

currently being renovated. The house passed to Mr. Brackett's granddaughter, who bequeathed it in her will to the College with the provision that her former teacher be allowed to live in it until her death. In 1952, the College secured the use of this stately home and has maintained it as a guest house.

The Carnegie Building, now closed for renovation, will become the Norton Geology Center and Museum. It was opened in 1905 as a library, the first building on our campus to be constructed with steel. The donor, Andrew Carnegie, was, of course, a steel tycoon, and insisted that steel be used in any building for which he paid. Its marble entry and staircase and its wood paneling will offer suitable sites for the display of the fine collection of geological specimens possessed by the College.

Turning back between Carnegie and College halls, stop to notice the Spear Memorial Fountain just north of College Hall. Generations of students have delighted in painting the cherubs garish colors.

Continuing along the outside path, we pass Law Hall on its north side and then come to Old Sem, since 1959 the offices of the administration. This is the oldest academic building on campus, having been erected in 1853. Since the school was begun under the name "The Iowa Conference Seminary," its first building was called simply the Seminary Building or The Sem. The area now occupied by the Registrar's Office was the College Chapel; the space now used by the Business Office was the dining room for the entire school. Classes were held on the first floor and in the corner rooms on the second. Female students and the preceptress (the Dean of Women) lived on the second; and a few male students lived with the faculty on the top floor. Cornell's first library was a shelf in the bedroom of Professor Stephen Fellows. The library was "open" when he happened to be in his room. When College Hall opened in 1857, The Sem became a "Ladies Boarding Hall," which function it performed until Bowman Hall was ready in 1885. For thirty years the girls endured such privations as woodburning stoves in their rooms and no indoor plumbing. When they moved into the modern Bowman Hall, The Sem was truly "old". Today, the adjective is used with reverence for a building which has through the years served as home to the science departments, the department of Home Economics, and the Art Department. In 1892, a fourth floor mansard was added to provide three art studios. The interior of the building was destroyed by fire in 1924. Old Sem was then restored to its original three stories and classical lines. The present building looks much like the 1853 structure except that there was an outside staircase (until 1906) on the north side which led to the main door on the second story.

Today, Cornell College is known as a center of regional and national excellence; in one journalist's words, "a quaint slice of New England Ivy League Academia tucked into a Mt. Vernon Hillside." It remains so largely because of the strong history and traditions which pervade the campus and which are reflected in singularly beautiful buildings and natural features.

We hope you have enjoyed the tour of one of the most historic college campuses in the midwest. For further information, enquire at the Registrar's Office in Old Sem, or proceed down the hill to the Admissions Office in Wade House.

## The Cornell College Campus Guide Admissions Office Tours

Wade House is open, and tours are conducted Monday through Saturday (11-5 Monday-Friday and 9-12 Saturday). Given a week's notice, admissions representatives will meet students and their families at the Cedar Rapids Airport or Bus Terminal and/or arrange overnight hosts for student visitors in a residence hall.

Student visitors may spend a night during the week in the residence halls and take meals in The Commons. Parents are invited for meals in The Commons as well, but should arrange overnight accommodations at a nearby hotel or motel.

