Chapter 4 1921 - 1945

Aerial view of Brigham Young University Upper Campus - 1928
Franklin S. Harris was appointed President of the Brigham Young University July 1, 1921, following the retirement of George H. Brimhall. His service continued through 24 years to June 30, 1945, with the exception of two leaves of absence. The first in 1929 when E.H. Holt was appointed acting president and the second was in 1940 when Christen Jensen served as acting president (In This Brief Span, T. Earl Pardoe and Newbern I. Butt).

During his term in office, the longest of any president up to 1973, the floor area of campus buildings doubled with the construction of six major buildings. A stadium and football field was constructed and considerable land was acquired for future campus development. The Building and Grounds maintenance staff was increased from one full-time man and 20 students to 12 full-time personnel and a comparable increase in student help.

By no means is the least of President Harris’ many accomplishments the phenomenal growth in campus acreage. His success in this endeavor was not without criticism because financial means were limited throughout his 24 years in office. These land purchases meant sacrifice in other areas. The record in this regard is evidence of his vision of the future for the Brigham Young University which has since grown to utilize every piece of ground he acquired and much more (Kiefer Sauls, secretary to President Harris and Purchasing Agent, and George H. Smeath, faculty member from 1938 to 1941).
Personnel

When Franklin S. Harris was appointed President of the Brigham Young University in 1921, the buildings and grounds of both the Lower Campus and the Upper Campus were maintained by one full-time man, B.T. Higgs, and 20 to 30 part-time student employees. The need for more help was apparent by this time and John Wilson Sauls was employed as assistant superintendent. Brother Higgs continued on with the Lower Campus while Brother Sauls maintained the Upper Campus.

In addition to the Maeser and the Mechanic Arts Buildings, the Upper Campus included considerable land which was purchased for future University development. This land was farmed and the produce was used in the cafeteria or sold to the faculty.

Clement J. Bonnett, an experienced teamster, was hired to assist Brother Sauls with the maintenance of the grounds including the farms. A two-yard plank wagon and two 1700 pound horses were purchased for Clem Bonnett to drive. This was the first rolling stock acquired by the University for the maintenance of the campus (Karl A. Miller).

J.W. Sauls was a good craftsman and did much to improve both buildings and grounds. He built a clock controlled device to operate the sprinkling system valves making it possible to use Provo City water during the nighttime. It was agreed that BYU could use city water for lawn sprinkling if it was used at nighttime and not during the day. He devised a mechanism to ring the Y bell automatically for class changes, and he also installed the first coal stoker on the boiler that heated the Upper Campus buildings (Kiefer Sauls, son of J.W. Sauls).

On December 10, 1934, Brother Sauls attempted to correct a malfunctioning boiler. The damper chain had broken causing a build-up of fumes in the room. While rectifying the problem, J.W. Sauls was overcome by the fumes and met his untimely death (Kiefer Sauls, son of J.W. Sauls).

John Wilson Sauls, father of Kiefer Sauls

Personnel 1921 - 1945
Karl A. Miller had been employed about one year earlier in January of 1934 as assistant to B.T. Higgs on the Lower Campus. After the death of J.W. Sauls, he was transferred to the Upper Campus to take the place of Brother Sauls. Elvin J. Dennis, a student worker, was then employed full-time to assist B.T. Higgs on the Lower Campus.

Brigham T. Higgs, in his 82nd year, was critically injured in an automobile accident and died July 12, 1939 (Lynn Wakefield, Grandson of B.T. Higgs). Karl A. Miller was then made Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds and Elvin Dennis was made assistant. Brother Dennis remained with the University for five years until 1944 (Wayne Williams, Physical Plant Department, BYU).

As the Studentbody grew in number, more help was needed; and Hermoine Hill was employed to clean the women’s restrooms in the three Upper Campus buildings. When the Joseph Smith Building was completed in 1941, still more help was needed and a husband and wife team was hired, Albert and Anita Lamoreaux. Two years later a brother to Albert by the name of Arch and his wife Lenora were hired. This same year, 1943, Edwin Thurston joined the staff as a janitor in the winter time and as a grounds man in the summer.

Albert and Anita Lamoreaux remained with the university until 1946, Arch and Lenora Lamoreaux until 1955, Hermiube Hill until 1953, and Edwin Thurston until 1959.

During World War II student enrollment dropped from near 3000 in 1940-41 to slightly over 1,000 in 1943-44. (Office of Admissions and Records). Man power was scarce because the men were in the armed services. Problems arose on campus and other areas. Girls were used to mow lawns and do all kinds of custodial work. Many of the faculty were asked to depart somewhat from teaching and help with maintenance work. The housing shortage for girls made it necessary to remodel room D in the Educational Building along with homes in the area near BYU for housing of women students. George H. Hansen,
Thomas L. Martin, A.C. Lambert, Lynn Hayward, Alonzo J. Morley and other faculty members assisted in making these changes (Banyan, 1943, pp. 65, 68, and 69, BYU Archives).

During the school year of 1944, because of the reduced enrollment and not having many students to teach, William H. Snell was given jurisdiction over Buildings and Grounds of both Upper and Lower Campus. This Department was then called Engineering and Maintenance Services with an office in the Maeser Building (Faculty Minutes, January 10, 1944, p. 89). He maintained this position for only a short time (less than one year) until the influx of students after the close of the war again required his services as a teacher (Faculty Minutes, October 16, 1944).

During this period, Earl Parker had been working with Brother Snell as a carpenter. Upon the resignation of Elvin Dennis, Brother Snell placed Earl Parker in charge of the Lower Campus. Earl Parker was not only a carpenter, but in addition had worked as a maintenance man in a canning factory for many years where he became knowledgeable in the operation of steam boilers. He retired October 1962.

This same year, 1944, Wayne Williams came to the Custodial Department. He was responsible for cleaning the Lower Campus through most of the years up to 1973 (Wayne Williams, Physical Plant Department, BYU).

It was in October of 1944 that G. Lloyd Hobbs was hired to assist in the maintenance work on the campus. He was a builder and contractor from Nephi and had been hired as one of the first foremen at Geneva from the beginning of foundations to the completion of the original structures for the United States Steel Corporation. At the University, he worked directly with Karl A. Miller for 19 years before retiring September 1963.

Construction work on the campus increased little by little each year, and extra professional help was necessary. Morris R. Snell, who had been teaching in Industrial Arts and helping with repairs during the years 1936 through 1942, returned to the University in December 1943 and was made Superintendent of Construction in 1944. He held this position until his death on November 12, 1947 (BYU Catalog, 1946-47, p. 34. BYU Archives).

For the 24-year period of time that Franklin S. Harris served as President, these 16 people constituted the maintenance and construction staff of the Brigham Young University.

Albert and Anita Lamoreaux remained with the University until 1946, Arch and Lenora Lamoreaux until 1955, Hermoine Hill until 1953, and Edwin Thurston until 1959.

