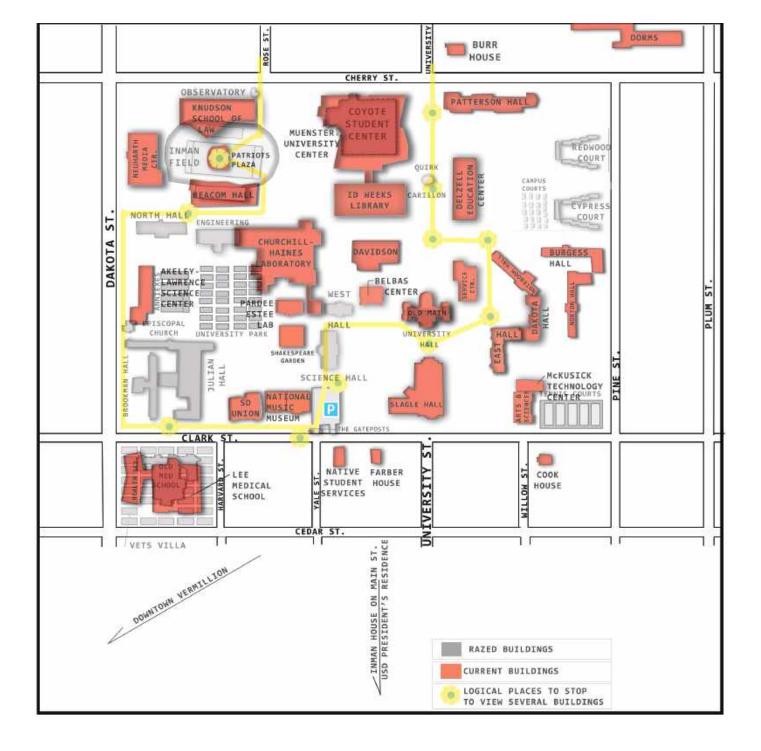


Campus හ් Historic Buildings Walking Tour



University of South Dakota Campus & Historic Buildings

Walking Tour

Text and Photos Compiled by Tim Schreiner

Clay County Historic Preservation Commission 2024

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Countless people helped with this project to make a true walking tour of the historic campus of the first public university in Dakota Territory. Most of the work was completed by members of the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission (CCHPC), under the guidance of the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office. A previous version of such a tour was compiled by Tom Thaden in 2014.

Sarah Hanson Pareek at the University of South Dakota Archives and Special Collections provided most of the historic photographs of campus buildings that no loner exist. Wess Berntson Pravecek of the Austin-Whittemore Museum in Vermillion pointed the way to some important photographs as well.

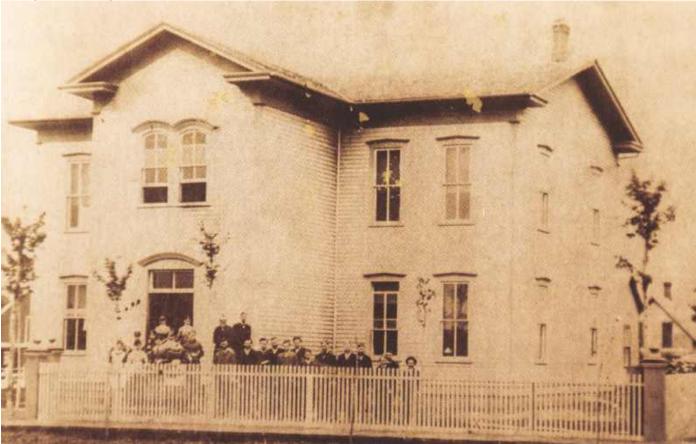
There is no better source on the history of the University than Cedric Cummins' book, "The University of South Dakota 1862-1966." The book helped solve many discrepancies on matters of fact. Two more books about USD also helped: Richmond L. Clow's small additional volume, "The University of South Dakota 1862-1982" covers the years between 1966 and 1982. Ann Grauvogl's "Pride, Persistence and Progress" is an excellent tabletop photo history of USD.

The historic maps of the campus compiled by, and provided by, Doris Peterson at I.D. Weeks Library cleared up the location of some now-gone buildings of importance.

A "Building Inventory of the University of South Dakota," compiled in early 2024 by Michelle Dennis, and funded by the Vermillion Historic Preservation Commission, proved indispensable in bringing campus building information up to date and filling in some missing data. Evelyn Schlenker, secretary of the CCHPC, was immensely helpful, given her knowledge of much of USD's history, Vermillion's history, and her part-time work at the USD Archives and Special Collections.

The responsibility for the accuracy of this volume falls with CCHPC Chair Tim Schreiner, who gathered all the material, wrote the volume, took all photographs except those of razed buildings, and made the maps and the routes for this walking tour. All razed buildings are shown in black and white. Existing buildings are shown in color in photographs and in red on the maps.

In the late 19th Century, USD was briefly known as State University, but we refer to it as the University of Dakota, the University of South Dakota, or the University throughout.

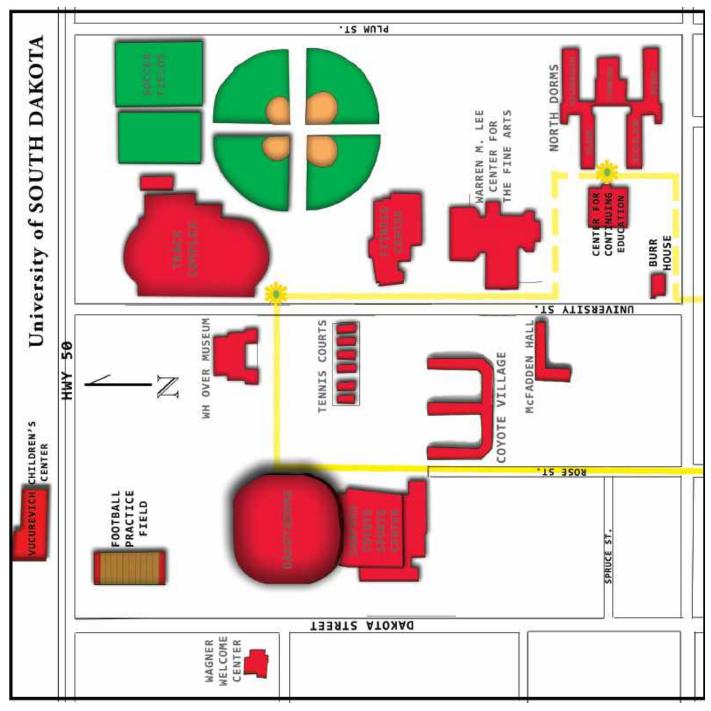


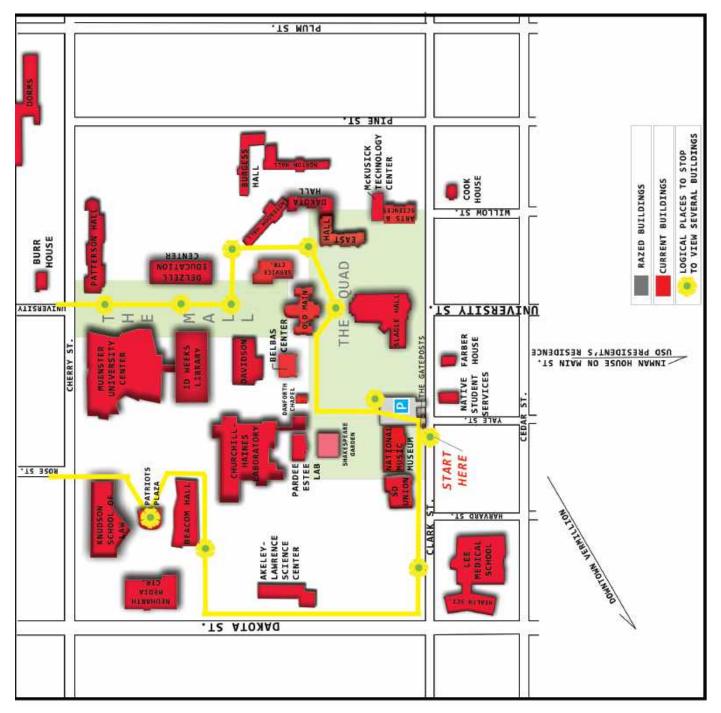
Clay County Courthouse provided a classroom for the first students

