



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.

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."

The year 1912 is an important moment in the physical development of the Arizona State University Tempe campus. By 1912 the campus had grown from the four room Territorial Normal School building constructed in 1885 to eight campus buildings with specialized purposes and substantially greater capacity. By 1912 the original Normal School building had been razed, and only three of the eight Tempe campus buildings extant in 1912 stand to this day. In addition 1912 also marks the first concerted effort to expand campus land holdings beyond the original twenty acre plat. The 1912 campus reveals evidence that the Normal Board and President Matthews began to think of the campus in terms of districts, with an Old Quad for academics and administration, and a newer residential Quad. Consideration of campus planning with an eye toward increasing capacity at minimal cost, and defining areas of similar purpose is a theme that runs throughout our university history. Increasing demand for higher education services and the constant churn of building razings and construction continue to place substantial pressure on university decisions regarding preservation of structures and artifacts documenting diverse and historic cultures. The pace of these changes also challenges our ability to maintain our institutional memory of how and why campus development decisions were made, and maintain connections with thousands of alumni who remember very different physical places from different eras of our history. Balancing historic preservation and access to higher education continues to challenge university staff to this day.