**Beaumont Tower**

* intro –
  + Beaumont Tower has not always been here, it was erected in 1928 to commemorate College Hall, the first building on campus and the first building in America built for instruction in scientific agriculture. In fact, an artillery garage stood in this spot from 1918, after College Hall was demolished, until the late 1920s, when an alumni, upset that the garage stood at the location of their beloved College Hall, paid for the construction of a memorial structure which became known as Beaumont Tower (Kuhn 1955: 13, 266; Beaumont 1928[[1]](#footnote-1)).
    - (photo Beaumont hall)
* Archaeology –
  + College Hall was erected in 1856, a year after the school was founded as the **Agricultural College of the State of Michigan**. The building was plagued with problems from the start, but it was not until the early 1900s, when the College began to transform the building into a student union, that the extent of **poor construction became clear**. On August 12, 1918, a portion of College Hall came crashing down as the band played the national anthem at a war trainees’ retreat (Kuhn 1955:15, 263).
    - Photos of college hall
  + Beaumont Tower itself was constructed just north where the northeast corner of College Hall once stood. Some of the foundation walls for the original building still exist underneath the sidewalks here. In the fall of 2009, Campus Archaeology Program tested areas north and south of Beaumont Tower once old sidewalks were removed and discovered the foundation of College Hall. Excavations also revealed cinder pathways which showed how students and faculty would have navigated the Sacred Space during the early years of the College. The area west of Beaumont Tower was also excavated during two CAP field schools in 2011 and 2012 (Lewandowski and Brock 2010; Akey and Burnett 2020)[[2]](#footnote-2).
  + The **Moore artifact**, a piece of rubble from College Hall found during excavations along the north bank of the Red Cedar River, indicates that the college used the remains of the demolished building to shore up the sides of the river (Lewandowski and Brock 2010). It would be interesting to see where else parts of College Hall ended up across campus.
* Apparitions –
  + The campus green area by Beaumont Tower is known for specters of couples in **Victorian dress** holding hands and walking slowly by on foggy mornings. On very dark nights, there have been multiple sightings of a man in tails and a stovepipe hat wandering around the tower.
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-3825/A000629.jpg> - This photograph shows a clothing display on dress forms in Morrill Hall. The back of the image reads: "Property: MSC Historian." Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
  + One superstition is that if a couple kiss under the tower while the bells are ringing, they will be together forever. A ghostly man and a woman dressed in **1920s clothing** has been seen walking hand in hand, waiting to kiss under the tower when the bell tolls at midnight. Perhaps the haunted couple never had the opportunity and is still waiting to seal their fates.
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-1666/A006496.jpg> - A couple sits on the Engagement Bench in front of the Rock, but you can only see the silhouette of the couple while the Rock is lite up behind them. Passage to the picture reads, "A long-honored tradition at MSC is that only engaged couples sit on Engagement Bench. Located north of Beaumont Tower, this gift of the class of 1873, is the setting for many youthful dreams of the future. Most engaged couples, slipping away from the crowds of fellow students, find Engagement Bench a pleasant place to plan their lives". Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
  + Within the tower are special [**carillon bells**](https://tour.msu.edu/locations/beaumont) that are played by experienced musicians throughout the day. However, there have been accounts of the bells playing music at night when we know the tower is unoccupied.