Austin-Whittemore House Museum

Former Clay County Courthouse with University of Dakota students, 1882-83. Black and white photos represent buildings that no longer exist, while color photos are of existing ones.

To begin a tour of USD historic buildings, we start away from the present-day campus. The territorial Legislature established the University of Dakota in 1862, and set Vermillion as the location, but appropriated no money. Vermillion's leaders worked to start a school but lacked money. Then, Vermillion floated away in the 1881 Missouri River flood. The school's backers feared they would lose the university, so they passed a \$10,000 county bond to pay for the first campus building. Even before construction was completed, civic leaders knew they needed to further prove Vermillion's viability by holding classes. They did so in the autumn of 1882, in one room of the then-county courthouse, which stood where today's Vermillion post office now sits. Classes moved to the current campus in 1883.





Starting the Tour: The Gateposts, National Music Museum, and The Quad



The Gateposts stand on either side of the exit from the National Music Museum parking lot.

Perhaps the best place to start a tour of USD's historic campus is one that is close to the oldest part of campus and yet provides some visitor parking (although paid). The parking lot next to the National Music Museum on Clark Street provides ready access to the tour. The Gateposts at the exit of the parking lot are gifts from USD graduating classes from the 1920s.

Park in the lot and step back to the Gateposts to look northwest at one of the jewels of the USD campus —the National Music Museum, one of the greatest collections of musical instruments in the world.

The National Music Museum began life in 1911 as the school's first dedicated library. In 1910, philanthropist Andrew Carnegie gave USD \$40,000 to build a new library to replace the library that had been housed in the east end of the old University Hall (which we'll see soon).

Carnegie Library, 1911, later the National Music Museum



When it opened, the library included 16,000 volumes and filled the southeast section of the thennew library building we now see in the southeast corner of the museum. At the time, the Carnegie Library marked the westernmost building on campus. A 1940 addition was built with Public Works Administration money onto the north side of the building. After the new I.D. Weeks Library was built in The Mall section of campus in 1966, the Carnegie Library was home to the art and history departments, then was shared by the Oscar Howe Gallery and the W. H. Over (natural and cultural history) Museum. Later, it turned over some space to the nationally recognized Shrine to Music museum, which was founded in 1973. The music collection became so extensive that in 1984 the now-named National Music Museum not only took over the entire Carnegie building but also then added the Lillibridge wing to the west side in 2021.

Now, let's move to The Quad, the oldest set of buildings at USD

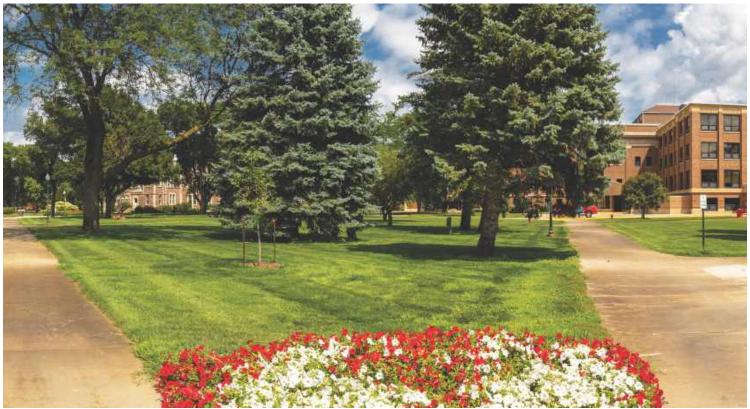


The sign at the northeast corner of the parking lot gives a brief history of USD's beginnings.

At this starting point in our walk, we are on the southern edge of The Quad, the historic greenspace of campus. A horseshoe-shaped road once permitted access to The Quad buildings. Now, only sidewalks break the grassy expanse.

Look to the left of the center walkway behind the sign and toward "The Bastille" (Belbas Center) and the Pardee-Estee (chemistry) Lab, and imagine that for the first half of the 20th Century, the view was dominated by Science Hall, built in 1902, condemned in 1958, and torn down in 1961. Otherwise, much of the view would have been strikingly similar. The small stone under the second tree on the left represents the location of Science Hall.

Head north past the rock and enjoy the Shakespeare Garden immediately south of the front of Pardee-Estee Laboratory. It originally included every plant mentioned in the works of "The Bard," but many have been replaced because of the harsh weather that visits Vermillion in winter.



From the left in the panorama on these two pages, the Pardee-Estee Chemistry Building, the Belbas "Bastille," Old Main (hidden behind the left evergreen), and Slagle Hall, the University's administration headquarters.

The Chemistry Building, later Pardee-Estee Laboratory, 1915



Looking through the fence of the Shakespeare Garden toward the Pardee-Estee Laboratory.

In 1915 at a cost of \$100,000, USD built what was then called the Chemistry Building. It also housed the Domestic Science Department and the State Food and Drug and Health Department. A major fire on the night of January 25, 1957, in the state lab on the third floor caused extensive damage. The building was saved, but the third floor was gutted and the rest of the building suffered severe smoke and water damage. The repairs cost \$224,881. The building is now named for Arthur Pardee, once the head of the chemistry department and dean of the graduate school, and Charles Estee, a former chemistry department chair. The interior was remodeled in 2010.

Science Hall, 1902-1958



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

Science Hall, the building south of the chemistry building, was a dominant presence on the campus for 60 years, but was a vacant hulk for three years after it was condemned in 1958.

After a construction pause from 1887 to the end of the 19th Century, the University (the University of South Dakota since 1891) began planning for a new large Science Hall. Its total cost was \$40,000, and its construction time was considered extremely short. Built in light-colored brick, it measured 150-feet by 65-feet, and included three floors and an unfinished basement.

Science Hall faced east across The Quad, looking between University Hall (Old Main) and Slagle Hall and toward East Hall. It eased the classroom crowding centered in University Hall, providing space for biology, geology, chemistry, and medical classes.

Many large science experiments took place in the basement and reportedly shook the entire building, sometimes disrupting classes. Within two years of its construction, cracks began appearing all through the building, and caused problems throughout its 46 years as a classroom building. In 1958, engineers condemned Science Hall as "unsafe for human occupancy." It was demolished in 1961.

Photographs of razed buildings are rendered in black and white in this volume. Color photos represent buildings that still exist.