During World War II, student enrollment dropped from near 3,000 in 1940-41 to slightly over 1,000 in 1943-44 (Office of Admissions and Records).
Typical picture of J. W. Sauls on Upper Campus

Karl A. Miller and student, LaFayette Terry - 1936

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Maintenance and Small Construction

All maintenance work done at the school prior to 1940 was done through the repair department. This included heating, painting, plumbing, electrical, and carpentry work. There was really no need for separate divisions or shops because in the early history of the school all the work done, regardless of what it might have been, was usually done by one person. The Repair Department, if it could be called this, began the first day school opened, much the same as the janitorial work had its beginning. Repairs were made on the Lewis Hall, according to the early Faculty Minutes. The Lewis Hall was the first building used for the school. A latch was needed for the front door as noted in the Minutes of October 26, 1877. Small items of repairs were mentioned in succeeding minutes, such as the stove pipes falling down and the grating for the stove was missing, a rope for the well was needed, and many other items which needed attention by someone qualified as a “handyman.”

The repair shop with its meager supply of hand tools was located anywhere and anyplace a room could be found. Many of the tools were hand made. At the Lower Campus the repair shop was located in the basement of the High School Building where the heating boiler was first installed. The Carpenter Shop, located on the first floor of the High School Building, was used to teach woodwork. However, it was also used by B.T. Higgs and students when making carpentry repairs for the school. Repairs in iron works were made by Hans Anderson in the University Blacksmith Shop across the street south of the Campus Block (Karl A. Miller, 1915 - 1920, student of B.T. Higgs and Hans Anderson).

On the Upper Campus, space for a repair shop was found next to the President’s garage. When the new boiler house was completed on the hillside south of the Heber J. Grant Library, the tools used in making repairs were transferred to this larger new building. During the summer when school was not in session, the auto mechanics shop on the north side of the Brimhall Building was used. This shop was centrally located and it eliminated moving everything up and down the steep hill from the boiler house. Other sheds were built on the campus to house some of the equipment (Karl A. Miller, 1915 – 1945).
Much of the small construction work from 1920 on was made with the help of William H. Snell. Brother Snell and Brother Higgs worked as a team in correlating building projects. The housing and classroom units for the Alpine Summer School were constructed by William H. Snell with the aid of students and some professional carpenters. The plenum for the ventilating system in the Training and College Buildings was installed, the seats were removed and a sloping floor was constructed in College Hall, the Second and Third East steps from Eighth North going up to Temple Hill and the retaining walls and walks were added on both the Upper and Lower Campus in this same way (Karl A. Miller, 1916 – 1973). In 1928 the President’s Home was remodeled by William H. Snell with student help (History of Industrial Arts at BYU, 1883 - 1960, by William H. Snell, BYU Archives).

Lynn Wakefield was hired on a full-time basis in 1941. Brother Wakefield continued on with the University and in 1950 when more electricians were hired, he was made foreman. This was the beginning of the Electrical Shop. He served as Supervisor of the Electrical Shop until his retirement in 1968 (Lynn Wakefield).

Many problems were encountered in the early years of electrical power on the campus. Great ingenuity and long hours of hard work by the men involved kept the campus in electrical power during times of extreme overload and during inclement weather (Karl A. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds).
A 1938 fruit harvest in the apple orchard west of where the Richards Building would be built in 1965
Karl Miller just left of center

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In 1934 Karl A. Miller was made Assistant Superintendent to help B.T. Higgs on the lower campus. The following projects were completed that year: Two restrooms were constructed adjacent to the College Building. Two organ chambers were made for the organ installed for College Hall. The stage in College Hall was enlarged and a projection booth was built in the west end above the doors (Karl A. Miller, 1916-73).

After the death of J.W. Sauls, December 1934, Mr. Miller was transferred to the Upper Campus to assume the responsibility of Buildings and Grounds there. In 1941 William H. Snell renovated the Iona House with Lynn Wakefield assisting in that renovation (History of Industrial Arts at BYU, 1883 - 1960, by William H. Snell, BYU Archives). When B.T. Higgs was 80 years of age, new shower and dressing rooms were built in a basement excavation of the Women’s Gym to replace the showers used on the second floor of the gym under his supervision (Life sketch of B.T. Higgs by Emma Higgs Wakefield, daughter). In 1936 the Stadium House was built by using a few professional men, but mostly by using students, all of which were under the direction of William H. Snell. During the summer of 1935 an additional men’s dormitory was constructed for Alpine Summer School at Aspen Grove. This was done by Karl A. Miller using two excellent student carpenters, LaVell C. Gammet and Grant F. Larsen, and others. These two students also worked on the Stadium House.

Automotive Equipment

Automotive equipment was not a part of the Academy when it was first established in 1875. For 59 years the horse and wagon was the only means of transportation available to the University for maintenance of the campus.

Horses and wagons were used in 1884 to haul the furniture and books that were salvaged from the Lewis Hall fire to the bank building and the Meetinghouse, and then from that location to the Z.C.M.I. Warehouse on the south end of town next to the railroad tracks. Horses and scrapers were used to excavate the basement of the new Academy Building in that same year. When the work began to lag, Benjamin Cluff used his own team to begin the work again and stimulate interest in the project. Wagons and teams were used to transport the students to Provo Bench where land was cleared that had been given to the school by Jesse Knight. In 1904 when students and faculty built an athletic field on Temple Hill, teams and scrapers were used to level the area.

After President Franklin S. Harris was installed as BYU President on July 1, 1921, land acquisition on Temple Hill progressed rapidly. Considerable work was involved in farming the land not needed for academic purposes.

The team and plank wagon driven by Clem Bonnett played a most important part in the development of the physical
facilities and in landscaping the campus. The horse-drawn wagon was used to haul hundreds of loads of soil into areas that were to be planted around the buildings. All of this soil was hand loaded into the wagon by students. Sand and gravel used in concrete work for walks, walls, steps and foundations was hauled from the gravel pit on the east side of the campus. When the new Heber J. Grant Library was completed in 1925, all the books were transported from Room “D” in the Education Building to the Library on University Hill. The foundations for the first three buildings on the Upper Campus were excavated with team and scraper (Karl A. Miller and Lynn Wakefield, students).

In 1918 a “Dodge” sedan and a “Cole Apeo 8” were purchased by the University for A.C. Anderson to use in automotive repair class instruction. They were sold after an incident involving unauthorized travel to Salt Lake City (Lynn Wakefield, Physical Plant Department). After this, President Harris established a policy that the University would not own any automotive vehicles. Privately owned cars and trucks were used on a rental basis after this incident in compliance with the President’s policy (Kiefer Sauls, Secretary to the President and Purchasing Agent).