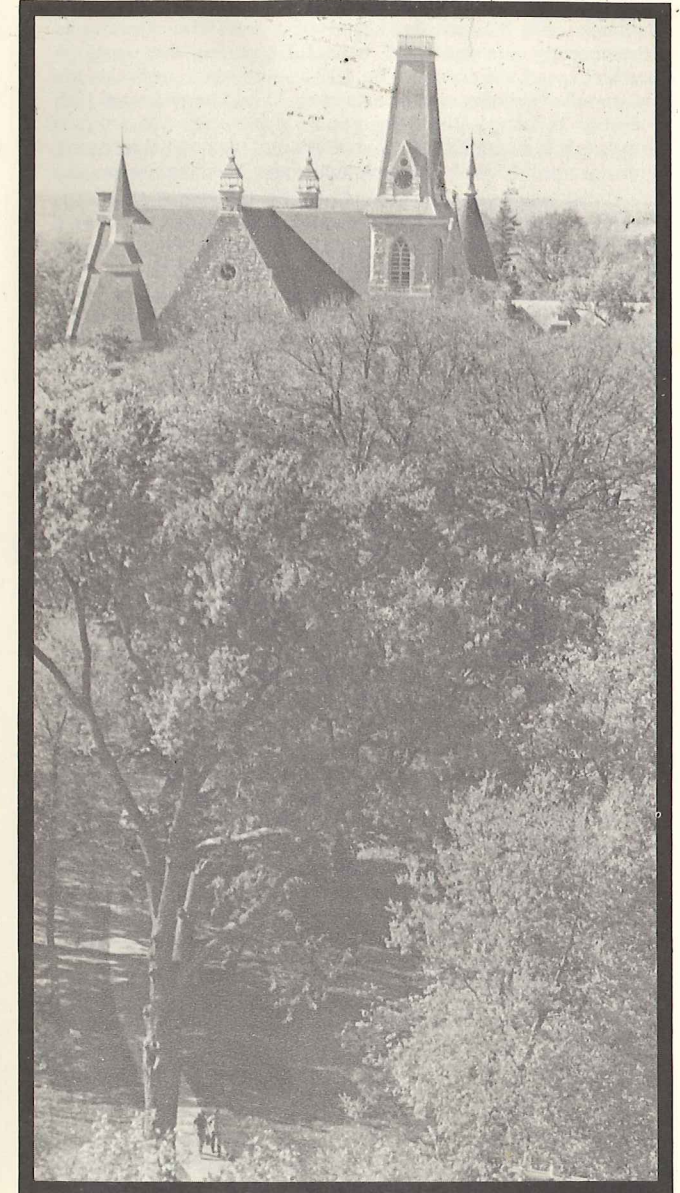
The Admissions Office has two toll-free phone numbers: In Iowa call 1-800-332-8839; in bordering states call 1-800-553-8479. Elsewhere, call collect 319-895-8811.

*Miller  
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# CORNELL

## AN HISTORICAL CAMPUS TOUR





## The Tour (Embarkation: King Chapel).

Cornell admissions counselors escort hundreds of people on tours up and over the hilltop every year, and we haven't lost anyone yet.

But some visitors like to see the campus on their own and at their own pace, and in the College's 125th anniversary year many people come to Cornell for the history that pervades the campus and buildings. Many students and their parents considering Cornell like to have something by which to visualize the campus after, or in lieu of, a visit. This campus guide, then, is for all of you.

Cornell was founded in 1853 by a circuit riding Methodist minister who thought the hilltop of prairie flowers and wild strawberries was the most beautiful spot in "the west." A perfect spot for a college. The 120-acre campus overlooks the scenic Cedar Valley and boasts over 30 buildings (more 19th century buildings than any other midwestern college), two athletic field houses, football stadium and playing fields, tennis courts, a pond, ice skating rink, and many tree-lined walks.

The 130' clock tower of King Chapel is the first sight visitors see as they approach Mt. Vernon. The chapel is built of dolomitic limestone (from a quarry southeast of Mt. Vernon) which changes color according to the season and time of day.

The architectural style is Victorian, or "General Grant," gothic. Note the pointed arches and the unique size and shape of each tower. In celebration of its 100th birthday in 1976, the chapel was named to the National Register of Historic Places.

Enter the lobby and proceed down the short flight of steps directly ahead and slightly to the right. The first door on your right originally opened into the College Library. Today this area houses restrooms, offices for the faculty of the Music Department, and storage for choir robes.

