



Normal Education: Arizona State University in 1912

Tempe Normal School profile:

Faculty: Principal/President A. J. Matthews, fourteen teachers, a librarian and a secretary.

Board of Education: Superintendent of Public Instruction (C.O. Case), two gubernatorial appointees: Dr. B.B. Moeur, C. F Leonard.

Students:

- Fall 1911 Enrollment: 267 students (324 by Fall 1912)
- Class of 1912: 43 students
- Diversity: 5 Hispanic women students
- Training School: 176 students (1st-8th grade)

Campus: 1907 Campus Map

Buildings

- Old Main (1898)
- Auditorium/Gymnasium (1909-1956)
- Science Building (1909)
 - LKA English or University Club
- President's Residence (1907)
 - LKA President's House, Alumni House, University Archives, Piper Writer's Center
- Alpha Hall (1902-1958)
 - Men's Dormitory/Originally women's dorm until East Hall was completed 1903)
- Training School (1907-1928)
 - LKA Blome Training School. The second Training School building.
- Dining Hall (1905-1919)
- East Hall (1903-1963?) Make way for Hayden Library?
 - Girls' Dormitory/

1914 Campus Map: Review eight 1912 buildings

January 12, 1912, p. 3 "We Need That New Manual Training Building"

"On account of the progress of the times the new State of Arizona is needing more and more teachers who are specially fitted to teach some special branch of study such as Manual Training, Domestic Science, etc."

- **Industrial Arts (Manual Training building), 1914**
- **South Hall (1913), North Hall (1914)** Part of intended group of cottage dorms

Land

- Operated on original 20 acre tract until June, 1911, when President A.J. and Carrie Matthews sold the first plat of land to the Board in trust for the Normal.
- Eleven additional plats of Blocks 24 and 25 were purchased in 1912.
- Board Minutes:
 - **June 28, 1912:** Principal Matthews was authorized to negotiate purchase of ten acres south of the original campus with Ms. Hester Hitchcock. This purchase was not finalized until 1926.
 - **August 14, 1912:** Dr. B.B. Mouer and Principal Matthews were authorized to purchase lots in the Gage addition at the original purchase price plus 8% per year.

Admissions:

- **Normal School Program:** by examination or by grammar school certificate (completing 8th grade). Five year program.
- **Normal School Advanced Standing:** By examination, prior Normal School grades or accredited school certificate.
- **High School Graduates:** Graduates of four year high school programs can be admitted to a two-year course resulting in a diploma and teaching certificate accepted by Arizona or California schools.
- **High School Graduates With College:** Those with college coursework and one year teaching experience may be admitted for a one year course of study.
- **Four Year Academic Course:** For those who don't wish to teach, results in diploma but no teaching certificate.

Course of Study: (on slides)

- **Five Year Course:**
- **Professional Units:**
- **Electives:**
- **Agriculture:**
- Faculty Assembly minutes of January 18, 1912: Citizens of Tempe call for the Normal to establish the agricultural college program.
- **April 6th, 1912:** The Board of Education directed Principal Matthews to create a curriculum for an elective two year Agriculture course modeled on the University of Arizona and implemented in September. (Board minutes)
- **September 6, 1912:** B. G. Porter of Iowa is hired as the first instructor in Agriculture. (Board minutes)
- A demonstration team from the University of Arizona visited the Normal on December 12th, 1912. (Faculty Assembly)

Costs:

- **Tuition:** \$5 per quarter. Free to all students who enter “with the **intention** of completing the work leading to graduation in either the professional or the academic course”.
- **Registration:** \$5 per year
- **Room and Board:** \$16.50 per month
(no credit for vacations or weekend absences)
- **Books:** \$10-\$15 per year.

Student Activities:

Sports: Tennis, Baseball, Basketball (women's, 1st year for men's), Track. No varsity football 1906-1913.

