8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1799 1700–1799 1900–1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	- -	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates		Builder/Architect		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The building was built in two phases. The first, 1882-1883, was the east leg of the L ending with the tower. J.B. Ballinger was the architect and V. Tomlinson the contractor. The south side, west of the tower was built in 1884-1885 and Foster and Liebbe of Des Moines were the architects and Tomlinson, again, the contractor. The building housed Iowa State Agricultural College's Depratment of Mechanical and of Civil Engineering, containing classrooms and shops. It was remodeled into a laboratory building in 1907. Toilets were added in 1923 and a one-story addition built in 1933, filling in the L to a rectangle at ground level. Further remodeling was done in 1967.

The building was the first engineering building on the campus and survives as the oldest building devoted to instruction. It is one of a small number of high educational buildings in the state surviving from this time, and its exterior is little changed.