West Hall, 1885-1905



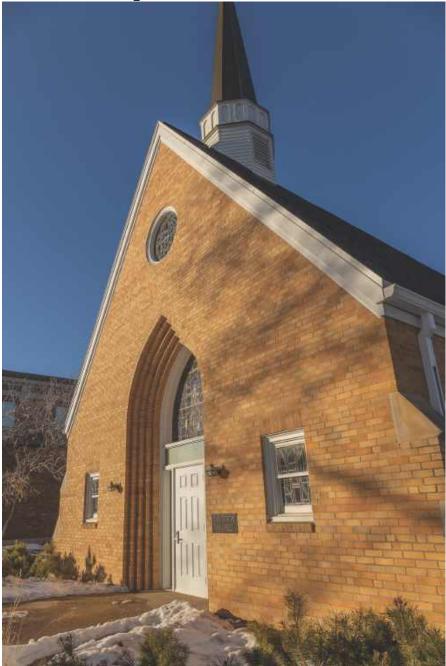
USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

West Hall was the first official dormitory on campus and was built for \$8,000. It was a women's dorm when it opened in 1885 until East Hall for women was completed in 1887. Then, the men took over West Hall, which faced south toward what was becoming the campus Quad.

West Hall was, of course, west of University Hall. It sat approximately where Danforth Chapel now sits – its south façade roughly in line with the south façade of today's chemistry building. But it was short-lived. On July 4, 1905, fire destroyed West in a blaze that "appeared to have been of incendiary origin." It was set by arsonists Elmer S. Jordan and Richard Brueschweiler. The charred ruin sat empty on campus for more than a year before it was razed.

To imagine the location of West Hall, stand in front of Danforth Chapel.

Danforth Chapel, 1954



Danforth Chapel.

William Danforth of St. Louis, Missouri, offered USD \$5,000 (later raised to \$10,000) for construction of an inter-denominational chapel on campus. Matching donations lagged, but the Danforth Chapel was eventually built for \$30,000. USD architect and faculty member Harold Brookman cleverly lined up the west wall of the chapel with what had been the east face (front) of old Science Hall.

The Armory, now Belbas Center, 1905



The Armory has also been called the Gymnasium, "The Bastille," "The Castle," the Old Armory and Girls Gym.

Perhaps no USD building has had more names than what is now called the Belbas Center. Belbas is one of two USD buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. It opened in 1905 as the campus armory, with Sioux quartzite at its base and brick battlements (now reduced) on all four corners. The distinctive structure was known as "The Bastille" and the "Castle on Campus." In addition to providing space for the military and athletic departments, its spacious gymnasium was the site of many parties and celebrations, banquets and dances. It served as a World War I army training facility and barracks in 1918. After the "New Armory" (now Al Neuharth Media Center) was built in 1929, the Castle became known variously as the "Old Gym" or the "Girls Gym." For many years prior to the 80s, students played intramural sports in the building. It served as facilities management shop in the 1980s and was renovated in 2004 to house Student Services. It was then named for Dean Belbas, a former vice president of General Mills and a former chairman of the board of the USD Foundation.

From Belbas Center, walk east toward Old Main and stand in the open area between Old Main and Slagle Hall's Aalfs Auditorium. Here's a 180-degree panorama of what you'll see:



From the extreme left: Belbas Center (1905), Old Main (1896), Service Center (behind the big tree) (1911), Dakota Hall (1919), East Hall (behind the smaller trees) (1887), Arts & Sciences (the old Law School) (1908), and the Aalfs Auditorium wing of Slagle Hall (1925).

You are now standing in the center of the early campus years, known to some as The Quad, which includes most of the oldest buildings on the USD campus.

The Quad is bounded by Pardee-Estee, Old Main and the Farber Statue on the north; East Hall and the Arts & Sciences (the old Law School) building on the east; and Slagle Hall, the National Music Museum, and South Dakota Union (all along Clark Street) on the south.

Buildings in The Quad contain the transformation from the older style, rough-cut, Sioux quartzite architecture of the late 19th Century — Belbas, Old Main, East Hall — to the more modern limestone, neoclassical style of the early 20th Century — Arts & Sciences, Carnegie Library/National Music Museum. Sioux Falls architect Wallace Dow designed many of the Sioux quartzite buildings. Joseph Schwarz, also of Sioux Falls, designed the former Law School (now Arts & Sciences) and the Carnegie Library (now the National Music Museum).

Stand in this one spot — between Old Main and Slagle/Aalfs Auditorium — look at Old Main and turn in a clockwise half circle to see the next five important USD historic buildings.

University Hall, 1883-1893



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

This distinctive structure, the first built on the campus, preceded its lookalike replacement, Old Main. It stood on the prairie outside of Vermillion and was the entire University for a few years, because it housed all of the classrooms, the library, and the administration offices. The west section was built first, but then the University expanded it with a center wing in 1885 and an east wing in 1888. By 1893, University Hall was complete, including its tall bell tower.

However, on October 15, 1893, a massive fire destroyed all three wings. People loved the look of University Hall so much that when Old Main was built six years later at the same spot, enough materials and design from University Hall were used (along with material salvaged from the 1893 Chicago World's Fair) that some people still maintain that Old Main is the oldest building on campus, even though the original building was gutted.

Old Main, 1893



Old Main is the building most used to represent USD in marketing literature.

Old Main is such an iconic presence on campus that it is used as the symbol of USD in almost all its literature. It is, with Belbas, one of two USD buildings on the National Register of Historic Places (1974). The architect, Wallace Dow, is famous for his Sioux quartzite buildings throughout Sioux Falls and Vermillion. Although still in use, Old Main was falling into disrepair by the 1970s, so it took a major 1993 fundraising effort to repair it when it was 100 years old. It now contains the Oscar Howe Gallery, classrooms, and the elegant Farber Hall auditorium.

East Hall, 1887



When the University built East Hall in 1887 as a new women's dormitory, it turned the only other dorm, West Hall for women, over to the men. East Hall contained a dining hall for both sexes. In 1907, using insurance money from the West Hall fire, the University added an addition on the north end for \$25,000, which became a kitchen and dining area. In 1911, officials added an enclosed porch on the south end.

The building, with its distinctively colored two-toned Sioux quartzite and rounded tower, is the oldest building on campus. With the addition of several new women's dorms by 1969, East Hall became an academic and classroom building and now serves the University as offices for several departments, including sociology, anthropology, history and philosophy.



Arts & Sciences, Old Law School, 1908 (and McKusick Technology Center)

McKusick Law Library (now Technology Center), left, and Arts & Sciences (old Law School), right.

In the 19th Century, South Dakota attorneys procured a law license only by apprenticeship with a certified lawyer. In 1901, USD established a College of Law. Classes were held in various buildings around campus until the Legislature appropriated \$50,000 in 1907 to construct the Law School building on The Quad near the southeast corner of campus. Architect Joseph Schwarz of Sioux Falls drew the plans for the limestone building, It is a nearly exact replica of Page Hall, the then-law school on the Ohio State University campus. The first law classes were held in the USD building on November 5, 1908. It became Arts & Sciences in 1981, when the new law school was built.

The McKusick Law Library was built in 1950 and named for Marshall McKusick, a dean of the law school. It was renamed McKusick Technology Center for Instructional Design and Delivery when the law school moved. It now houses the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and the USD Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic, and other departments.

