 1909, includes a photograph of this dairy building and also a frame structure captioned &quot;The Original Dairy Building.&quot; From the records we cannot determine whether this &quot;original&quot; building dated back to an earlier time or whether it was the structure erected in 1896 and then enlarged and veneered the next year.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ag Experiment Station Building</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>27,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—Remodeled—</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>103,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experiment Station Hall - 1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Information - 1960</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Communications Bldg. - 1973 (oldest existing building on East Campus)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*16 A detailed discussion about Maxwell is found in Part VIII, Chapter 4.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Name</th>
<th>Year Built</th>
<th>Floor Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dairy Barn</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(collapsed in 1925)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(was on east side of Arbor Drive, east of Filley Hall, and south of what is now C. Y. Thompson Library)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Horticulture Building</td>
<td>1904</td>
<td>4,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(located on present site of Plant Industry Building)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery Hall</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Science Meat Laboratory</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stores &amp; Gymnasium Bldg.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stores</td>
<td>1921-1931</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Old Machinery Hall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemurgy Building</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(razed in 1964)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Hall</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Remodeled —</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>199,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(during construction in 1904, referred to as School of Ag Bldg.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boiler House</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>30,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tractor Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Annex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(was about one block west and slightly north of Agricultural Hall)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Built in 1907 to supply all steam-heating and power needs of the campus. Before 1907 there was a heating plant northeast of Experiment Station Hall, as shown in a photograph of the campus in a University Bulletin dated September 1900.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Although the boiler house was renamed Tractor Laboratory in 1920, it should not be confused with the Tractor Testing Laboratory built in 1919 across the street north and east of the Agricultural Engineering Building.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>As the Extension Annex, it housed Extension Service mimeograph and multilith equipment, and was the distribution point for Extension and Experiment Station publications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The building was razed in 1959 - about the time Extension printing equipment was moved to the former Experiment Station Hall when the latter building became the new home of the Department of Information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woman’s Building</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>66,150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Economics - 1909</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(razed in 1973)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(was where the present Home Economics Building is located)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Livestock Judging Pavilion</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Remodeled — (after fire)</td>
<td>1931</td>
<td>28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Husbandry Hall - 1932</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller Hall - 1972</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Hall</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal Pathology and Hygiene Complex</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>133,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Three buildings added to Veterinary Hall to form a square with courtyard in the center)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources Hall - 1981</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Serum Plant**  
(Closed as Serum Plant in 1939, razed about 1948)  
(was approximately where the Stewart Seed Laboratory is now located)

**Plant Industry Hall**  
—Remodeled—  
1913  85,000  
1953  107,950  
(damaged by fire August 22, 1975 and subsequently restored)

**Heating Plant**  
1915  30,200  
"Erected for College and Station purposes, together with steam tunnels and additional boilers".

Additions were made in:  
1967  549,800  
1973  13,231  
1981  1,254,000

**Horse Barn**  
—Remodeled—  
1915  33,700  
1978  24,671  
Livestock Judging Pavilion - 1960

**Dairy Industry Hall**  
—Remodeled—  
1916  176,800  
1969  260,335  
H. C. Filley Hall - 1972

**Ag Engineering Bldg.**  
Renovation  
1918  195,000  
1981  3,253,999  
(Renamed L. W. Chase Hall - 1982)

**Tractor Testing**  
1919  32,000  
(Building cost $3,000 - remainder for equipment and cinder track)

Two new tracks - one dirt and one concrete  
1956  28,000  
(built to replace original track)

**Beef Barn**  
1923  24,720  
(razed in 1986)  
(was on the north side of Fair Street facing 39th Street)

**College Activities Hall**  
1926  128,000  
Student Activities Bldg. (unofficially)  
College Activities Building

**Dairy Barn**  
—Remodeled—  
1926  50,000  
1952  34,431  
(replaced original barn built in 1903)  
(razed in 1971 - was on east side of 39th Street opposite Center Drive)

**Plant Pathology Greenhouses**  
1928  59,000  
(3 units) with headhouse  
(razed or added on to as related later, or explained in Agronomy Department write-up in this history)