A U.S. Army 5-ton truck with solid rubber tires of World War I vintage was loaned to the Brigham Young University to carry tents and equipment up to the Alpine Summer School in 1922. On a trip up the canyon the heavily loaded truck slid off the narrow road and rolled into the creek, upside down. No one was injured fortunately, but it took several teams of horses and a week’s work to get it out of the creek and on its wheels again (Interview with C.Y. Cannon, first Summer School Dean, by Ephraim Hatch, November 28, 1973, Provo, Utah). On one occasion a student, Lynn Wakefield, drove this clumsy, hard-to-handle outfit down the Provo Canyon with 93 autumn leaf hikers standing on the truck bed. He doesn’t like to think what would have happened to the 93 people if he had had a serious emergency (Interview with Lynn Wakefield by Ephraim Hatch, November 28, 1973). This truck was finally declared unsafe to use and was returned to the Army (C.Y. Cannon, first Summer School Dean).

A model “T” Ford “Bug” was used by the Zoology Department for field trips in 1926 according to Dr. Vasco Tanner. The University did not own this car and it is not known who did (Interview with Dr. Vasco Tanner and Kiefer Sauls by Ephraim Hatch, November 28, 1973, Provo, Utah).

It was decided to purchase a Ford school bus in 1934 and Kiefer Sauls, the Purchasing Agent, went back east and drove it across the country. This was actually the first motor vehicle purchased for general University use, that of transporting students to athletic events, etc. This bus was also used during the Alpine Summer School session driven by students, Noal Hatch, George Lewis and others to carry Summer School Students, mail and supplies to Aspen Grove.

After the death of J.W. Sauls in 1934, the University purchased a Model “A” Ford pickup truck from his widow and
The Ford school bus, first BYU motor vehicle for general University use
This photo with student driver, Noal Hatch, was taken in 1938 when bus was used for Alpine Summer School.

this became the first gasoline powered maintenance vehicle for the Department of Buildings and Grounds (Kiefer Sauls, Secretary to the President and Purchasing Agent). The truck did not take the place of the team, which continued on until 1941, but it was used to haul everything possible. A piano, a generator, lights, and other equipment were hauled to Aspen Grove each year to be used at the program before the Timp Hike. Athletic equipment was transported to Salt
Lake City to be used in the football games at the University of Utah. The Model A pickup was fitted with a snow plow made by Karl A. Miller and was used each winter to clear the campus roads. This truck was in constant use on the campus. Each afternoon for several years the truck was used for mail service by a student, Noal Hatch, and later by others. When the student enrollment dropped in 1944, it was necessary to assign a young lady to deliver the mail. In 1944 the pickup truck along with a one-ton Ford truck, which had been purchased a few years earlier, was surplused and sold to the highest bidder (Interview with Lynn Wakefield, highest bidder, by Ephraim Hatch, November 28, 1973, Provo, Utah).

A Fordson farm tractor was also purchased in 1934 to level and roll the track at the stadium (Interview with Rodney Kimball, athletic trainer, by Karl A. Miller, 1973).

A Model “L” John Deere tractor was purchased in 1937. This tractor was equivalent to a small team of horses each weighing about 1200 pounds. The tractor was used for cultivating and for pulling the three-gang lawnmower previously pulled by the team of horses to mow the lawn on the stadium and athletic fields. It was a lightweight farm tractor and was not heavy enough for all kinds of work. A larger John Deere tractor was purchased which compared to a three-horse team. Mowing attachments were also purchased for this tractor to cut weeds and clean up rough places on the campus.

A semi-automatic scraper on wheels called the “Miskin Scraper” was purchased to level ground for lawn planting and road building around campus. This scraper was manufactured by Arthur Miskin of Ucon, Idaho, the grandfather of Jann Miskin Knight, the secretary of this history writing project.

In 1941 a Ford 1 ½ ton dump truck was purchased. This replaced the team and plank wagon for hauling soil, sand and gravel.

It was recommended by President Franklin S. Harris that larger equipment should be purchased and that it would be desirable to have a caterpillar tractor. Karl A. Miller knew of a Model Twenty caterpillar with a large disc plow that was available in Erda, Utah. The two items were purchased and hauled in the dump truck to Provo. They were purchased form Joseph Eckman. The tractor proved very beneficial in many ways in supplying the extra power when needed. An electric lead covered cable was pulled through a conduit to the terminal by this caterpillar tractor.

The Model “A” Ford pickup truck had served its purpose and a new GMC pickup was purchased in the spring of 1944. It was much larger but was used in the same way that the Model A had been used.

Morris Snell was hired December 1943 to assist in the repair work on the campus; and in 1944, he was made Superintendent of Construction. A new green Ford pickup was purchased by the University and turned over to him to be used in the construction work (BYU Catalog, p. 34, History of Industrial Arts, William H. Snell, BYU Archives).
Security

As the use of automobiles by the faculty and students increased, the parking of cars on the campus became more of a problem. In 1942, 150 parking places were marked on the Upper Campus, which was fifty more places than was usually occupied at any time. Even though adequate space was available, invariably automobiles were parked directly in the front entrance of the Brimhall Building or in other spots distinctly marked NO PARKING. It was, therefore, considered advisable to let the air out of one tire on cars parked illegally. There was no other means by which violators could be penalized. News spread rapidly and the areas marked were soon clear of vehicles (Karl A. Miller, Assistant Superintendent Buildings and Grounds, 1934, BYU).

It was in 1939 that President Harris decided that it might be best to have someone designated on both the Lower and Upper Campus as Provo City police officers. Two faculty members were selected for this position. On the Upper Campus, Karl A. Miller was selected and Elvin J. Dennis was detailed on the Lower Campus. Both men were in charge of Buildings and Grounds. These men were sworn in by Henry Evans, Provo City Chief of Police. Elvin J. Dennis left the University November 1944, but his position as an officer was never filled. The position on the Upper Campus underwent some change. During the ensuing years, the demands upon Buildings and Grounds were too great to allow spending very much time, if any, as a security officer, and the Department later on was placed under new management.

Service Order Forms

Up to about 1935, instructions or requests for repair and construction work to be done were conveyed verbally to the custodian or Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds by the Principal or President of the institution. As the school increased in size and more people needed work done, it became necessary to make written orders and leave them where others who actually did the work could find them and complete the job.

In 1935 Karl A. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, drew up a “Service Order” form which was printed and bound into pads by Frank Haymore of the University Press. This “Service Order” form has been used, with slight variations, down through the years and is still in use in 1973 (Karl A. Miller, Physical Plant Department, BYU).
Campus - 1921-1945

The movement from the Lower Campus to “Temple Hill” was started with the track and grandstand in 1904 and followed by the Maeser Memorial Building in 1911.

Vehicular access to the Upper Campus was along the south slope of Temple Hill from Eighth North and Second East to a point southwest of the Joseph Smith Building. This dirt road was improved with gravel and concrete retaining walls in 1926 (Y News, September 5, 1926, p. 2). It was not until 1931, when the office of the President and other administrative offices moved from the Education Building on the Lower Campus to the Maeser Building, that this road was oiled. This project required the assistance of Provo City who provided the gravel, Utah Oil Refining Company who furnished the oil, and the Utah State Road Commission who provided the machinery for mixing the oil (Y News, September 30, 1931).