Lecture and Entertainment Course:

- Ex-Governor Joseph Folk of Missouri: "Holy Joe" Folk progressive Democrat re: govt corruption
- Whitney Bros. Quartet
- Le Brun Opera Company
- Laurant (Magician, probably Eugene)
- Opie Read (novelist/humorist)
- Ben Lindsey (the "Kid Judge" from Denver)

Literary Clubs and writing: Kalagathia (slide)

Tempe Normal Student:

Literary reviews and analysis of the writings of Robert Burns, Jack London, Franz Boas, Omar Khayyam, Louisa May Alcott.

Other notable events:

- April 1st, 1912: Four students were suspended for two weeks and one student for the balance of the semester for skipping classes on April 1st.
- May 2nd: Members of the first Arizona Legislature visited the Normal School.
- School was closed at noon on Thursday October 31st through Friday November 1st so students could attend the State Fair.

Tempe Normal Student cites:

February 23, 1912, p.1 “**Admission Day Exercises at the Normal**”
(Program organized starting February 7th)

Normal and Training students marched in order to the Auditorium, where many Tempeans had gathered. They sang “America” heard an invocation by Rev Harden, and the Ladies Chorus performed a song entitled “We Now Prepare to Greet The State”. President Matthews then welcomed the group, noting how Arizona struggled for statehood over thirty years, and how everyone pulled together for this purpose. “The elephant of the Republican party and the mule of the Democratic party have put their heads into a yoke and pulled together”. Then Miss Burgess read “Columbus” by Joaquin Miller, and responded to the applause with a second reading, a “sidesplitting” story entitled “U.S. is Ahead”. The Ladies Chorus followed by singing a “trumpet chorus” entitled “Welcome to Statehood”. Then Arizona Attorney General G. Purdy Bullard spoke, recognizing the hard work of Arizona pioneers and noting the importance of gathering at the Normal School because “It is the place for the present school children to make the history, whither Arizona will raise her head up among her sister states or whether she will hang her head in shame.” Following some additional selections by the Ladies Chorus, Arizona State Historian Sharlot Hall offered a lengthy review of Arizona history, recalling how so many saw Arizona as a barren wasteland. She said “destiny is greater than any human thought”. Training School students then marched in order onto the stage and sang as Erdine Zimmerman sewed the new star on the American flag. Everyone joined in a rousing chorus of “The Star Spangled Banner” and they adjourned to the courtyard outside where Captain Irish’s military cadets lowered and saluted the old flag, and then rose the new flag over the Main Building.

Tempe Normal Student

March 1, 1912, p.2: "Historical"

Student newspaper staff recall the history of furniture and rooms in Old Main:

"Now this old table around which the staff has had so many meetings is the old museum table of former days. And then it next served as an old Junior geography table when the geography room was in the basement, Mr. George put the nice green top on it with his own hands when it was moved in here and assigned to us. He also stained our cupboard which Mr. Walker made."

"Our room here used to be the innermost holy of holies of the Biology department before the Science Hall was built. Chemistry and Physics were in the room right across the way. Rhetoric and so on, as represented by Miss Finnie, held forth among the luxuriant fern filled windows of the present Sewing room....At that time Mr. Hall had the Latin department in the north Manual Training room, and Junior geography was just across the way. Then, as now, the Latin department tended toward mural decorations of the antiquities...while the cuts of the [Tempe Normal] Student [laid] on tables in the back part of the room. And in the Geography department then, as now, globes and specimens were kept on top, as it were, along with profile paper and outline maps."

I found some additional information in the 1912 Board minutes that this relates to a claim from three men (George Gage, Peter Corpstein and Frank Fogal) for compensation related to improvements they made to land apparently owned by the Normal. They cleared land and planted crops. The Normal responded with a Board resolution that seeing as they have not paid rent these many years and removed valuable mesquite wood and fence posts, that they would exchange back rent and interest for the improvements they made and call it even. They were asked to conclude a lease deal going forward or to return the property to the Normal. The three did not appear before the Board to strike the deal and in September they refused to turn the land over to the Normal, so the Board referred the matter to the Attorney General of Arizona...

Interestingly, we don't seem to have a Deed for this land, as you mentioned.