**Sleepy Hollow**

* Intro –
  + This area of campus is actually part of Beal Gardens, which were first started in the early 1870’s when **Professor William J. Beal** began working at the university. This area was meant to be a space for experimentation and collection of plants and was referred to by 1877 as the Botanic Garden. One feature of the garden that is no longer present is a brook that ran across the campus and through the Beal Gardens. A substantial bridge covered the brook. In 1884, when Abbot Hall was constructed (now the location of the Music Practice Building), it was determined that this bridge wasn’t sturdy enough (Kuhn 1955: 14, 114). The soil removed for the basement of Abbot Hall was used to fill in the ravine where the bridge was, and the brook was directed through cement drains.
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-2713/A000242.jpg> - Dr. Beal pictured standing in his Botanical Gardens. The back reads, "Dr. Beal in the Botanical gardens, which he planned and began in 1877." Photo dated 1900-1909. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
  + The area known as Sleepy Hollow used to be the site of the brook and part of the gardens. In the winter when it snows, you can see the river that is now underground because the warmth of the water causes the snow immediately above it to melt. Our campus has not always looked as it does now, historical and archaeological investigation have taught us a great deal about the **past landscape of MSU**.
    - Photo of Beal Gardens (maybe with stream?) - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-2884/A000021.jpg> - Professor W.S. Holdsworth of the Department of Drawing standing at the footbridge among the Willows. Written on the back: "Man standing on foot bridge which spanned a gully extending from Abbot Road to Beal Gardens." The bridge was located between College Hall and Abbot Hall. It was likely taken in 1896 or 1897. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
* Archaeology –
  + Archaeological work has revealed a number of important sites on campus. One of which is a Late Archaic period temporary camp site that was likely briefly occupied multiple times during that period. CAP archaeologists identified and excavated a 5000-3500-year-old fire pit. The site was dated using identified lithic, or stone, tools found at the base of the feature and around the site in a process known as indirect dating (Kooiman 2016).
  + This is also an area where we have found refuse from the earliest campus occupation in the 19th century. A number of odd artifacts have been found including the heels of someone’s shoe and a cluster of human hair that appears to have been thrown out – maybe someone’s haircut?
    - Photo of the shoes - <https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/late_19th_century_men_s_shoes.gif?w=1200> – GIF of a pair of men’s dress shoes found at Station Terrace, which was built post-Morrill Act in the 1880s or 90s and once served as housing for the increasing number of visiting researchers and bachelor faculty. The full model can be viewed on CAP’s Sketchfab account. This model was created by Jack A. Biggs using Agisoft PhotoScan.
  + In the early years of Michigan State, the college made its own bricks, and clay for the **bricks to construct the first campus buildings** was gathered from Sleepy Hollow, likely leaving the depression we now see there. Yet, what is identified as Sleepy Hollow today may not have the actual spot the clay was sourced or the only spot. A campus history written by Kuhn (1955:14, 210) locates Sleepy Hollow at the opposite end of Adams Field from where our Sleepy Hollow is. These are interesting mysteries that archaeological investigations may same day clear up. Finding evidence of the original brickyard may shed light onto where the clay was sourced as it was likely located very close to the clays used to produce the bricks (Minutes 1855:5; 1857:18-19)
* Apparitions –
  + While there are no documented ghosts or apparitions in this area, people often comment on a haunted feeling and spooky atmosphere. Due to it being a low spot in the landscape, **it often retains fog more than other areas on campus**, and this section of campus is less occupied than others. While this could be natural, there is some speculation that this area has been left open on purpose due to its spooky nature and potential for supernatural encounters.
    - Photo of fog? <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-4452/A001606.jpg> - This photograph shows Morrill Hall behind mist and trees. The text on the back reads: "Women's Building." Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
  + Experienced paranormal investigators believe that fog helps reveal the presence of apparitions or is the a phenomena called ghostly mist, which is an formless specter haunting an area (McKay 2000; Historic Tours of America 2020[[3]](#footnote-3)).