**Service Building**  
1929  20,000
Sheep Barn
1929
15,000
(razed in 1970 - was on north side of Fair Street about two blocks east of the beef barn)

Child Development Lab
1928
10,860
(razed in 1969 - was just north and east of the present site of the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education)

Crops Laboratory
1933
33,500
—Remodeled—
1969
106,879
Kiesselbach Crops Research Laboratory - 1969

Greenhouses - Crops and Soils (2)
1936
19,890

Motor Truck Laboratory
1936
25,000
(Built for ROTC use, Artillery branch)
—Remodeled—
1954
65,567
Poultry Husbandry Hall - 1954
Poultry Science Hall - 1963
Mussehl Hall - 1979

Love Memorial Hall
1940
45,000

Food and Nutrition
1943
160,000
—Remodeled—
1976
738,422
Ruth Leverton Hall - 1978

Swine Research Center
1948
138,763
(located at Havelock Farms, later razed)

Agronomy Building
Keim Hall - 1957
1952
634,372

Insectary-greenhouse (Entomology)
1953
74,293

Meat Laboratory
Loeffel Meat Laboratory - 1967
1953
331,106

ROTC Armory!
Conservation and Survey Annex - 1982
1954
46,558
(Used by Army ROTC until 1960, then leased to Federal Government for use in conjunction with Pershing Armory until 1980. Used by Ag Engineering during Department’s remodeling, then turned over to Conservation and Survey in 1982)

Foundation Seed Building
1955
(3115 No. 70th St., Lincoln)

(3115 No. 70th St., Lincoln)

(Presented to the University of Nebraska October 8, 1955 by the Agricultural Research Foundation, Omaha, Nebraska, J. LeRoy Welsh, president)

Married Students’ Housing!
University Park Apartments
1957
398,012

Burr Hall!
1957
501,348

Fedde Hall!
1957
187,848
Biochemistry and Nutrition 1957  840,706
Agricultural Biochemistry Hall - 1980

Poultry Building 1958  Given by O. A. Cooper
Given by O. A. Cooper
Company of Humboldt

Forage Insect Laboratory 1958  75,000
(ann.)

Nebr. Center for Continuing Education 1961  3,335,420

Poultry Husbandry Complex 1963  265,000

College of Agriculture Library 1964  1,247,896
C. Y. Thompson Library - 1966

Home Management Laboratory “A” 1964  46,467
Home Management Laboratory “B” 1964  49,233
(Phase “B” renamed Rehabilitation Laboratory - 1984)

College of Dentistry 1967  4,060,027
—Remodeled— 1973  70,133

Warehouse #1 1968  72,424

Child Development Laboratory 1968  273,953
Ruth Staples Child Development Laboratory - 1970

New Animal Science Building 1968  1,568,535
Marvel L. Baker Hall - 1969

New Seed Laboratory 1969  232,900
Paul H. Stewart Seed Lab - 1969

Warehouse #2 1969  69,000
—Addition— 1971  40,897

Weed Science Headhouse and Greenhouses 1971  128,000

Nebraska Educational Telecommunications 1972  2,781,371
Center
Terry M. Carpenter Nebraska Telecommunications Center - 1978

Forestry Sciences Laboratory (USDA) 1973  600,000
(ann.)

(Forestry Sciences Headhouse and one greenhouse (USDA) also built in 1973. Another greenhouse added later)

D.B. and Paula Varner Hall 1973  779,705

Home Economics Building 1974  1,634,400

McCollum Hall (Law Library) 1975  3,357,860

Animal Research Facility 1976  3,711,435

Animal Holding Facility 1976  83,391

Barkley Memorial Center 1976  1,590,757
Veterinary Science Complex
East Union¹
Plant Pathology Greenhouse
Horticulture Greenhouse
Plant Science Hall
Plant Science Headhouses & Greenhouses
Sewage Sterilization Plant
Ag Engineering Laboratories Bldg.
Sherman S. Welpton Courtroom¹ (Addition to College of Law)