Slagle Auditorium, now Aalfs Auditorium, 1925



The auditorium on the north end of the USD administration building was completed in 1925, after two years of construction and a \$250,000 appropriation from the state Legislature. Slagle Auditorium (renamed Aalfs Auditorium in 2009 following extensive renovation) had seating for 2,200, a huge organ and housed the music department. Administrative offices were moved from nearby Old Main and other buildings around campus, joining them in one place, in the basement of Slagle Hall, for the first time. The original proposal called for the auditorium to dominate the campus.

Slagle Hall (administrative offices), 1925



The front entrance of Slagle Hall as seen from Clark Street

As the administrative offices were added to the auditorium on its south side (toward Clark Street) the building was not fully completed until 1943. Even before completion, the building was renamed Stagle Hall on May 16, 1929, in honor of a recently deceased USD president. The Clark Street façade and west wing were added in 1943 (with \$229,000 in Works Progress Administration funds) to accommodate USD business offices and more classroom space. The auditorium has been the site for concerts by world-famous artists, for speeches by national politicians and journalists, and for concerts by the USD Symphony and other music groups.

Dakota Hall, 1919



The statue of William "Doc" Farber stands in front of Dakota Hall, where he educated and encouraged a generation of political scientists and journalists as chair of the Political Science Department.

From The Quad, walk northeast toward the Farber statue. Dakota Hall was originally proposed as a \$125,000 addition to East Hall, and was approved by the 1917 state Legislature. It was built as Dakota Hall as a women's dormitory, but also included the home economics department, YWCA, and in the basement, a gymnasium. Dakota was converted to academic offices and classrooms in 1965, and has housed the departments of communications studies, political science, English, modern languages, and criminal justice.

Noteboom Hall, 1954



Charlotte Noteboom Hall was built as a women's dormitory for \$300,000.

The surge in enrollments after World War II, including a generation of independent women, was eased with construction of this accommodation for 65 women. Noteboom completed a complex of women's dorms that included Dakota and East Halls, and was named for longtime education professor Charlotte Noteboom, who retired in 1953. Officials converted the hall to academic and classroom uses in 1968. For many years, the Speech and Hearing clinic and department used the building. It is now home to the psychology department, which moved in when renovation began on its former home, the South Dakota Union

Behind Noteboom on Pine Street: Burgess Hall, 1960



Burgess Hall for women was named for Grace Burgess, a USD alum and English professor.

If you walk east to Pine Street from the north end of Noteboom, you can see two 1960s dorms. At a cost of \$425,000, Burgess Hall was built to accommodate 180 women as older women's dorms were converted to classroom and academic buildings. Along with Julian Hall, Cypress Court, Redwood Court, Brookman Hall and Norton Hall (adjoining Burgess), Burgess was funded mostly with more than \$1 million in federal loans and was considered a "self-liquidating" housing unit.

Namesake Grace Burgess began teaching at USD in 1909 in the English department, but she also assisted in the production of theater performances on campus. She was the daughter of Lyman Burgess, one of the legislators who introduced the 1862 bill to create the University of Dakota.

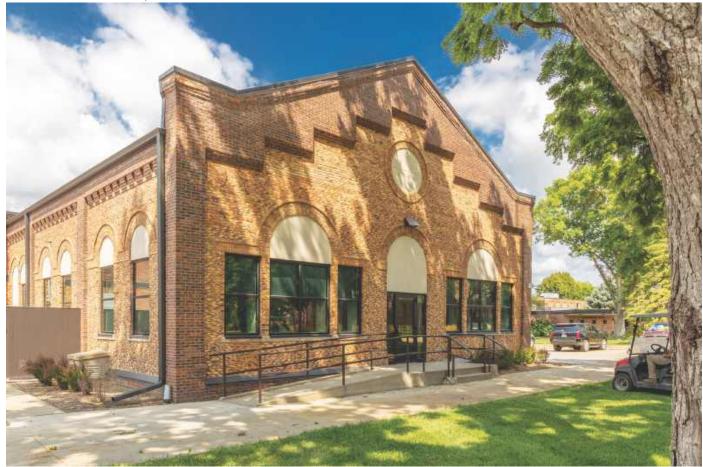
Also on Pine Street behind Noteboom: Norton Hall, 1963



Norton Hall and its older neighbor Burgess Hall represent significant changes in USD. They were built as part of a modern upgrading and expansion effort in the 50s and 60s, and they were funded with loans rather than legislative appropriations.

Originally a women's dormitory, Norton Hall was built in 1963 for \$565,000, and was named for Eleanor Norton, USD's first full-time dean of women. By 1976, Norton Hall was a co-ed dorm, attached to Burgess by a common area, but with a surge in female enrollment, the University kicked out the men, who promptly filed a reverse sex-discrimination lawsuit. The suit was thrown out of court, but it showed that the students of the 1970s were politically active and quite different from their predecessors.

Service Center, 1911



Note the exquisite brickwork on the Service Center, which has had many uses in its more than one century of existence since 1911.

In its original iteration, the Service Center cost \$30,000. It was used as a well and pump house in 1912 and originally included a nearby smoke stack and water tower, now gone.

For a time is was the school's heat, light, and power plant until it was replaced after a fire in 1945. It has also served as a media/copy center, a mailroom, and the University motor pool. It is now the Facilities Management office.

In 1965, the University's water tower and its radio and TV tower, as well as its paint shop took up the space behind Old Main and to the west of the Service Center. Both towers are now gone.

Campus Courts, Cypress Court, 1958-2012, Redwood Court, 1960-2012



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota USD built Cypress Court and Redwood Court as housing for married students.

An internal study of USD's need in 1954 listed housing as the most critical shortage, especially housing for men and married students. The 20 two-bedrooom, detached buildings of Campus Courts (northeast of the Service Center in what is now a parking lot) for married students were inadequate, so USD used federal loans totaling \$330,000 to build Cypress Court, 40 units of attached apartments arranged in a V-shape for married students and their families. It was on the north side of today's Campus Drive. To fully replace Campus Courts, the school then added Redwood Court, 40 more units arranged similarly (open to Pine Street on the east) and north of Cypress Court. Suddenly the northeast corner of campus was different, with the loud arrival of many small children.

The federal loans of \$330,000 and \$320,000 were repaid with the rent charged to the married-student occupants.

Davidson Building, 1950



The Davidson Building replaced the power plant in the Service Center. It now also houses the University Police Department.

Turn back and walk straight west toward the block-like building named Davidson. Because of the rapidly growing campus after World War II and the fire in the nearby old power plant in 1945, USD sought state funds to build a new power plant. An appropriation of \$150,000 in 1947 was not enough, but legislators added \$100,000 in 1949, making construction north of the Old Armory possible. USD added more space in 1958 at an additional \$100,000 cost.

The Mall



The USD Mall, the center of the modern campus, with I.D. Weeks Library and the Muenster University Center (the student union building known as The MUC) on the left, and Patterson Hall and Delzell Education Center on the right. The Weeks Library and The MUC are the campus's busy places that draw students for study, coffee, and dining throughout the day.

From the Davidson Building, walk north toward the open greenspace area that some refer to as The Mall, which became the focus of daytime campus life in the 1960s and 70s, especially as dorm life and the College of Fine Arts moved across Cherry Street to the North Campus and as the student union and library moved from Clark Street on the south edge of campus to this area.