The next door on the right (somewhat recessed in an alcove) leads into McCague Hall, a small auditorium now used for rehearsals and lectures. The iron columns are original. The closet to the right of the stage is built in the reverse shape of a piano so that the Steinway can be rolled out of sight when not needed. Originally there were no interior side walls and the room had a rostrum on the west wall. After the burgeoning library was moved to Old Sem in 1891, the wall behind the present stage was removed, the rostrum moved to the south wall (under the present clock), and pews accommodating 700 persons were installed. Until 1915, daily morning assemblies were held here. Noted lecturers like Carl Sandburg spoke in this room. At the turn of the century, the north end of the room was used for a women's gymnasium when no lectures or assemblies were scheduled. Early photographs show the "ladies" stretched out on the pew seats doing calisthenics.

After the U.S. entered World War I in 1917, Cornell's male students voted to have compulsory military training through the Student Army Training Corps. The room you are now in was then converted to a mess hall for these soldiers.

Retrace your steps to the entry where you started, turn left, and go up the grand staircase to the Auditorium. Hanging over the stairwell is the full-length portrait of the Reverend Dr. George Bowman, who founded Cornell. To the right of the auditorium doors is a portrait of Cornell's third president, William Fletcher King, for whom the Chapel is named. He served for 45 years: 1863-1908.

In 1874, when Dr. King was in Europe, on leave for the summer, the Board of Trustees voted to build a chapel. Upon his return he was faced with the awesome undertaking of raising money in the midst of a national depression. Construction began in the fall of 1875, the contractors went bankrupt in the summer of 1876, the College tried to finish the work by hiring whatever workmen it could find, and things became so difficult that the campus had to be mortgaged to pay the \$18,000 debt. Despite the financial emergency, the stone work was complet-

Looking up at the North Windows (opposite the stage), you will see the ten commandments displayed according to the Eastern Orthodox and Calvinistic tradition (Roman Catholics and Lutherans show three commandments on the left tablet and 7 on the right; Jews divide them equally). The rose window contains the lion of St. Mark, and the right window head has St. Peter's keys to heaven.

Walking through the doorway at the left of the stage, enter the square tower, and go upstairs to the balcony. As you ascend you will notice in the first window an octagonal baptismal font. Its eight sides represent the six days of creation, the seventh day on which the Lord rested, and the eighth day on which He rose. Next you see a chalice, the symbol of faith and Holy Communion. At the top and to the left is the Lamb of God carrying the banner of victory.

Straight ahead you see the Shield of the Holy Trinity. Its Latin words are Pater (Father), Filius (Son), Spiritus Sanctus (Holy Ghost), Deus (God), Est (Is) and Non Est (Is Not). Try reading it up and down, backwards and forwards, etc. Moving on, you pass an anchor (steadfastness and hope) and the Virgin's crown, its stars symbolizing the Epiphany and Jesus' birth. At the bottom is the name of a student who died in 1864 before finishing her education. Her younger sister Eliza is remembered on the larger East window, both women having died young.

## The Clock

Turn right at the top of the aisle and enter the clock tower. You will see the pendulum, weighing 400 pounds, which completes its swing about every 1½ seconds. The Seth Thomas clock, which has been running since it was installed in 1882, has four faces (with Roman numerals of 23-carat gold) and chimes the quarter hours and hours on four bells, the largest of which weighs one ton. The clock is wound once each week by the College carpenter who must go into the tower and crank up the weights which you see enclosed in the center tube. At present the bells are turned off and the hours are marked by the ringing of a set of electric chimes installed in the tower in 1950, which can be played from a special console or from the organ.

Return to the auditorium and walk across the upper aisle of the balcony, noticing the calla lilies (symbol of the resurrection) in the windows on either side of the projection booth. Inside the booth you can glimpse a sickle cutting through stalks of wheat, a traditional symbol for the departure from earthly life. The iconography on the west side of the balcony comprises the books of the Bible; next, two clusters of grapes (symbols of Holy Communion and the wine of the Last Supper); and (around the corner) a sheaf of wheat (signifying the faithful harvested for eternal life.) The roses (on the large West windows on either side of the scriptural cartouche) are symbolic of divine love.