**Saints’ Rest**

* Intro
  + Saints’ Rest was the first dormitory on campus. Constructed in 1857, it allowed students to live close to both their classes and fellow classmates. The building was constructed to house 56 students, but with increasing enrollment over the years, eventually over 80 young men were crammed into its rooms. The **lack of funds** meant that structural upkeep lagged behind, leaving the building in poor condition as the years went on (Kuhn 1955:53). In the winter of 1876, while students were on break, **the building burned down** Kuhn 1955:83-87). The foundation was filled in with the debris, and its location marked only by a small stone plaque.
    - Spooky picture of saints rest - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-3901/A000895.jpg> - This photograph shows students clearing the land around Saints' Rest. The text on the back of the photograph reads: "Built 1857. Burned 1876." Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
* Archaeology
  + In summer 2005, the Saints Rest dormitory underwent extensive excavation as part of a field school conducted by the MSU Department of Anthropology. The extensive excavations uncovered several building walls and myriad artifacts, including hardware such as stoves, hinges and doorknobs. During the excavation, archaeologists determined that the fire likely started in the basement, where construction tools were found burned in place, suggesting that an **unattended lamp** or heater may have been to blame for the blaze. Perhaps most importantly, this project prompted the establishment of the Campus Archaeology Program (Brock 2010[[4]](#footnote-4)).
    - Photo From Original SR dig
  + In 2015, a **privy** associated with the Saints’ Rest dormitory was discovered and excavated by CAP. Not only was this the bathroom for the students, but also served as a dumping ground for illicit items--**such as smoking pipes and alcohol bottles**--that students wished to hide forever. But also discovered in the historic privy was the head of a porcelain doll, who came to be known as **Mabel**. Why someone living in Saints’ Rest, an all-male dormitory, was seeking to get rid of a doll remains a mystery.[[5]](#footnote-5)
    - <https://i0.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Photo-Jun-02-4-47-39-PM-e1433721829544.jpg> - Bottom of Level 1, West Circle Privy
    - Mabel head - <https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/1860s_porcelain_doll_head.gif?w=1200> – GIF of a porcelain doll head recovered from the West Circle privy, associated with Saints’ Rest. The full model can be viewed on CAP’s Sketchfab account. This model was created by Jack A. Biggs using Agisoft PhotoScan.
  + This doll head, recovered from a privy, is one of only a few artifacts associated with children we’ve found. Children are harder to see in the archaeological record, but that doesn’t mean they weren’t here. The early college was quite rural and isolated from neighboring towns. Many faculty lived here on campus with their spouses and children.
* Apparitions
  + There have been numerous sightings of male students wearing **19th century clothing** wandering around this space, looking for the actual building, their dorm room and missing belongings. Another figure wearing overalls and work boots has been spotted, suggesting that perhaps the spirit of a **steward or student worker** lingers nearby, attempting to put out the lamp that started the disastrous blaze and rectify his costly mistake. Or, just maybe, there was a fatality in the fire afterall…
  + When the MSU [[Paranormal Society]] investigated this area, the flashlight set on the ground near the Saints’ Rest sign flicked when asked if there were any spirits that wanted to communicate…
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-3256/A001907.jpg> - As an early part of the college curriculum and to help pay for their board, students participated in manual labor. In this photograph a man, most likely a student feeds coal into the boilers at the "Old Engine House" in 1890. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-3253/A001902.jpg> - Despite the strenuous job of coal feeding, students still managed to find time for fun. The back of this photograph reads "Danger Men Working" and shows the firemen in the Old Power House. Pictured Left to right:Thad, unknown, Libbey, Class of 1899. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
  + Furthermore, ever since **Mabel the Doll** was brought back to the Campus Archaeology Lab, odd things have been happening. Objects have been found out of their place, and some people have described feeling uncomfortable in her presence. Her former owner may have thrown her into the privy for a very good reason.
    - <https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/IMG_1674.jpg?resize=266%2C300> - Mabel Post-Reconstruction
      * Alt- Photograph of Mabel, a porcelain doll head, carefully reconstructed. The doll is decorated with painted black hair, blue eyes, and rouge on her cheeks
    - <https://i1.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Screen-Shot-2015-11-03-at-9.18.45-AM.png> - glow in the dark mabel