I.D. Weeks Library, 1967



I.D. Weeks Library, seen from the middle of The Mall, where the Quirk Carillon once stood.

By the time USD built the I.D. Weeks Library to replace the old Carnegie Library, construction costs had risen so much that it required an appropriation of \$1 million, with an additional \$500,000 in federal Title 1 Higher Education Facilities Act money (it was the first project in the country approved under the act). The library was named for the recently retired USD President Ila Delbert Weeks, who had led the University for 31 years. In 1997 a major addition added to the west side raised the square footage considerably.

A 1972 volume of *Academic Library Buildings* journal cited I.D. Weeks as one of the four "most successful" libraries for small institutions.

Quirk Carillon, 1971-2005



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

Quirk Carillon.

USD alum John Quirk donated \$40,000 in 1968 to the USD Foundation to construct a carillon modeled after one at the United States Air Force Academy. After Quirk died, his family donated the additional money needed to build the Quirk Carillon, which played musical bells at regular hours during the day. The carillon proved to be not popular, broke the view of Old Main at the end of The Mall, and so was razed in 2005 quickly and quietly during a Thanksgiving break when the students were away from campus.

Delzell Education Center, 1963



The Education Building construction coincided with a more sophisticated approach to teaching teachers.

The School of Education had been based in old Science Hall, and when that building was condemned, Education needed a new home. "This building is a must if we are to meet the requirements of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education," President I.D. Weeks wrote to the state Legislature. The lawmakers appropriated \$799,500 in 1961.

In 1978, the building was named the Delzell Education Center in honor of Mark W. Delzell, who had taken over as dean of education in 1951. His early tenure completed the maturation of USD's teacher education programs. The school had enrolled only six majors in 1945, but that number increased to 90 just five years later. In 1945, the University High School closed, and the students moved to Vermillion High School. The School of Education began to specialize, including school administration, elementary education, and a new department of Health and Physical Education ended the division between physical education for the sexes, for men in the School of Education and for women in the College of Arts and Sciences. The faculty mushroomed to 10 instructors.

New Student Union, later Coyote Student Center, 1965-2006



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

The Coyote Student Center was the focus of casual student gatherings for decades. It included a coffee shop/cafeteria, a bookstore, offices of student government and *The Volante* student newspaper, pool tables, a large lounge, a dining hall/auditorium, and several meeting rooms.

At a price tag of \$1.325 million, the building costs were paid largely by student fees, both for construction and as payback for a large federal loan. Named the New Student Union in its first year, the name was changed as a result of a student survey.

In 1963, as a reflection of the student activism and awakening around the country in the 1960s, the student senate loudly demanded to be heard regarding the plans for the new union, particularly because their fees had added \$300,000 to the building's original kitty. University officials did not relent, but did admit that they probably should have taken student needs and desires into account. President Weeks expressed regret that he had not included students on the planning committee.

Muenster University Center (student union), 2008



The Theodore and Karen Muenster University Center, affectionately known as The MUC.

This is our first encounter with a building newer than 50 years old, one of the benchmarks for potential inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The MUC is the dining hall and gathering place for all students on campus.

Ted Muenster was a longtime University official, first as director of the Institute of Public Affairs, then as head of public relations and later as president of the USD Foundation. He was also active in state government and politics. Karen Muenster served as a state senator.

Patterson Hall, 1957



Patterson Hall served as the USD School of Business until Beacom Hall was built in 2009.

By the end of World War I, industrialization was humming along and three economics professors had been successive deans of Arts & Sciences, so the study of business became more than preparation for accountants. The 1919 catalog stated that "commercial" students should know "that the University is interested in fitting men for executive positions but not for clerkships."

In 1927, the Board of Regents created a School of Business Administration, with the stipulation that faculty and funding not be increased. President Weeks asked the 1953 Legislature for a new building for the rapidly growing business school. Two years later, USD was awarded \$650,000 and the new building was re-named in 1971 for R.F. Patterson, once dean of the school. It now houses the Mathematical Sciences Department.

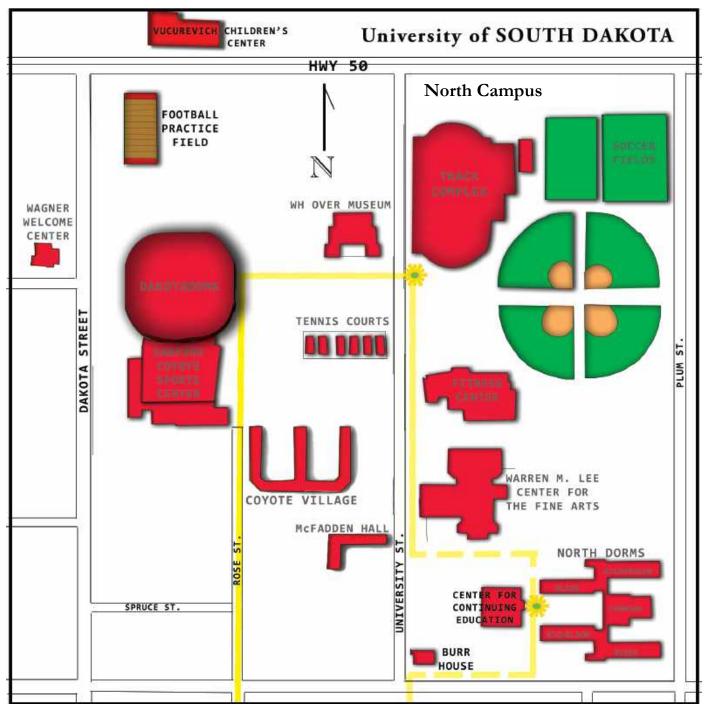
Cross Cherry Street to the North Campus



Cherry Street marked the northern boundary of campus until the 1960s.

Cross Cherry Street at the streetlight by Patterson Hall and head toward Burr House, where you will turn right to begin to explore the North Campus.

Throughout most of the 20th Century, Cherry Street was the official route of South Dakota Highway #50 (until it moved further north to the "Bypass").



Burr House (now International Student Office), 1913



The Burr House stands at the corner of University Street and Cherry Street.

The Burr family was well known in Vermillion. This house built in 1913 was the home of one branch of the Burr family — until the USD Foundation acquired it in 1938. In 1990, ownership transferred to the University.

It is now the International Student office, which recruits and assists USD's rapidly increasing body of students from other countries. The computer science department has been particularly successful in attracting foreign students in the 2020s.

Center for Continuing Education, 1973



A view of the Center for Continuing Education from Cherry Street. It is located between the Burr House and the North Dorm complex.

From Burr House, walk east and note the light-colored building on your left. The Center for Continuing Education was built in the early 1970s to house Statewide Education Services and provide the first classrooms north of Cherry Street on the North Campus. The building not only symbolized USD's commitment to take education far beyond the campus, but also marked the beginning of the time when the University took over Southern State College and its campus in Springfield (now closed) and (temporarily) Dakota State College in Madison. USD has since added several programs and facilities in Sioux Falls. The CCE served as student union in 2006-2008.

North Dorm Complex, 1966, 1968



The north dorm complex includes four dorms and a commons area for meeting and lounging.