The first footpath up the hill to the Maeser Building consisted of wood steps and boardwalks. This installation was not too permanent; and in the early 1920’s when a grass fire destroyed the walk, President Harris authorized construction of concrete walks and steps. This project was completed in 1924. One year later concrete steps were constructed up the hill from Third East Street. Concrete steps and walks were built in subsequent years north from the Maeser towards the Stadium House, and up the hill from Fourth and Fifth East (Karl A. Miller, Carpenter on two of these construction projects).

Ware and Treganza, the architectural firm retained to prepare plans for the Maeser Building in 1909, outlined the first general campus development. His first master plan did not allow for more than six or eight buildings. It appears that the Maeser Building and the Heber J. Grant Library Building were the only structures located in compliance with this plan.

Several people made contributions to the development of the campus from 1921 to 1945. Kiefer Sauls as secretary to President Harris and Purchasing Agent during this period was close to the many problems of a growing campus. Though not directly responsible for the planning of the campus, he was nevertheless involved and made many helpful suggestions to the President (Interview with Kiefer Sauls by Ephraim Hatch, November 1973).

Emil Hansen, head gardener and landscape architect of the Utah State University at Logan, came to Provo in 1921 at President Harris’ request to assist in the landscape planning of the Lower and Upper Campuses (Y News, October 26, 1921). Thirteen years later in 1934, LaVal Morris, professor of landscape design at Brigham Young University from 1923 to 1938, prepared landscape plans for the President’s home and the Upper Campus. (See photograph of drawing on next page.) George H. Smeath, faculty member from 1938 to 1941, did campus landscape planning during this time (see photograph of drawing, page 41) and later on contract. Kenji Shiozawa made a landscape plan for the hillside south of the Joseph Smith Building during the
time he was on the faculty from 1943 to 1945 (BYU Catalogs, 1921 to 1945, BYU Archives).

The landscaping of the Allen and Amanda Knight Halls was made by LaVal S. Morris. Later, landscape plans for other buildings were made by Ernest Reimschussel, BYU Professor since 1942. The design and installation of sprinkling systems from 1935 to 1954 was made by Karl A. Miller (Karl A. Miller and Ernest Reimschussel, interview by Ephraim Hatch. November 1973).
Kiefer Sauls, Purchasing Agent, and Secretary to President Harris

LaVal S. Morris with his landscape plan for the President's Residence

A view of the Lower Campus buildings from the road to the Upper Campus - 1915

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Photograph at right:
Concrete steps to Upper Campus from
Second East and Eighth North soon
after construction in 1924

Photograph at left:
Canal around “Temple Hill”
Walk along canal is known as
“Lover’s Lane.”
Construction of concrete retaining wall on road to Upper Campus - 1922 - A “Y” Day activity
Stadium - 1928

The west side of Temple Hill was chosen for a football field and stadium site as early as 1921 when President Harris arrived on campus (The Y News, December 21, 1927). This land was once the lower part of the Manavu Townsite (University Archives, UA541). Elmer A. Jacob was employed as engineer and Joseph Nelson as architect. F.S. Harris, Harold R. Clark and others were instrumental in making plans for the new stadium (The Y News, December 21, 1927).

Active work began in the spring of 1926. Six feet of soil had to be taken out of the north end to make it level, trees and brush had to be removed, the east Union Canal was put into a siphon under the field, and a sprinkling system was installed by J.W. Sauls (Karl A. Miller, Physical Plant Department, BYU). The University team was used in the leveling. Other teams and equipment were donated by Wasatch Grading Company and a Mr. Greer at very little expense to the University (The Y News, December 21, 1927).

The Denver and Rio Grande Western railroad hauled cinders at half-price from Columbia Steel Corporation who donated twenty-five carloads (The Y News, March 13, 1928). They were hauled by train to the ice plant on 12th North and 2nd West and then to the Stadium by team and wagon by the Knight Coal & Ice Company without charge (The Y News, March 6, 1928). All of this supplied the necessary material and labor for the stadium field and the one-quarter mile track with a 220 yard straight-away on the east side.

The male students were to donate two days work on the stadium or give $2.50 per day to have the work done (The Y News, March 6, 1928). Citizens, students, senior class, and alumni made donations. A sign was placed in the University bookstore stating that the profits of the bookstore would go to the Stadium funds (Karl A. Miller, Physical Plant Department, BYU). Advertising in the Y News also indicated the earnings were to be used by the Stadium (The Y News, March 23, 1928, p. 3). A large part of the work done on Y Day was spent on the stadium field. The students turned out en masse to dig the lines for the drainage system that extended down to the irrigation ditch on 8th North and 2nd East (The Y News, March 9, 1928).

In a write-up by Harrison R. Merrill, plans for the next step of the Stadium were being announced. Five thousand concrete seats for spectators were planned (The Y News, May 25, 1928). Nature made the site which provided foundations for a set of seats 55 rows high, being made in three sections. Seats were sold to help pay expenses (The Y News, June 21, 1928). Gifts poured in, as usual. New Century Printing Company gave $200 by John C. Graham (The Y News, June 28, 1928). J. Will Knight and John Firmage, $1,000 each, and Judge George S. Ballif donated $500. Attorney I.E. Brockbank...
First Stadium construction - 1927

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gave $250. A large sum was received from Dixon-Taylor-Russell Company. The C.A. Tolboe Company (Provo Chamber of Commerce Report, 1930) did the concrete and wood work on the first three sections. The scoreboard was donated by the Salt Lake Tribune and the flagpole by the Crane Company.

The first unit consisted of 5,508 seats. The seats were supported by iron bases which supported the redwood planks for seats (Official Souvenir Football Program, November 17, 1928). The structure was practically completed for the first football game to be played there. It was between Brigham Young University and the College of Idaho, September 29, 1928.

At the dedication on October 27, 1928, the first unit was completed including the press box erected by Z.C.M.I. The dedication address was given by President F.S. Harris and accepted by President Heber J. Grant (The Y News, October 30, 1928). The game played was between the Aggies and Cougars, the opposing coaches were two brothers Dick and Ott Romney (Deseret News, October 28, 1928, Microfilm Newspaper Clippings, Archives, 1926-40 Film B, 76 N V.5 NEG).

Lights were added in 1940. The public address system was donated by Utah Power and Light and Mountain States Telephone Company (History of the Stadium, F.S. Harris, VA80, BYU Archives). Announcements were made May 2, 1946, that the stadium seating would be enlarged (Faculty Minutes Vol. 14, p. 173, 1946).

The south section of the new wings was reserved for students, the north wing for general admission. Construction of the two outer wings was made by Thorn Construction and a large portion of this was donated. Seating capacity then totaled 9,200 (Floyd Taylor, Ticket Manager, BYU). An additional 1,500 seats could be placed around the west and south as bleachers.