**Morrill Hall**

* Intro
  + Although female students were first admitted to MSU, then called the State Agricultural College, in 1870 it wasn’t until 1896 when an official “women’s course” was added into the curriculum. This caused the number of women attending the school to greatly increase, and it was clear that a building was needed for female housing (Kuhn 1955:167). Morrill Hall, constructed in 1899, was originally called the Women’s Building and served as a dormitory and instructional facility for female students at MSU (Kuhn 1955:221).
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-2650/A001032.jpg> - Post Card depicting Morrill Hall, ca. 1912. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
    - <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-4120/A001267.jpg> - This photograph shows a group of female students posing outside of Morrill Hall. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
* Archaeology
  + Morrill hall was designed to sleep 120 women and a handful of faculty, including the dean, the head of the Home Economic department, her assistants and the physical education instructor. Other rooms included a **Domestic Science Lab**, dining rooms, a large recitation room, parlors, music rooms, bathrooms and even a two-story gym. The building wasn’t symmetrical; the original plan was to make both sides exactly the same, but **because of a lack of resources**, the north wing was never built (Kuhn 1955:221-223). Morrill Hall was constructed of mostly red sandstone, and the dorm stood in front of an artificial pond (Kuhn 1955:252; Castanier 2013[[6]](#footnote-6)).
    - Demolition photo - <https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/2013-06-13-14.15.26.jpg?resize=1024%2C764> - Final days of Morrill Hall, via Katy Meyers
  + In the **late 1930s**, the women moved out of the Women’s Building and into the new women’s dormitory (**Williams Hall**), and the name of the Women’s Building was changed to Morrill Hall. Since then, the building has been used for a number of different department offices and classrooms, most recently that of the English, History, and Religious Studies. In 2010, the Board of Trustees decided that the internal wooden structure of Morrill Hall had incurred irreparable deterioration and was at the end of its useful life. The building was demolished in 2013, and in 2014 **Morrill Plaza**was built to commemorate the building.
  + Archaeological survey was done of this area prior to reconstruction, but no artifacts were recovered. Unlike Saints Rest or College Hall, which retain some of their features underground, **Morrill Hall was completely demolished** and the basements were removed. All that is left is some of the original stone used for benches, and the original layout of the building has been marked with the concrete sidewalks below us.
    - [https://live.staticflickr.com/8094/8580492274\_b255196533\_3k.jpg[/img][/url][url=https://flic.kr/p/e5egpY]Morrill%20Boiler%20Building[/url]%20by%20[url=https://www.flickr.com/photos/capmsu/]](https://live.staticflickr.com/8094/8580492274_b255196533_3k.jpg%5b/img%5d%5b/url%5d%5burl=https:/flic.kr/p/e5egpY%5dMorrill%20Boiler%20Building%5b/url%5d%20by%20%5burl=https:/www.flickr.com/photos/capmsu/%5d)
      * This is not a photo of that dig but of Morrill Hall Boiler - Morrill Boiler Building
* Apparitions
  + Morrill Hall has had a long history of being haunted as it changed from a women’s dorm to an educational building. While the hall was still present, there were accounts of ghostly professors wandering the hallway, looking for their classrooms. Even with the building no longer here, you can sometimes catch glimpses of professors wandering down the **layout of the memorial sidewalk**, still looking for their classrooms.
    - Memorial sidewalk, at night?
  + On numerous occasions there were also issues with bats getting into the building and creating homes for themselves. While this is not exactly a haunting, it didn’t improve the overall feeling of the building being a little spooky. Further, as demolition of the building began, **there was a mysterious fire that started in the roof**, temporarily pausing the demolition process.

**Roads, Paths, and Landscape**

* Transition from horses to cars, fountain as example, road traveled between buildings, not around them - <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3058>
* Cinder path – can view the ways people moved around campus – Kuhn 1955:114 - “Their path to College Hall was gravelled [sic] with material from the site of Pinetum, and the plank bridge at "The Willows" was replaced by a rustic one of peeled oak logs like the carriage bridge farther down the ravine by the Chemistry building.”
* No lighting for many years – Kuhn p. 105- – “students relied upon the moon, or stars, or memory, but professors carried lanterns to find their way back to Faculty Row after late hours in their laboratories” -
* Change of the stream, building up the banks of the red cedar, artificial pond

**Cinder Path**

* Track
  + Kuhn 159: 1892, around drill field (west of Abbot Hall – south of Faculty Row) – grandstand proposed around it rejected because Board did not see how Athletics applied to the university as students received plenty of exercise from manual labor and military drills
  + Kuhn – 255: 1902 – athletic field constructed in new part of campus east of Harrison Ave and south of bow in Red Cedar: track, football field, grandstand, and wooden bridge
  + Stadium named in 1935 (J. F. Macklin) enlarged in 1936 to 23,000 seats (29,000 w/ temporary bleachers) – forced out stadium
    - Archives: Photo of expansion – 1936 – replaced old track in stadium with one outside of it, new track was 34 feet wide (old was 14 ft)
* Walking paths
  + Kuhn – 114: in 1887 Faculty Row transformed – road shut off from the public with a gate (“became a quiet lane rather than a public highway. Its fence, which had kept teamsters off the lawns and neighbor’s swine out of the gardens was removed. Professors no longer climbed a stile on their way to class”)
    - Path from Faculty Row to College Hall was graveled with material from the site of Pinetum and plank bridge at “The Willows” replaced with a log bridge
      * Archives - [Link](https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/162-565-2884/footbridge-across-the-willows-18961897/): footbridge at willows located between college hall and Abbot hall
    - Kuhn 154: Pinetum = gravel pit where in 1896 Beal planted white pines which in 195-s “stood 80 ft”
  + Kuhn 191-192: Bicycle fad his the school in 1890s, with the introduction of the “safety” wheel bike – bike club built gravel path to Lansing along north side of Michigan Ave in 1894