Two dorms, Beede Hall and Mickelson Hall were the first University buildings north of Cherry Street (then SD Hwy #50). Beede Hall, named for Classics Department Chair Grace Beede, and Mickelson, named for former Governor George T. Mickelson, represented the significant addition of dorm rooms in the 1960s, starting with Burgess and Norton halls early in the decade and ending with two more dorms in the north complex, Olson and Richardson halls (1968) behind Beede and Mickelson.

Olson was named for Edward Olson, a former USD president, and Richardson for Mabel K. Richardson, a longtime USD librarian.

The Commons serves the Beede, Mickelson, Olson and Richardson dorms



The North Dorm Complex as seen from the east entrance of the Continuing Education Center. Olson Hall, on the left, and Mickelson Hall, on the right, were residences for male students. Richardson and Beede halls, not seen in this view, housed female students. They were joined by a Commons dining and lounging area, seen here in the middle of the photo.

The North Dorm Complex reflected the nationwide changes in attitude about men and women on campus. Men resided in Mickelson and Olson halls on the west side of the complex, while women lived in Beede and Richardson halls on the east side. Adjoining lounges permitted male and female students to mingle without leaving their building. The Commons dining area, added in 1969, served all students.

Until the 1950s, the University built few dormitory rooms, but with the post-war surge in enrollments, USD added several dorms in a matter of little more than a decade.

Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts, 1973



From the North Dorms, turn left after the Center for Continuing Ed and proceed to University Street; then, turn right (north) to view the Lee Center for Fine Arts.

Construction of the Warren M. Lee Center for Fine Arts not only represented the gathering of all art, music, and theater instruction under one roof but also the culmination of a change in the approach to teaching at a college level. The youth rebellion of the 1960s seemed to be concentrated at USD in the art department, where students demanded that they be taught in a nontraditional manner (called a "challenge system") and that they be allowed to draw nude models, which had been forbidden by state law. Fine Arts and USD President Moulton were accused of bringing "hippies" to USD. The new building was named for longtime dean of the school Warren M. Lee.

Brighton Heights Apartments, later McFadden Hall, 2003



The Brighton Heights Apartments building, constructed in 1990, was purchased by the University and converted to student housing in 2003.

McFadden Hall was named for Joseph McFadden, president of USD from 1982 to 1988. He was the fifteenth president of USD and began his tenure as the University entered its second century of classes.

Wellness Center, 2011



The west entrance to the USD Wellness Center, seen in 2023, before a \$25-million expansion to the south.

The Wellness Center was added to give students and Vermillion townspeople a place to exercise. It contains basketball courts, a running/walking track, yoga and cycling rooms, two floors of exercise machines, a climbing wall and full locker rooms.

Baseball Fields, 2016



Prior to the baseball fields being added to North Campus in 2016, University teams played games on the baseball diamond at Vermillion's Prentis Park.

From the Wellness Center, walk north and stop just beyond the parking lot. To the far right, the four baseball diamonds were added in 2016, along with soccer fields and a track and field stadium, in a major upgrade and expansion of the University sports fields north of the Wellness Center.

First Bank & Trust Soccer Fields, 2016



The University of South Dakota women's varsity soccer team plays its home matches on the pitch at First Bank & Trust Soccer Field in the far northeast corner of the campus. Intramural soccer squads also use the adjacent field to the east.

Lillibridge Track Complex and Gottsleben Field, 2016



A view of the Lillibridge Track and Gottsleben Field from the 1,000-seat grandstand, with the DakotaDome in the distance.

From the time Inman Field was demolished in 1979, USD did not have an outdoor track. Indoor events took place in the DakotaDome. The Lillibridge Track Complex and Gottsleben Field opened in 2016 as a state-of-the-art, nine-lane, 400-meter artificial surface.

John Lillibridge, a 1962 alum, was an All-American discus thrower for the Coyotes. He donated funds to help build the stadium. Dave Gottsleben was USD's track and field head coach from 1984 to 2017. Gottsleben was twice named NCAA Division II coach of the year, and he won 20 conference championships in cross country and track and field.

W.H. Over Museum, 1984



The W.H. Over Museum is South Dakota's oldest natural and cultural history museum.

A significant expansion of the University's cultural and anthropological museum (founded in 1883) began in 1913 with the hiring of William H. Over to head the Geology Department. He served for almost 40 years and improved the tiny museum that had resided in the basement of Slagle Hall, eventually moved to the former Carnegie Library and then was taken over by the state.

As part of the change in "ownership," from USD to the state of South Dakota, and to make room in the old library for what would become the National Music Museum, this standalone building on the North Campus near the DakotaDome parking lot became the museum's home in 1984 Since 1997, the Friends of the W.H. Over Museum have been running the museum.

DakotaDome, 1978



The DakotaDome, originally built with a flexible, air-supported roof that collapsed under the weight of a heavy snowfall, replaced both the Inman Field football and track stadium as well as the indoor gymnasium in the "New Armory," now the Al Neuharth Media Center.

By the mid-1970s, it was clear that USD's athletic facilities needed significant improvement. The design started as a highly criticized Quonset-type building but morphed to an architecturally unique covered athletic complex that could be used and enjoyed in all seasons. The first bids on the building came in 43 percent higher than the architect's estimate. But with alterations in the design and the creation of the DakotaDome Development Corp., the Dome was built for \$7.85 million.



Behind the Dome, west of Dakota Street: Wagner Welcome Center, 1995

From the east front of the DakotaDome, the Wagner Welcome Center is hidden behind the Dome on Dakota Street. It serves as the headquarters for the USD Foundation.

This building was originally built as a doctor's office, but the USD Foundation purchased it, and with a 2017 remodel it became the offices of the University of South Dakota Foundation, USD's major private fundraising arm.

The building is named for Lyle and June Wagner, both USD alums. He was a president of the foundation (1984-87) as well as a longtime trustee.

Sanford Coyote Sports Center, 2016



The University's basketball and volleyball arena is named for Sanford Health.

Sanford Coyote Sports Center was part of the major athletic-facilities building program in 2016. It not only serves as home court for USD basketball and volleyball but also includes indoor training facilities, athletic department offices, and Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy departments.

Coyote Village, 2011



Coyote Village was the first residence hall in South Dakota to achieve LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

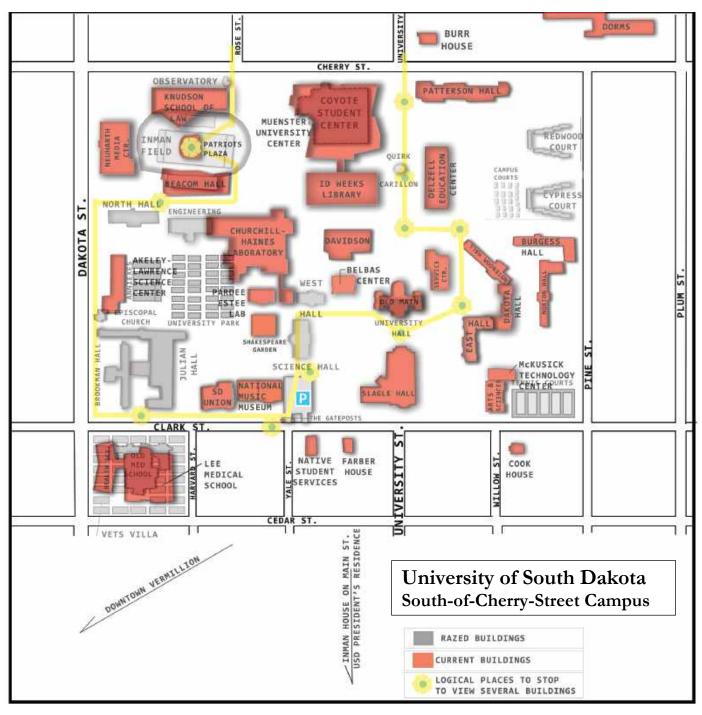
The 175-unit residence hall was added in 2011 to help ease the housing shortage on campus caused by increased enrollment and students' desire to live in rooms with fewer inhabitants. The LEED certification is based on water efficiency, energy efficiency, use of sustainable materials, indoor environmental quality, and innovation in design.