¹Not a part of LANR, but a University-related building.
²By the early twenties there was a battery of greenhouses for the departments working with plants located west and a little north of Agricultural Hall. These were replaced with a new battery being started in 1928 just south of Fair and east of 38th Streets. When the area between 38th and 39th Streets along Fair had been filled (including an Entomology insectary), a new series was started immediately south of the initial set. When the new and much more extensive set of greenhouses east of 38th Street and south of Deadman’s Run had been completed in 1978, a portion of the greenhouses along Fair Street was razed.
³Constructed with federal funds and owned by USDA/ARS.
⁴Constructed with federal funds and owned by USDA Forest Service.

NOTE — Information compiled from: 1) Annual Reports of the Agricultural Experiment Station, 2) records provided by the University Physical Plant, 3) Board of Regents Minutes, 4) the Cornhusker Countryman, and 5) newspaper accounts.

Dates of building completions are difficult to establish because Physical Plant records are based on completion of paper work, which in some cases was later than date of occupancy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Purchase price (how acquired)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Model Farm&quot;</td>
<td>1872</td>
<td>On the neighborhood of present State Fair, in the vicinity of 33rd St. and 48th St., north of Holdrege St., and west of present 3rd St.</td>
<td>Approx. 320 acres</td>
<td>Via the Governor as provided in the Charter $17,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original East Campus</td>
<td>June 25, 1874</td>
<td>On the south at 39th St., Holdrege to Holdrege.</td>
<td>Approx. 320 acres</td>
<td>$17,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agronomy Field Museum (Warner Hall)</td>
<td>May 19, 1909</td>
<td>Along Holdrege St. on the north side of the original tract.</td>
<td>Approx. 3.8 acres</td>
<td>Through gifts, purchases and trades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions to East Campus on the north side of original tract</td>
<td>Over a period of years</td>
<td>Most of area south of Huntington Ave. at 33rd St., east to Holdrege, north to Holdrege Ave., and west to 48th St.</td>
<td>Approx. 35.6 acres</td>
<td>Purchased by University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;JQ&quot;</td>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Between Huntington and Baldwin - 33rd &amp; 35th Sts.</td>
<td>3 lots (1/2 acre)</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Havelock Farms (first known as the Agronomy Farm)</td>
<td>1918</td>
<td>In Section 10, 3, &amp; 11, of Adams St. and Rock Island Railroad.</td>
<td>160 acres</td>
<td>Purchased by University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Havelock Hog Farm</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>In Section 15, 50, of Adams St. from 70th St. on the west.</td>
<td>130 acres</td>
<td>Purchased by University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Havelock Farms addition</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>In Sections 10, 3, &amp; 11, of Adams St. and Rock Island Railroad.</td>
<td>905 acres</td>
<td>Purchased by UN when Boucher was Chancellor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Havelock Farms (additions)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>In an area between 33rd and 44th Sts., Holdrege and Doane Streets.</td>
<td>173.5 acres</td>
<td>Purchased at various prices except for .32 acres across street west of ETV given to the University of Nebraska by Certified Hybrid Corn Producers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Hospital land</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>In an area between 33rd and 44th Sts., Holdrege and Doane Streets.</td>
<td>3.94 acres</td>
<td>Grant from the U.S. Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various tracts west of East Campus</td>
<td>1960-1966</td>
<td>In the neighborhood of present State Fair, in the vicinity of 33rd St. and 48th St., north of Holdrege St., and west of present 3rd St.</td>
<td>117 acres</td>
<td>Purchased by Foundation Seed Division in 1949 by the Cooperative. Foundation Seed built a quonset on the property and used it until 1955.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table lists acquisitions but not disposals, which have been substantial. The "Model Farm" was dropped by the University soon after it had been assigned. Subsequent disposals are listed in Part VI, Chapter 1.
References
1. Crawford, R. P. 1925. These Fifty Years. AES Circular 26. UN Press, Lincoln, NE.
2. UN Board of Regents Minutes. 1964, 26:288. UN, Lincoln, NE.
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