The tour of the Chapel ends by descending the spiral staircase to its bottom and exiting through the north door. You should now be on the walk in front of the Chapel and curious about the odd assortment of designs painted on the sidewalk. It is a Cornell tradition for each social group (many have Greek letter names) to have their pledges paint or repaint the group's block. Before moving on, please look down the hill and across the street. The white house on the corner below you (with an outside staircase) is Wade House, our Admissions Office. It was built in 1884 by a protective father who moved his family to Mount Vernon so his daughter could attend Cornell. Later it was the home of Ruby Wade, a professor of French from 1917 until her death in 1947. In 1975, the house was converted for use by the Admissions Office. To the right of Wade House is a building containing three faculty apartments; and east of this, a women's residence hall, Rood House, the former home of Col.

Before leaving President's House, you should note the yellow house next to it. This was built in 1889 by Professor Alonzo Collin on land purchased from President King. In 1924, the College acquired this charming old home and converted it into four apartments for faculty. The apartment on the first floor left has fireplaces in both the living room and dining room. Beyond Collin House, and not visible unless you walk into the parking area between the two houses, is a third mansion, built in 1875 by James Harlan, then vice president, but from 1908 to 1914 the fourth president of Cornell. Harlan House has since 1934 been the home of the Dean of the College.

Returning to the Commons, which opened in January 1966, please enter and feel free to explore the social center of the campus. You are on the top or third level. To your right are three small private dining rooms with a larger room behind these. Directly ahead is the Hilltop Lounge or Orange Carpet (often the site of dances, receptions, and exhibitions). Beyond are three dining rooms which can accommodate the entire student body at one serving. The central part has a scramble area, since breakfasts and lunches are served cafeteria style. In the evenings waiters serve the students at their tables. If you walk to the rear dining room, named for President Flint, you have a scenic view of the southern part of the campus, including the patio, which can be converted by refrigeration into an ice skating rink. To your left is Ebersole Health Clinic and the doors to the apartments for the full-time nurses.

Leaving the Commons through the same door by which you entered, turn right and follow the walk beside the Commons and past the Classics Center (Greek and Latin) in the back of Bowman Hall. At the end of the walk is the kiosk on which students post whatever notices they wish. Just across the road is the Ebersole Health Center, which contains various medical services including an eight-bed infirmary. Beyond this is a U-shaped court bordered by three dormitories: from left to right they are Tarr Hall (1965), Pfeiffer Hall (1930) and Dows Hall (1963). Until 1966, half the students dined in the basement hall of Pfeiffer. The lounge of Pfeiffer has a particular elegance and charm. In the front of the dormitory court is a touch of Colonial America, Allee Chapel. The chapel is used for private meditation and for small worship services. Every spring several Cornell couples are married here.

To your left as you pass Bowman is the "Rock," a sight beloved by most Cornellians and a source of many campus pranks. The granite boulder weighs about 2½ tons and was brought here from the Palisades Park by the Class of 1889. It is over one billion years old. From time to time, one or another of the student groups hauls it away at night and buries it secretly in some part of the campus. Several years later, another group discovers its location, digs it up, and moves it to a new spot. The Rock was last buried in 1975 and raised on October 6, 1977. If it is missing from the spot we have mentioned to you, you will know that the students have done it again.

Next to the Rock is the Cornell Prairie, the work of two of our biology professors. This small patch of ground was planted with various types of prairie vegetation. Every three years the spot is burned and then allowed to regrow without assistance, in precisely the same way that it used to grow before the College was here.