Continue walking south on Rose Street toward Cherry Street and past the Catholic Newman Center, a dark brick building on the corner of Rose and Cherry streets.

Cross Cherry Street at the streetlight and re-enter the South Campus between the MUC student union on the left and the Knudson School of Law, the light brick building on the right.

As you re-enter the South Campus, look to the right and imagine a huge football and track stadium dominating the horizon. We will learn about Inman Field in a moment, but first pause to visualize the grassy area between the stadium and Cherry Street.

That's where the University's Observatory was located.



The Observatory, 1917-1972



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota The University Observatory was built in 1917 for \$6,500.

The chairman of the USD mathematics department, Thomas McKinney, had a dream of building an observatory on campus. It became a reality in 1917, approximately where the east end of the Knudsen School of Law sits. It sat in the open area north of Inman Field. In addition to the five-inch refractor telescope built by Thomas Cooke, Ltd. of London, it also had a weight clock that made it possible to correct its movement with the earth's rotation and provide a great view of the heavens. After 55 years of opening the skies to USD students, the telescope was sold and the building was moved to land north of campus across the SD Highway 50 Bypass.

Inman Field, 1924-1978



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

An aerial view of Inman Field stadium also shows the "New Armory" (Neuharth Media Center) on the right, the Engineering Shops behind the grandstand, North Hall between Engineering and Neuharth, and Julian Hall and the Lee Medical School at top left.

The USD athletic field occupied the northwest quadrant of campus for more than 50 years. In 1924, after somewhat casual use, it began to take shape as a real stadium. Mrs. Darwin Inman gave \$15,000 in memory of her husband. Students and alumni chipped in with \$25,000 more. USD built eight massive concrete sections of grandstand on the south side of the field (about where Beacom Hall is now), with seating for 3,300. When the DakotaDome opened in 1979 on the north side of the growing campus, Inman Field was demolished after 55 years as the centerpiece of USD athletics.

Patriots Plaza, 2022



Patriots Plaza sits where the west half of the Inman football field once dominated the area.

Pass the east face of the law school and follow the diagonal sidewalk to the plaza in the middle of the buildings. Facing the plaza, Beacom School of Business will be the ultramodern building on your left; the Al Neuharth Media Center will be straight ahead to the west; and the Knudson School of Law will be on your right. You are standing at Patriots Plaza.

The plaza contains granite monuments to the military service branches. It also contains bronze plaques for three USD alums who were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Knudson School of Law, 1981



The School of Law was built to avoid potential accreditation problems caused and the need for more space in a new building.

The School of Law moved from its neoclassical stone building on the southeast corner of campus (now Arts & Sciences) in 1981 to its light-brick modern building near the northwest corner of the South Campus.

In 2020 it was renamed in honor of David Knudson, a former South Dakota Senate majority leader and an attorney for Sanford Health system in Sioux Falls who received a Master of Business Administration degree from USD. Over time there have been two movements to re-locate the law school to Sioux Falls, but both failed.

New Armory, now the Al Neuharth Media Center, 1929



The Al Neuharth Media Center east façade includes the wording of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

In 1929, USD opened a new armory and gymnasium because of the formation of the North Central (athletic) Conference. At a cost of \$250,000, the so-called New Armory (because it was newer than the "Old Armory" in the campus Quad) used a special state cigarette tax designated for education buildings. The centerpiece of the New Armory was a two-story gym where the Coyote basketball team played its games until the late 1970s when basketball moved to the Dome. The New Armory was reconstituted as the E. O. Lawrence Telecommunications Center and included SD Public Broadcasting. In the 1990s, the building was renovated to house the Media and Journalism Department and was renamed in 2003 for Al Neuharth, a USD alum and founder of the USA Today newspaper.

Beacom Hall, 2009



Beacom Hall was built to house the School of Business, which had been centered in Patterson Hall for 52 years.

To design the University's new School of Business, officials turned again to the Somerville, Massachusetts, architect Charles Rose, who had designed the ultra-modern Muenster University Center union building across the greenspace to the northeast.

The building is named in honor of Miles Beacom, a former CEO of Premier Bankcard.

Churchill-Haines Laboratory, 1977



Churchill-Haines Laboratory was one of the important buildings constructed or begun under the presidency of Richard Bowen, who modernized and expanded the University.

From Patriots Plaza, walk southeast around the east end of Beacom Hall and stop to appreciate Churchill-Haines Laboratory, which increased the chemistry and science classroom and lab space dramatically in 1977.

Churchill-Haines Laboratory was named in honor of two science professors: Edward P. Churchill, who taught biology for more than a half century; and Arthur Lee Haines, who taught chemistry for more than 60 years.

Engineering Shops, 1918-1975



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

The need for the USD Engineering Shops was lost when all engineering degrees moved to other state colleges. The building was used as classrooms and offices for other departments until it was demolished in 1975.

This building, located in what is now a parking lot west of Churchill-Haines and south of Beacom Hall, was torn down in 1975 to make room for campus expansion and because all engineering degrees moved to other state colleges. It served as a military training facility twice: when it was built in 1918, it was the World War I barracks and training site for the Student Army Training Corps (SATC); and again during World War II, when it was used to train pilots, including air ace Joe Foss, who later became governor of South Dakota. Between the wars it housed the Mechanical Engineering Department, and after WWII, it was home to the Art Department.

University Park, 1943-1960



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota

University Park contained 57 trailers in the open land west of the chemistry building and north of South Dakota Union to accommodate surging enrollment in the late 1940s.

The end of World War II brought a surge of veterans and women enrolling at USD, so housing was needed quickly. USD asked the Federal Housing Authority for surplus house trailers, which put 133 in place by the fall of 1943. Fifty-seven trailers were placed in "University Park," situated in what is now a parking lot west of the Pardee Estee (chemistry) Laboratory and northwest of the South Dakota Union, It closed in 1960.

North Hall and Annexes A, B, C, and D, 1948-1975



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota North Hall was moved to Vermillion from the Sioux Falls army airbase.

Post-war enrollments not only required an increase in campus housing but also caused a need for more classrooms. To help ease the shortage, the University used money from the Federal Works Agency to move a building donated by the army airbase in Sioux Falls and moved to the campus, west of the Engineering Shops. North Hall contained six classrooms and a few offices.

The four wooden Annexes south of North Hall were moved from the Ft. Randall Dam project in Pickstown for \$20,000 in 1956 and provided quarters for 96 men. USD converted the annexes to academic uses in 1959.