A new and larger stadium was constructed in 1966 at the northwest corner of the campus. The old track and football field was then used for a new physical education building. For several years that followed, the old stadium seating was used for large outdoor programs on the 4th of July. A temporary stage was built for these occasions. The concrete and wood seats deteriorated to the point where they became dangerous. It was decided that the cost of repair and maintenance of this seating could not be justified by the infrequent use of this facility, and they were removed in the summer of 1972. The hillside was then landscaped (Construction Records, Physical Plant Department, BYU).
First Stadium construction - 1928
Brigham Young University Upper Campus - 1936

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Alpine Summer School - 1922

The Alpine Summer School was first initiated by President Harris soon after his arrival to the campus (History of Brigham Young University, pp. 120-121, BYU Archives). Other universities throughout the nation had similar areas in a high mountain retreat where intensive out-of-door class work could be carried out and summer heat could be avoided. Emphasis was placed on classes in the natural sciences, but other subjects were also offered. No place in the world does a spot for a summer school compare to that of the Aspen Grove location (Banyan, 1926, p. 53).

The land was acquired through the generosity of the Stewart family who owned many acres of land in this area for sheep grazing. The donors involved were as follows: John R. Stewart and family, Scott P. Stewart and family, Joseph Nelson and family, Rose Young Stewart and family, and Melissa R. Stewart, all of Provo (History of Brigham Young University, pp. 120-121, BYU Archives).

The men involved in the summer school were Hugh M. Woodward, first Dean of Summer School; Clawson Y. Cannon, who later became Dean; and Herald R. Clark. Tents were first used for housing faculty and students; but as the Summer School grew in popularity, cabins were built for faculty and women students. Later, a crew of carpenters including Karl A. Miller, LaVell Gamett, Grant Larson, and other students were taken to Aspen Grove each day to build a dormitory for men.

The classrooms and dining hall were on the knoll between the two housing units. Water was pumped from a mountain spring by a hydraulic ram, set up and drained each year by Karl A. Miller and crew.

C.Y. Cannon secured a five-ton government surplus truck in the early days of the school. Lynn Wakefield drove this clumsy, hard-to-handle outfit up and down the winding dirt road transporting tents and equipment from a warehouse on the Lower Campus.

In the late 1930’s, Noel Hatch, George Lewis and others drove a blue school bus over this same route each morning and evening carrying food for the day and a few passengers who did not stay at the camp at night.

Changes occurred; and in spite of the beauty and picturesque spot the Alpine Summer School occupied, it was later discontinued and given over to the Alumni Association. It was made into a family summer camp. A swimming pool was built, and additional cabins added to provide a haven or retreat for the Alumni who might welcome a home in the Alpine atmosphere for a summer outing.

A tract of land adjoining Aspen Grove, owned by the Forest Service, was used for the Timpanogos hike for many years (Karl A. Miller, Physical Plant Department, BYU).
Road up to Alpine Summer School, ca. 1922

Classrooms and dining hall at Alpine Summer School in the 1930's

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Tennis Courts

When the three clay tennis courts were removed on the Upper Campus to make way for the Mechanic Arts (Brimhall) Building in 1918, they were replaced by concrete courts constructed about 1921 on a vacant building lot owned by the University between Sixth and Seventh North and First and Second East. These courts were surrounded with high chicken wire fencing. They served until it was necessary to exchange this property for property adjacent to the Upper Campus (Karl A. Miller).

According to a report in the White and Blue, there were no concrete tennis courts on the Brigham Young University campus until 1921 when these were built (White and Blue, April 27, 1921, p. 170, BYU Archives).

Two clay tennis courts were built on the Lower Campus west of the Blacksmith Shop Building on Fifth North (Banyan, 1922, p. 136).

Tennis increased in popularity; and by 1934, construction of 12 courts became a reality. A location was chosen northeast of the Joseph Smith Building near the future site of the Eyring Science Center. These 12 courts were constructed of asphalt with painted boundaries and markings (Banyan, 1943). Dedication of these courts took place on October 16, 1934, with President Heber J. Grant, together with special guests: Reed Smith, John A. Widtsoe, Stephen Chipman, and others (Y News, October 19, 1934, front page). Heavy use was made of this facility until 1950 when the land was needed for the Eyring Science Center.

Twelve tennis courts were constructed on the Upper Campus in 1934 where the Eyring Science Center was built in 1950.
Heber J. Grant Library - 1925

On December 9, 1921, soon after Franklin S. Harris was appointed President of the Brigham Young University, the importance of a suitable library was brought to his attention by the Librarian, Annie L. Gillespie and Alice L. Reynolds of the Library Committee (History of Brigham Young University, J.M. Jensen, 1942, pp. 114-115. BYU Archives). At that time the collection of 17,050 books and 25,000 pamphlets was housed in Room D and adjoining rooms in the Education Building (Karl A. Miller, student).

Alice L. Reynolds, an ardent lover of good books and good literature, was largely responsible for the events that made this building a reality (Ruth Louise Partridge, personal interview, daughter of E.D. Partridge. Provo, Utah, 1872). Funds for this project were provided by the Church, $125,000 for the building and $40,000 for books (J.M. Jensen, History of Brigham Young University, 1942, pp. 114-115, BYU Archives).

Joseph Nelson was selected as architect; Paul Paulson was awarded the general contract and P.L. Parson, the plumbing contract (Construction Records, Physical Plant Department, BYU). Ground breaking for a 23,133 square foot library building was conducted on Founder’s Day, October 16, 1924 (The Y News, October 15, 1924). One year later, October 16, 1925, the building was dedicated by Heber J. Grant.

Transporting the books from Room D to the Grant Library was somewhat of a slow process. Books were handled by hand and transported to the Upper Campus by team and a plank wagon driven by Clem Bonnett (Karl A. Miller, student).

The building was a two-story structure made of glazed granite brick (Banyan, 1943, pp. 12-13, BYU Archives). The large spacious reading room comprised half of the second floor. Books were stored in closed stacks of steel construction on three decks. Office space and special rooms were provided in the second floor northwest section. The first floor was made up of classrooms and offices. One room was set aside as a receiving room and was entered from the north.

The building was named the Heber J. Grant Library in honor of the President of the Latter-day Saint Church. President Grant was a lover of books, and gave an untold number of volumes as Christmas gifts. He was asked how he could afford such an expense. He replied by saying, “That’s just my cigar money” (Karl A. Miller, student).

It was the intention of the administration that the building would eventually be enlarged, with an addition on the north side. For this reason, a suitable north entrance to the building was omitted (Kiefer B. Sauls, BYU Treasurer, personal interviews...
The anticipated expansion never materialized. The growth of the University made the expansion of the Grant Building impractical. The Clark Library was approved to take its place, and the name “library” was dropped as part of the name of the building. The building since then has undergone various changes and renovations to accommodate other departments.
Heber J. Grant Library Building - 1925

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President’s Residence - 1927

In 1909, a beautiful building lot was purchased by Henry Petersen, a faculty member of the University (History of Brigham Young University, p. 119, Archives). This half acre lot was located on Temple Hill a short distance north of the Maeser Building. He built his home on a choice spot on the brow of the hill overlooking the fertile valley to the west. The snow-capped peaks of Mt. Timpanogos were included in his view to the north. The hillside west of the house was terraced for irrigation of trees, grapes, small fruits, asparagus and the like.

