

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1907 ~~XXXXXX~~ BUILDER/ARCHITECT Proudfoot & Bird, Des Moines

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Alumni Hall is an excellent example of the Georgian Revival style popular at the turn of the century. This style was particularly favored for "club architecture" in the U.S. Examples include the Germantown (PA) Cricket Club (McKim, Mead and White, 1890), and, in Iowa, the Davenport Outing Club (Park Burrows, 1905). Significant features of Alumni Hall include the three giant porticoes, pedimented dormers, and the Palladian windows above the porticoes. An interesting element is the fact that the second-story windows, although identical in form to those of the first story, are slightly smaller, thus increasing, visually, the height of the building.

Alumni Hall was designed by Proudfoot and Bird of Des Moines, a firm that accounted for many buildings on the state university campuses at Ames and at Iowa City around the turn of the century. The addition was also planned by this firm, and the first story built under their supervision. They were also responsible for the remodelling of the basement, which resulted in the covering of the swimming pool. The building was originally used for office and meeting space (along with recreation) for university alumni, the YMCA and assorted campus literary societies, functioning much as a student union does today. It presently houses offices for the YMCA and YWCA, and dormitory facilities for students.