As you pass the back of the Chapel, notice the ramp leading down to the basement. Between 1873 and 1898 the Cornell Cadets had artillery practice, and the cannons, when not in use, would be wheeled down this ramp and stored in the armory under the Chapel. As you start to enter the mall, look toward your right and down the hill towards Ink Pond. Beyond Ink Pond are the intramural and soccer fields. Behind these are College Courts, housing for married students, and the Maintenance Building. You may possibly glimpse in the distance the Mount Vernon High School.



ed. But the upper story was boarded up and left unfinished while the first floor was opened for chapel on April 1, 1878. In 1880 the library and the museum were installed, and by June of 1882 the College was free of debt and the beautiful windows could be set in place in the Auditorium.

The Auditorium was used for the first time on Thursday, June 22, 1882 when Bishop Matthew Simpson, one of the most famous orators of the day (he had spoken at Lincoln's funeral in Springfield in 1865 and had given the invocation at the opening of the U.S. Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876), held the audience spellbound for two hours.

The windows opposite the doors are dedicated to Samuel McGaffey Fellows, the first principal of the Iowa Conference Seminary, as Cornell was known from 1853 to 1857, and the second president of the College. His unfortunate death on the day after commencement in 1863 is commemorated by the scriptural passages from the 14th chapter of Revelation.

## The Auditorium

The 3,800 organ pipes above the stage belong to the Moeller organ, installed in 1967 when the stage was remodeled. The organ has four manuals and a pedal board. The console can be wheeled onto the stage or pushed out of sight behind the sliding partitions which form the rear wall of the stage. Except for the stage, the Auditorium looks very much the way it did in 1882. It can accommodate about 1,000 persons now although its original capacity, because of the smaller stage, was 1,600. Electric lights were first used in May 1898. Until that time the room was illuminated by a chandelier containing 350 sperm whale oil candles. Because these dripped, few people sat in the center section. The Auditorium is used today for all-college assemblies, convocations, lectures, concerts, recitals, dance programs, and an occasional religious service.

## Window Iconography

The glory of the Chapel is its windows. Although there are some panes of stained glass fitted into the leading, most of the panes were made of clear glass on which the design was painted and then baked according to a process invented by Louis Tiffany. We know nothing about the origin of these windows except that they were set in place between April and June of 1882 and have withstood all the hazards of Iowa storms and student pranks. The East Windows (to your left as you face the stage) commemorate those graduates of the College who died between 1858 and 1882. There are sixteen names. In the center, on the main floor, is a memorial to Jacob G. Dimmitt, an early pastor of the Mount Vernon Methodist Episcopal Church and the third president of Cornell's Board of Trustees (1865-69). Moving up beyond the balcony, there is a scriptural quotation from Psalm 127:2. The window heads, from left to right, show the sacred monogram IHS, the first two and final letters of the name Jesus, written in the Greek alphabet; a sheaf of wheat crossed by a rake (symbolizing the faithful gathered together for eternal life), and the eagle, emblem of St. John. Turning to the West Window, you will notice at the top the all-seeing eye of God; next a pelican with her wings sheltering four chicks at her feet; and finally a cross and anchor (steadfastness) with a burning heart (religious devotion) above them.

The pelican in the round window (called a rose window) is the symbol of self-sacrifice and of Christ, for the ancients believed that when there was no food, the mother pelican drew blood from her breast to nourish her chicks. The mother eventually died, having given her life so that her children might live. Below the rose window is a scriptural passage from Psalm 92:12 superimposed upon a palm tree (victory over sin and death).

Henry Rood, a local merchant and secretary of the Board of Trustees for 47 years until his death in 1915. The original house has had two other former homes joined to it, houses which used to be on the sites of the present Merner and Olin residence halls.

To the left of Wade House is the elegant Platner mansion, built in 1892 by a local hardware dealer for his socially ambitious wife. It is now our music practice house. Across the street is a red brick building, originally (in 1884) a private home of a Cornell alumnus. This is now our Psychology House, but in 1906 when the College acquired the building it housed the Conservatory of Music. Proceeding farther west (to your left) is the Alumni Gymnasium, built in 1909, and beyond that the Field House completed in 1953. The football field is just west of the field house and is surrounded by a quarter-mile track. You will also glimpse the tennis courts behind the Psychology House.