Science Center, later Akeley-Lawrence Science Center, 1962



With the condemnation of Science Hall in 1958, the need for science facilities was eventually filled by the Akeley-Lawrence Science Center.

Plans for a new science center moved the departments to Dakota Street on the west side of campus and left the central-campus location of old Science Hall to be more of an open, greenspace Quad. The state Legislature appropriated \$850,000 for the new building, which was first named for Lewis E. Akeley, an early faculty member who taught chemistry, physics, Latin, and physical geography. He helped found the College of Engineering and was that school's second dean. Officials later added the family name of two USD alums: John Lawrence, who is considered the "Father of Nuclear Medicine," and brother Ernest O. Lawrence, winner of the 1939 Nobel Prize.

Episcopal Church, 1893-1940s



USD purchased the old St. Paul's Episcopal Church on the west edge of campus in 1947 to help fill the need for housing to accommodate the post-war enrollment boom.

In 1893, workers moved Vermillion's Episcopal Church from High Street to the western edge of the campus on Dakota Street opposite the end of Dartmouth Street, near what is now the entrance to Akeley-Lawrence Science Center. In 1918, when the Spanish Flu Pandemic threatened the world's population, the old church served as a hospital for influenza victims in Vermillion. In 1947, USD paid \$25,000 for the building, which was then used as a men's dormitory for just a few years.

Brookman Hall, 1963-2022



Tim Schreiner

Brookman Hall was a part of the major dormitory building boom of the post-war 1950s and 1960s. It is now a parking lot and greenspace area near the southwest corner of campus.

Brookman Hall was designed by the same architectural firm that designed neighboring Julian Hall 13 years earlier, but Brookman's A-Frame lobby is Mid-Century Modern and Julian represents the very different Art Deco design. The firm, Hugill, Blatherwick and Fritzell & Kroger, also designed Dakota Hall, the New Armory (now Neuharth Media Center), Norton Hall and the 1940 addition to the Carnegie Library (now the National Music Museum), and the North Dorm Complex — all very different building styles.

The three-story dorm housed about 300 students.

Brookman Hall was named for Professor Harold Brookman, who taught engineering and developed USD's Department of Applied Science after the College of Engineering was closed in 1933. He was an architect who designed Danforth Chapel and the school's first tunnel system to carry warm air from the power plant to buildings on campus. He also drew the plans for the old Dakota Hospital in Vermillion. His home at 404 Cottage Street, two blocks west of Brookman Hall, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Continue on Dakota Street toward the corner with Clark Street and gaze across the street to the square block occupied by the Sanford School of Medicine. First, imagine a post-war trailer park for returning veterans and their families.

Vets' Villa, 1943-1951



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota Vets' Villa comprised dozens of trailers set where the Medical School now sits.

With so many married veterans returning to school after the end of World War II, the University convinced the Federal Housing Authority for surplus house trailers. On the site of today's Medical School, 76 trailers eased the demand for veteran housing until the Villa was dismantled in 1951 to make way for the new Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science Building.

Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medical and Science building, 1953



USD Archives and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of South Dakota Andrew E. Lee was a Vermillion city father and former governor who donated the land at the corner of Clark and Dakota with the stipulation that the building would be named for him.

The USD medical school was founded in 1907, but did not have its own building until 1953. Based in Science Hall, USD medicine was a two-year program that forced candidates to go out of state for their final two years. In 1935, a national movement worked to close all two-year "junior" medical schools but USD's hung on. A Legislature-approved four-year school was effectively killed by the state's medical association, but it did produce a building for the school in 1953.

Lee Medicine & Science building, 2008, and Center for Health Education, 2022



The medical school is named the Sanford School of Medicine, but the school resides in the Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Science building. The Center for Health Education is on the right.

By 1974, doctors and community leaders around the state launched a successful effort to convert the medical school to a four-year, degree-granting institution. The people of South Dakota, especially in rural areas, had loudly lamented the fact that it was difficult to get doctors to practice in the state, particularly when they had to leave state for the last two years of their medical education. The old Lee Memorial building was replaced in several building phases with a new Andrew E. Lee Memorial Medicine and Health Sciences building, completed in 2008. In 2022, the adjoining Center for Health Education was added onto the west side of Lee.

The Sanford School of Medicine remains South Dakota's only medical school.

Julian Hall, 1950-2022, and Julian Addition, 1958-2022



Tim Schreiner

Julian Hall and Julian Addition were named for John Herndon Julian, a professor of engineering, dean of students, USD registrar, business manager, vice president of academic affairs, and following the death of President Robert Slagle in 1929, Julian served as interim president.

Julian Hall had a reputation as a rowdy dorm, with illegal feline residents and hidden beer stashes. The original building housed 180 male students. Later, the dorm rooms sat empty for several years before Julian Hall and Julian Addition were razed, but academic offices occupied several rooms on the south end of the original Julian Hall before demolition in 2022.

South Dakota Union, 1930



The South Dakota Union was the first student union building of its kind in South Dakota

The South Dakota Union was the first South Dakota building dedicated to a gathering place for students. Funded with student donations, the building's price tag was about \$300,000. It provided lounges, fireplaces, and free access to newspapers and magazines — amenities never before available to students. When the (now-gone) Coyote Student Center opened in 1965, the South Dakota Union converted to classrooms, and several department offices – primarily the Psychology Department. It was renovated in 2024.

After passing the Union, proceed east to your starting point at the National Music Museum and its parking lot next door. South of Clark Street there are three more USD buildings of interest.

Native American Cultural Center, 1925



The Native American Cultural Center also serves as offices for Native Student Services.

Across Clark Street from the National Music Museum parking lot, the Native American Cultural Center building began life in 1925 as a private residence. In the 1970s, it was a café, the only one near the south side of campus.

The center offers Native students a place to gather socially and to discuss common goals. In addition, the building includes a Lakota language laboratory.

Farber House, 1918



Farber House was left to the University by William O. "Doc" Farber upon his death in 2007.

"Doc" Farber lived across Clark Street from the campus where he taught state and local government and political science for 38 years. He chaired the department from 1937 until 1976. His former home now serves as offices for faculty in the Department of Political Science.

Farber founded the USD Government Research Bureau and the South Dakota Legislative Research Council. He taught and mentored many of the state's famous sons and leaders, including journalists Tom Brokaw and Al Neuharth, Governors William Janklow and Dennis Daugaard, U.S. Senator Larry Pressler, and U.S. Representative Dusty Johnson. The auditorium in Old Main is named for Farber. The W.O. Farber Center for Civic Leadership was established in 1997.

Cook House, 1920



Cook House was a private residence built in 1920 and purchased by USD in the 1960s.

The Cook House now serves as the counseling center for USD students. When the area south of campus was designated a National Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places, Cook House was included in that designation as a structure that contributes to the historic significance of the area.

Inman House, 1873, 1882



Inman House, which sits three blocks south of campus at 415 E. Main St., is the official residence of the USD president. In 1976 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Considered a fine example of neoclassical and Classical Revival styles, the former home of Darwin and Adele Inman (purchased from Finley McKerchner in 1874) was one of the first homes built on the bluff. It was moved to its current location in 1882, when the neoclassical façade was added. The Inman's niece, Annadell Morgan, gave the house to USD in 1940, when it became the official residence of USD presidents. Three presidents have decided not to live in the house, and during the presidency of Richard Bowen, the house served as USD Alumni Foundation offices.