Henry Petersen remained with the University for only one year. After he left, his property was sold to William H. Chamberlin who came to the University in 1911 and remained until 1916. Dr. Martin P. Henderson, a biologist, came to the University in 1915 (BYU Catalog, 1911-12). He realized the value and scenic beauty of the property on Temple Hill and purchased the home from Mr. Chamberlin.

After the death of Dr. Martin P. Henderson, November 1923, then Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, the property was sold to the University. It was decided by the Executive Committee November 5, 1927, that the dwelling on Temple Hill was an ideal location for the President of the University to live; and at the same time, his presence would provide protection and supervision for school property (History of Brigham Young University, BYU Archives, p. 119). This same reason was given to faculty members who were asked to live in University homes spotted around the campus, such as the Miller and the Reimschussel House (Karl A. Miller, Buildings and Grounds).

A complete renovation of this home was made in 1928 with Joseph E. Nelson as architect and William H. Snell with some outstanding students doing the construction work. A sleeping porch, two bathrooms, a front sun porch, a library, a fireplace in the front room, and a double garage were constructed. After this work was done, it in no way resembled the old house. President Harris and family moved from President Brimhall’s residence in Provo to this new home on Temple Hill after all the remodeling work was completed.

A pergola, designed by LaVal Morris, was also built by William H. Snell in 1936. The landscaping and gardens designed by LaVal Morris were installed and cared for by Earnest Reimschussel, a student at the time and later a faculty member.

The President’s family grew up and departed one by one, but the house remained the Harris home for 17 years, 1928 to June 30, 1945. President and Sister Howard S. McDonald and daughter arrived from Salt Lake City and moved in
to the home July 1, 1945. Dr. and Sister Christen Jensen moved into this home in 1949.

When President Wilkinson arrived in February of 1951, the house changed again, adding another bathroom to accommodate the President’s father who stayed with them (Karl A. Miller, Buildings and Grounds). The entire kitchen was enlarged and remodeled in 1960, new automatic equipment was installed and the kitchen assumed a “modern” look, which greatly improved the efficiency of this facility (Tracing #346, May 1960, Physical Plant Planning Office, BYU).

Renovations were again made with the appointment of President Dallin H. Oaks in 1971. The old ear marks remained, and yet it assumed a new look for a new President and his young family. President Jeffrey R. Holland and his family were the last to use the home as a residence. In 1990, the home was converted to accommodate the University’s Visitor’s Center and Hosting functions.
President’s Residence after several remodelings - 1970 photo

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Mechanic Arts Building - 1918 - Brimhall Building - 1935

The Brimhall Building had its beginning in 1918 as a one-story brick structure of 12,574 gross square feet (White and Blue, Vol. 22, pp. 21, 29-30), costing $43,000 (Construction Records, Physical Plant Department, BYU). It was called the Mechanic Arts Building at first and was built to provide facilities for vocational training; auto mechanics, blacksmithing, and woodwork.

Very little remodeling was done to this building until 1935 when it was completely altered (Construction Records, Physical Plant Department, BYU). Two additional floors were added, bringing the total floor area to 41,673 square feet (Inventory of Buildings, Space Utilization Office).

President Franklin S. Harris desired to change the name of the building from Mechanic Arts to George H. Brimhall Building in honor of one of the past presidents of the University. The new building with three floors was dedicated by President Heber J. Grant on October 16, 1935 (Construction History, Physical Plant Planning Office, The Y News, October 18, 1935). Since 1935, there have been many different departments and activities located in this structure. Some of the departments and activities housed in this building are as follows: auto mechanics, blacksmithing, woodwork, drafting, bacteriology, agronomy, zoology, botany, landscape design, and horticulture. Offices for various divisions and colleges, such as the Extension Division and the Indian Program have also been housed in this building.

The building was completely renovated in 1987 for the Visual Arts (Design) Department and then again in 2004 to accommodate the Communications Department and the University’s NewsNet operation.
Brimhall Building - 1935 (Formerly Mechanic Arts Building)
Stadium House - 1936

An announcement was made in a faculty meeting and in a studentbody assembly on Monday, February 5, 1936, that plans were underway for the construction of a Stadium House (Construction History, Physical Plant Planning Office, The Y News, October 18, 1935). Architect Joseph Nelson was chosen to prepare these plans with assistance from G. Ott Romney, Charles J. Hart, Wilma Jeppson, Sidney B. Sperry, O. Meredith Wilson and Edwin R. Kimball of the University faculty. Contributions came in immediately from faculty, social units, the community and the class of 1929 as a class project. T. Earl Pardoe donated proceeds from all school dramatic performances. A pledge of ten hours work was solicited from each student with a promise that their names would be published in the Y News (The Y news, March 27, 1936).

It was decided to locate this new building parallel to the running track on the west side of the football field or where the Richards Building now stands.

The Stadium House was a rectangular building, with one floor above ground and a partial basement on the south end. This building of 8,147 square feet contained athletic equipment storage rooms and women’s and men’s dressing, locker, and shower rooms (Construction Records, Physical Plant Department, BYU).

During the excavation for the basement, a human skeleton was discovered. It definitely had the marks of foul play. The skeleton was upside down with a large rock used in a campfire next to the skull. The bones were carefully collected and all were left in place and covered by the concrete floor (Karl A. Miller, Physical Plant Department, BYU). This building was used heavily for many years until it was supplemented by the facilities constructed in the George Albert Smith Fieldhouse, 1951. It continued to serve in a somewhat limited way as the studentbody grew until it was razed in 1964 to make way for the Richards Physical Education Building (Construction Records, Physical Plant Department, BYU).
Stadium House during construction in 1935
Old Stadium in background

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Allen Hall - 1938

Adequate housing and eating facilities have been a matter of concern since the beginning of Brigham Young University. It was in 1937 that President Harris presented plans to erect Allen Hall, where men could live and participate in the cost of both housing and eating (*History of Brigham Young University*, J.M. Jensen, pp. 124-125. BYU Archives).

Allen Hall was built on the corner of First East and Seventh North. The funds were derived from the Knight Endowment Fund and the building was named Allen Hall in honor of R.E. Allen and Inez Knight Allen, son-in-law and daughter of Jesse Knight.

Numerous plots of ground had been acquired in the neighborhood of the school for the growth of the University. A site was easily chosen from one of these plots for the construction of Allen Hall (*History of Brigham Young University*, J.M. Jensen, pp. 124-125. BYU Archives). Plans for this 75-student building were prepared by architect Joseph Nelson. The cost of the building was $75,000, in addition to labor supplied by students (*History of Brigham Young University*, J.M. Jensen, pp. 124-125. BYU Archives). A landscape plan was developed by LaVal S. Morris of the University faculty, and the sprinkling system was designed and installed by Karl A. Miller (*Banyan*, 1938, pp. 152, 153, and 166. BYU Archives).