As you begin to walk west you approach the oldest of Cornell's dormitories, Bowman Hall, named for the founder of the school. When it opened in 1885, Bowman was a wonder of its age, offering the 100 "young ladies" hot and cold running water on each floor, indoor bathrooms, steam heat, and seating for 200 persons at dinner. If you enter the building and go into the parlor on your left, you will see a painting which depicts Bowman Hall as it looked years ago when it still had its beautiful Victorian porch and its fan-shaped sun parlor.

Continuing west, you pass the circle in front of the Commons Building, which you will enter on the way back, and walk up the hill toward the President's House. You come first to Armstrong Hall of Fine Arts (with its 4 columns), which was opened in 1937 and houses the departments of Music (on your left), Art (on your right), and Theatre and Speech (in the center, lower level). The monolithic sculpture to the left of the entrance was done by David Rega, a Cornell art and sociology major of the class of 1977. If you wish to enter, you may view the Exhibition Gallery (up the stairs and directly ahead) and then go downstairs to see the Theatre, which seats 350. To your right on the lower level is the entrance to the sculpture and ceramics studios. There are gas, electric, Raku, and salt kilns behind the main building. Other art studios are located in Pfeiffer basement.

Leaving Armstrong Hall and walking to the top of the hill, you pass on your right the ancient ginkgo tree. It was believed that if a girl combed her hair and made a wish under this tree, her wish would come true. If she did so by the light of a full moon, then she would see the face of her husband-to-be in her mirror or dream of him that same night. The ginkgo is also, because of this legend, called the Maidenhair tree. It is native to China and Japan and is the only surviving species of this order of plants, which originated 250 million years ago. The leaves are broad and have two lobes.

At the top of the hill is the oldest building on campus, the President's House. This edifice with its imposing tower was built in 1850 by a local merchant and banker. His two daughters attended Cornell, the younger one eventually marrying the former Lord Mayor of London, Sir Sydney Waterlow, and taking her place among the members of British and French high society. The house with its 11 acres of grounds was purchased by President King in 1864 for his home. Hé lived here until his death in 1921, sharing the facilities from 1915 with Cornell's fifth president, Charles Flint, and his family.

Since 1915, this beautiful house has been the home of Cornell's presidential family. The ceiling of the music room is 17 feet high, and the building has much of the elegance of an antebellum Southern mansion. It has been enlarged and remodeled over the years, the last renovation being in 1967. It is not open to the public; however, President and Mrs. Secor have maintained the tradition of gracious hospitality and frequently entertain the faculty, students, parents, and alumni.

The mall is the hub of academic life. Beyond the huge slanting cottonwood tree is Cole Library, built in 1957 and named for the ninth president of the College. The top two levels house the library proper, the lowest level (reached from the rear of the building) contains Maxwell Auditorium and the Computer Center as well as a museum display of American Indian artifacts.

Leaving the Library, note the building directly across from it, Old Sem. We shall return to this edifice at the conclusion of our tour. The small wing on the right side, added in 1869, houses the faculty lounge on the first floor (through the double glass doors) and the President's Office on the second. Continuing east (to your right as you leave the top level of the Library), you pass the Heating Plant (1916) with its giant smoke stack on your right and Law Hall on your left. Law Hall was built in 1925 for the departments of Geology, Biology, and Physics. The Mathematics Department is also here. The very small greenhouse behind the magnolia trees has been superseded by a much larger facility behind the new West Science Center, which looms on your right. West Hall is Cornell's newest building, completed in 1976 at a cost of over two million dollars. The departments of Biology and Chemistry are now located here. As you enter, on your right, there is a door leading into the Science Library. The secretary whose office is just inside the library door will be glad to call someone to answer your questions about the various kinds of equipment and facilities in this building. You may be interested in seeing the exhibit of primates in the wall cases in the left corridor or the display of birds in the cases in the side corridor (right and then left to the middle of the hall). The greenhouse is at the back of the building. The entire structure has the capacity for solar heating and has been designed to conserve energy.

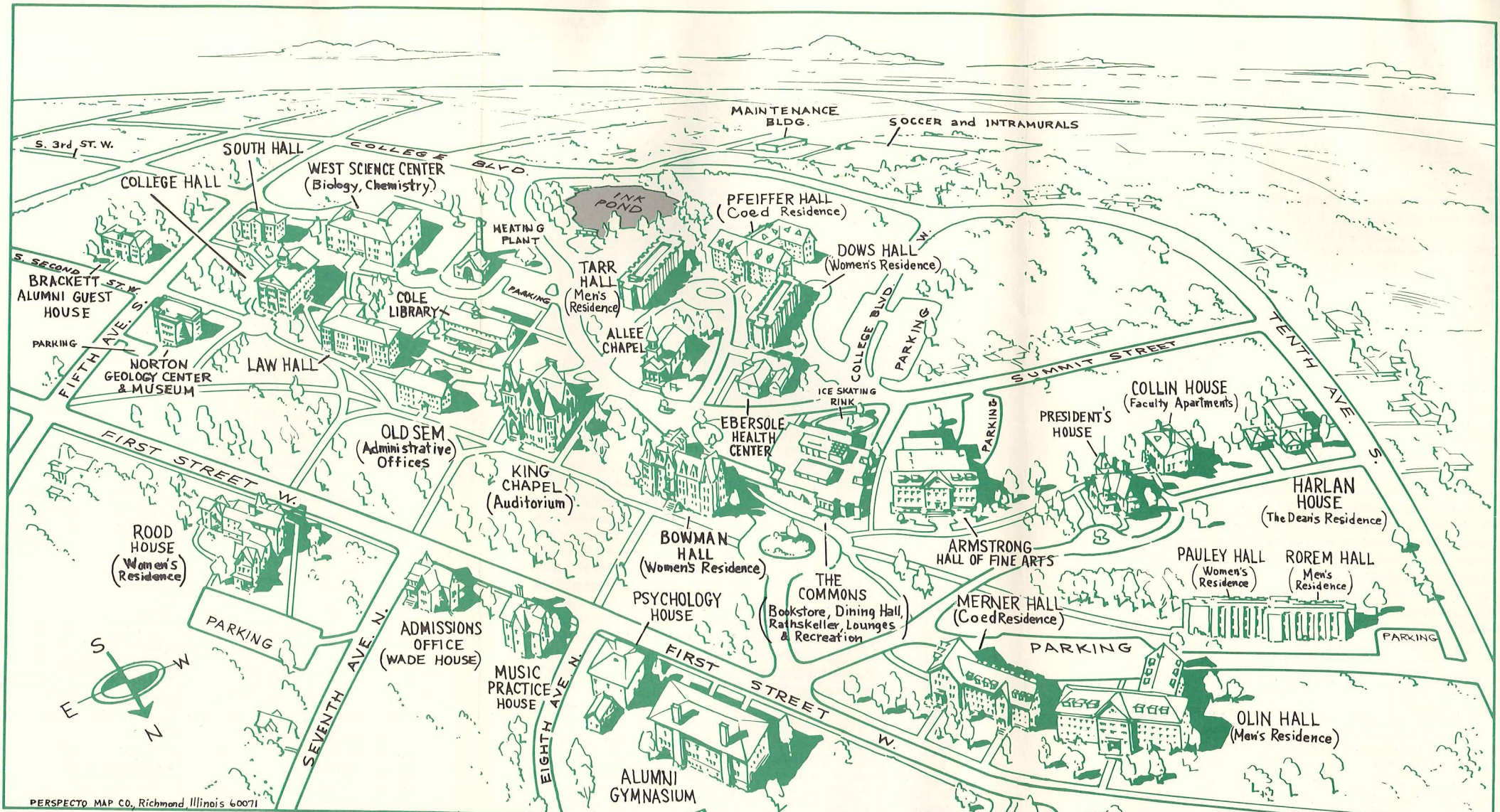
At the end of the walkway from the mall is College Hall, the second oldest academic building on campus, having been built in 1857 by a committee of the faculty and without a professional architect. The cupola or octagonal belfry contains the original College bell, made in 1854. During the years this building has housed the College Chapel (third floor south), spacious and elegant meeting rooms for the Literary Societies (third floor and part of the second), a small theater, the student social center, the bookstore, the health clinic, the administrative offices, a gymnasium, and an armory (yes, the cannons were stored here before King Chapel was built). Of course, there have always been classrooms and teachers' offices; however, the professors no longer sleep in their offices as they used to in the very early days when housing was scarce. College Hall was renovated in 1977-78; yet its exterior remains almost the same as it was in the last century. College Hall houses the departments of Economics and Business, Education, French, German, History, Philosophy, Religion, Russian, Sociology, and Spanish.