Dr. and Mrs. H.V. Hoyt of the BYU faculty were asked to supervise the dormitory. They lived in the dorm in an apartment made especially for the supervisor (Karl A. Miller, Buildings and Grounds).

During World War II, due to a shortage of housing for women, Allen Hall was changed over into a women’s dorm. It was later changed back, and all the kitchen facilities were removed. Residents of this hall ate their meals in Amanda Knight Hall after this change (Karl A. Miller, Buildings and Grounds).

Missionaries of the Language Training Mission were moved into Allen Hall in June of 1962. They were moved out in June of 1963 and back in again in September of 1964 (Language Training Mission Office Records). The missionaries were moved out permanently in 1976 when the new Missionary Training Center was completed. Allen Hall then became a dormitory until 1980 when it became the home of the Museum of Peoples and Cultures (Office of Space Management).
The museum houses collections from many parts of the world, including Native American cultures in the United States, Central America, and South America. The museum functions as the seat of museum practice courses taught through the Department of Anthropology. The curriculum generates a program of modest, temporary exhibitions co-created by the students of these classes. The museum also administers the Office of Public Archaeology, a firm that incorporates significant student assistance in servicing contract archaeology needs of the Intermountain West.
Amanda Knight Hall - 1939

Allen Hall, which was built in 1938, proved so successful that immediate steps were taken to construct another unit similar to it for women. Funds for financing the building were acquired from the Knight Endowment Fund, the same as for Allen Hall. Naming of the building also followed the same pattern as Allen Hall with the name of Amanda Knight, wife of Jesse Knight. Amanda Knight Hall was located on the corner of Eighth North on University Avenue. Effie Warnick, professor of Home Economics, was appointed as the first matron (History of Brigham Young University, J.M. Jensen, p. 126. BYU Archives). This dorm was also built as a cooperative unit where the girls assisted in the house work and in the kitchen. Knight Hall was larger than Allen Hall with a capability of 90 students (Banyan, 1943, pictures on p. 63). A two inch pressure gas line was installed from the lower campus to both Allen Hall and Knight Hall to provide fuel for heating through the BYU meter. High voltage power was extended down from the Upper Campus to provide a BYU metered source of electric power (Karl A. Miller, Buildings and Grounds). The landscape was designed by LaVal S. Morris, and the sprinkling was designed and installed by Karl A. Miller (Karl A. Miller, Buildings and Grounds). The Amanda Knight Hall was changed from student housing to Language Training Missionary housing in September 1964 (Language Training Mission Office Records), then back to students in 1976 when the MTC was completed. In 1980 the English Language Center was established in the building (Office of Space Management).
Joseph Smith Building - 1941

The Joseph Smith Building is unique in the history of the Brigham Young University. It was preceded by a complete reorganization of the Board of Trustees, it marked a change in campus environment toward a more religious atmosphere, and it brought a new and different architect to the campus.

This new architect was Fred L. Markham. He tells of these historical incidents as they relate to the Joseph Smith Building in the following statement.

During the time that I was associated with Claude S. Ashworth in the practice of architecture in Provo from 1930 to 1939, we had several times attempted to obtain a commission from the Brigham Young University. Each time we were advised that at some future date we might be considered but for the present the administration was satisfied with the work of Joseph Nelson, who in the period from 1920 to 1938 had designed the following buildings: Grant Library, Allen Hall (Boys’ Dormitory), Knight Hall (Girls’ Dormitory), addition to Brimhall Building, and the remodeling of the President’s Home.

At different times I discussed the situation with President T.N. Taylor and J. William Knight (who with Stephen L. Chipman constituted the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of BYU). At each instance the response was the same as noted above. It appeared evident that for some time to come there would be no change in the attitude of those in responsibility, barring of course the eventuality of a change in administrative personnel of the institution. We reconciled ourselves to the condition and looked for work elsewhere.

A few months before I left my association with Mr. Ashworth in January of 1939, George K. Lewis called at the office to see if I would be interested in developing a design for a “Hogan” on the slope of the University Hill as a memorial to Harrison R. Merrill. By January, when I had opened my own office at 35 North University Avenue, we had developed a scheme that appeared to have some merit. It was decided to present the matter to President Franklin S. Harris for his consideration and, we hoped, his approval. Of the many aspects of the project, not the least was the determination of a location on the campus. We were thinking of a site on the south slope of the hill at the end of Fifth East Street, and prepared a sketch of the structure in that location.

President Harris received us very kindly and was especially sympathetic with the idea. In the course of our discussion, the matter of location arose. The President told us that we needed to know of the plans for the future growth of the school, in order to more intelligently locate the contemplated building. He then took from his
desk the sketch for a new auditorium, prepared by Joseph Nelson, and stated that he was requesting approval of the Board of Trustees to proceed immediately with its construction. It was tentatively located immediately east of the Brimhall Building.

The memorial to Brother Merrill was never realized, but through it I became advised of the anticipated auditorium.

During the fall of 1938 a very important change came in the top level organization of the Brigham Young University. It was noted in the newspapers, but it caused no unusual attention. The membership of the Board of Trustees which, since the founding of the institution, had been drawn in part from the General Authorities and those closely associated with them, was in a large measure composed of Church leaders of Utah County. The Executive Committee, which assumed the major role in the operation of the school, was, as noted above, drawn from the local Stake presidencies. At the 1938 fall meeting of the Board, the membership was released in a body, with the appreciation and thanks of the Church leadership. A new Board was announced consisting of the Council of Twelve, together with Dr. Franklin West, Commissioner of Education for the Church, and the First Presidency. Selected members of Council were then installed as the Executive Committee, with Joseph Fielding Smith as Chairman. This was to lead to major changes in the development of the University.

The remodeling of the Provo Public Library had been largely my responsibility, though carried as a project of Ashworth and Markham. As I left Mr. Ashworth to practice individually, it was determined that I should continue the library to completion from my own office, while Mr. Ashworth would take the balance of the work which we had been working on jointly. In February, Maud and I drove to California to see recent work there. Upon my return, Verl Dixon, who took care of the office in my absence, advised me that E.D. Firmage had brought a store building in while I was away. The completion of the library and the Firmage Shop occupied our office time through the early spring.

On April 14, a telephone call came from Brother Arthur Price, the Church Architect. It was Wednesday morning, about 8:30. He asked me if I could come into Salt Lake to discuss a new project. I had made an appointment to discuss the millwork of the new library with the subcontractor. He was coming from Salt Lake especially for this purpose. I so advised Brother Price. He asked if it could be postponed, as the new project was particularly important. I told him that I would be there near eleven o’clock, and immediately called the mill for a postponement.