If you exit from College Hall by its east doors, originally the main entrance, or if you circle the outside on the right, you will come to the east court with South Hall on your right and Norton Geology Center on your left. Across the street and slightly to your left is Brackett House, a large white frame building which serves as the College guest house.

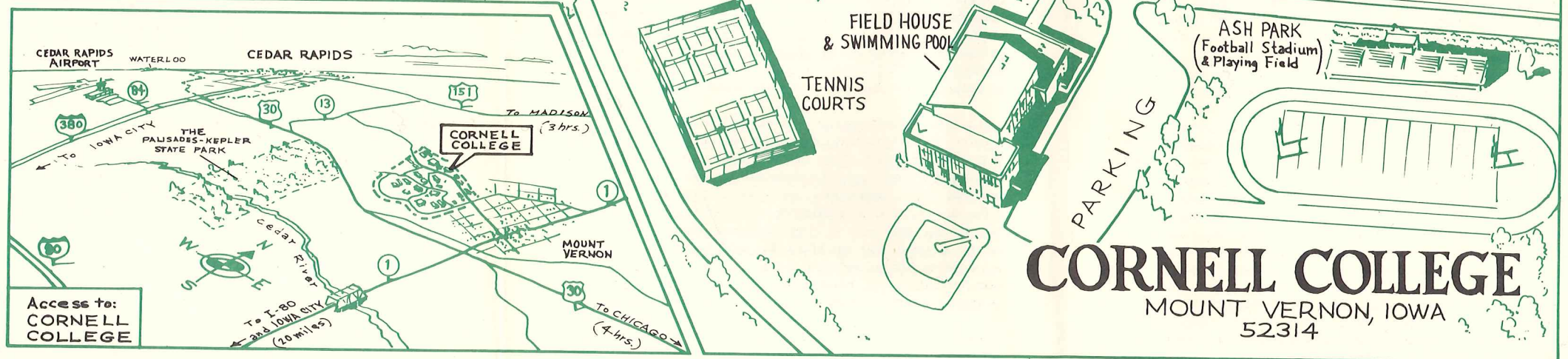
South Hall was built in 1873 as a men's dormitory at a time when all male students lived in boarding houses in town. It was soon converted for classroom use. In 1898, the YMCA installed four showers and one tub in the basement, and the College could boast that these facilities could accommodate 25 men an hour. The charge was \$1.25 per term or \$3.00 for the full academic year of three terms. Today this building contains the departments of English and Political Science and the Hillside Printing Press (in the basement).

Brackett House, built in 1877 as the residence of William Brackett, the contractor who eventually completed King Chapel, has been extensively remodeled several times and is





PERSPECTO MAP CO., Richmond, Illinois 60071



# CORNELL COLLEGE

MOUNT VERNON, IOWA  
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