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Brother Price’s office occupied part of the first floor of the old Presiding Bishopric’s Office Building at 40 North Main Street. He met me there and asked me to wait while he called someone who would outline the intended work. After a short delay, Brother Franklin L. West came in and I was introduced.

He commented, “You are familiar with the general layout of the campus at the BYU aren’t you?” to which I responded that I was. “You’ve been told what we want you for haven’t you?” I told him no, that this was the first word that I had heard concerning the matter.

He then told me that President Harris had presented to the Board his proposal to construct an auditorium at BYU. The Board had voted not to proceed with this structure. “They do not want that building. They do not want that architect. They have authorized me to ask you to proceed with a wholly different type of building.”

(It was later that he told me that President Heber J. Grant had said that the next building to be placed upon the campus must be a chapel, and that the religious character of the school must be established before any more structures would be placed there).

I told Brother West that I was acquainted with the fact that sketches had already been prepared for the auditorium by Brother Nelson, and that I disliked replacing him unless he were advised in advance. Brother West then assured me that Brother Nelson would be so advised, and further that he would be paid for any work he had done at President Harris’ instance.

“If you do not care to assume the responsibility of doing the work, we will assign it to someone else.” I advised him that I would accept the assignment. He then told me that Brother Wyley Sessions, who had directed the design and construction of LDS Institutes at the Universities of Idaho, Wyoming, and Arizona, was preparing a program for the new structure, and would furnish me with a copy in the early afternoon. I was to have a sketch showing possible development of a religious center for the BYU Campus ready for the Board the following Friday. In general function it was to parallel those structures being placed on the campus of non-LDS institutions. Thus I assumed the task of designing the building which became the Joseph Smith Building.

The following day I worked on a number of schemes for the building. By five o’clock a plan which
formed the basis of the future structure had emerged and arrangements were made to have this one with two alternate possibilities printed for presentation to the Board of Trustees the following morning.

Approval of the Board was obtained the next day, and I was instructed to continue the development of the sketches (Interview with Fred L. Markham by M. Ephraim Hatch, November 1, 1973, Provo, Utah).

The completed plans for this building included an auditorium-chapel that would seat most of the Studentbody (University Archives, Folder #208), classrooms, faculty offices, a small library, a ballroom, a banquet hall, a cafeteria, and many things that added to the social life of the students.

It was decided to make this building a Church welfare project. It was one of the largest ever attempted by the Church up to that time. The work was correlated by Harold B. Lee, Director of Church Welfare. Twelve stakes were involved, with all wards supplying donated labor. When the ward supply of labor was insufficient, additional labor was obtained from BYU students. Howard McKean was the general superintendent and Burt Russell, foreman.

This building of 67,703 gross square feet (Inventory of Buildings, Space Utilization Office) was located on the upper campus where the athletic field once was. Construction began in July of 1939 and it was completed and dedicated October 16, 1941, by David O. McKay, a member of the First Presidency. At this occasion President Franklin S. Harris explained:

The founding of the University did not begin with Karl G. Maeser nor with Brigham Young, but with the founder of the Church, Joseph Smith. Without his revelation, there would be no Brigham Young University; and it was most fitting that a building be named in his honor (Founder’s Day Report by President Harris, October 16, 1941, BYU Archives).

There have been a number of remodelings to this building since 1941. The most extensive remodeling was done in 1964 after the food services moved to the newly constructed Ernest L. Wilkinson Center. This project included construction of offices and classrooms in the ballroom and basement area and the installation of air conditioning throughout the building.

This building has been used primarily for religion faculty offices and for religion classes down through the years until 1991 when it was razed and replaced with a new Joseph Smith Building.
Ground Breaking for Joseph Smith Building - 1939
This is the first building constructed on BYU campus that the bulldozer was used for excavation rather than horses and scraper.

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Joseph Smith Building - 1941

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Auditorium-Chapel in Joseph Smith Building

The pipe organ was moved from the Tabernacle in Salt Lake City to this building, and a new one was installed in the Tabernacle.

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From 1904 when the first purchase of land was made on the Upper Campus, additional plots were acquired for future expansion of the University. Much of this land was farmed, and the produce was used to help feed students living in University housing. A potato cellar was constructed at the northwest edge of Raymond Park measuring 30 feet by 60 feet. The excavation was made by Clem Bonnett using a tongue and slip scraper with the University team. The roof structure of poles supported a layer of soil which provided adequate insulation and an ideal place for the storage of vegetables. This cellar was used until about 1952 when the land it was located on was needed for the construction of academic buildings (Karl A. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds).
University Owned Houses - 1942

From time to time there has been a shortage of student housing in the Provo area. During World War II this condition developed, prompting the administration to remodel houses to meet this need. These University owned homes were furnished for students to use as cooperative housekeeping ventures, with each resident sharing in the financial expenses and the work. The Warnick House, located at 694 North 100 East, is an example of this early cooperative housing.
Utilities - 1921-1945

Utilities involved during the 24-year period from 1921 to 1945 included: water, sewer, electricity, and telephone. Each of these utilities was expanded to meet the needs of a growing Studentbody and campus.

Water

Culinary water was piped up the hill and connected to the Maeser Building, the Mechanic Arts Building, and the Grandstand before 1921. After 1921 a line was installed to Raymond Park, and later it was extended east to the horse barn which stood about where the Engineering Building was constructed in 1973.

A four-inch water line was installed up the hill from Eighth North at Fifth East and a three-inch pipe was installed over to the Joseph Smith Building in 1940. Other extensions were made to new construction as needed (Karl A. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds).

Sewer

The Provo City sewer had been extended up the hill from Eighth North to the Maeser, Mechanic Arts, and Grant Buildings prior to 1925. In 1936 a sewer line was installed from 150 East Street to the recently constructed Stadium House. This line was relocated at a later date to make way for the Smith Fieldhouse (Karl A. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds).

In 1940 a six-inch sewer line was run up the hill from Eighth North and Fifth East to the Joseph Smith Building (Y News, September 12, 1940).

Electricity

The White and Blue of August 5, 1921, describes the remodeling to be done in College Hall including dimmers for the electric lights on the stage. Down through the years the electrical wiring and lighting were improved in the various campus buildings, according to the “Y News.” Names that appear in connection with this electrical work are: William Frisby, Lynn Wakefield, Karl Miller, Rolland Perry, Ariel Davis, and Francis Boyer.
From the first telephone installed in the Z.C.M.I. Warehouse sometime before October 23, 1900 (Faculty Minutes, October 23, 1900, p. 202), the number of instruments grew until the Provo Exchange of the Mountain States Telephone Company felt that it could handle no more. In November of 1935, work was completed on the installation of a Private Branch Exchange (PBX) with a 100 telephone capacity.

This exchange was located in the Maeser Building on the third floor. Afton Higgs was employed by the Brigham Young University to operate this PBX (Interview with Afton Higgs by Ephraim Hatch, November 1973).

No major alteration was made to the telephone exchange until 1950, five years after President Harris retired.