**Lake / Pond –**

* Kuhn 252: Pond behind Women’s building – students skated on it in the winters
* 1941 map – artificial lake behind auditorium, east of farm lane
* Archives - [Link](https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/162-565-3024/students-sit-near-a-pond-in-the-beal-botanical-garden-1940s/): lake at beal garden - 1940
* Archives - [Link](https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/162-565-4347/waterloo-road-1910/): lakes by waterloo road – 1910
* Kuhn – 12: lots of swamps when school started
* Lagoon -

**Poor construction**

* Bricks made on campus in the 19th century from locally sourced clays tended to be yellowish and quite soft (Kuhn 1955:263; Brock 2009).[[7]](#footnote-7) Soft-fired brick allows moisture to seep into the brick and in climates that experience both rainy falls and freezing winter, like here in Michigan, the water trapped behind the surface can expand and fracture or spall the brick (Collins-Cecil 2015)[[8]](#footnote-8). Unfortunately, there is no fixing soft brick (Wisconsin Historical Society 2020)[[9]](#footnote-9) and M.A.C.’s renovation and rehabilitation efforts during the 20th century could not save many of the earliest buildings.
  + [**https://live.staticflickr.com/3486/3468354146\_53a5d5422d\_3k.jpg**](https://live.staticflickr.com/3486/3468354146_53a5d5422d_3k.jpg) **- A collection of bricks found by CAP archaeologists. It is likely that some of these may have been made on campus during the 19th century. Note the yellowish brick in the top left, a good example of a campus made brick.**
* The construction of [[**College Hall]]**, due to [[**lack of funds]]**, was done piecemeal by various carless contactors. In fact, the opening of the College in 1857 was delayed because of a dispute over the defective construction of the buildings, some doors would not open, others would not close, flooring that were supposed to be made of hardwood used soft pine, the roofs leaked, and the foundations of College Hall sagged. While visible defects were corrected, structural ones were not and the knowledge of them faded over time (Kuhn 1955:15-18). Soft-fired brick, poor construction, and incomplete fixes are why so many of the early College buildings failed well before their time.

[**https://live.staticflickr.com/3297/3614511358\_ae61ce57a5\_k.jpg**](https://live.staticflickr.com/3297/3614511358_ae61ce57a5_k.jpg) **- A photograph from the Beal Street Excavations in 2009. The yellow brick in the center of the wall indicate that some of this rubble is from a 19th century structure, like College Hall. CAP archaeologists believe that these bricks are possibly related to Cowles House, which was formerly part of Faculty Row.**

* In the late-1910s the decision was made to renovate College Hall into a student union, but when workers opened the walls and floors they found that the building rested on plank footings, the foundation was built a long decayed tree stump, the bricks were soft, and the walls hollow. Renovations were stopped and shortly after, in August 1918 College Hall collapsed (Kuhn 1955:263).

[**https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-2064/A007241.jpg**](https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-2064/A007241.jpg) **- Workmen standing around the ruins of College Hall, after it fell down. August 1918.** . Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections

* [[Archaeological investigation of the College Hall|Beaumont Archaeology]] foundation wall reinforced theses historical observations. Rather than using cut stone, the foundation of College Hall was built of small, round river stones and mortar and was more reminiscent of a log cabin foundation than that of a three-story building. These river rocks would have been easily gathered from the Red Cedar, reducing transportation and material costs for the contractors hired to build College Hall, but proved to be inadequate for the large building (Lewandowski and Brock 2010:9-10). The large spaces between the cobbles where mortar would have been shows how structurally unsound the foundation had become by the time the structure collapsed in 1918.

<https://live.staticflickr.com/2728/4203476329_7c861fb99d_3k.jpg> - A photograph showing the foundation of College Hall during the 2009 excavations. The river cobble construction of the wall is clearly visible.

* We do not know how many other buildings were as poorly constructed as College Hall, because CAP seldom encounters 19th century foundations on campus, but considering how many early structures seemed to collapse or [[burn down|Fires]], we suspect it may have been a common practice.

**Infrastructure**

* The distribution of drinking, or potable, water is one of the most important infrastructural needs of any home or institution. From 1855 to until around the 1890s, many buildings would have their own cistern, or a water-tight tub that collects rain or well water for long-term storage and use. CAP archaeologists found and documented a historic cistern on the south side of Cook Hall in 2014. Their archaeological and historical study indicates that cisterns at the College would have been large, brick lined metal drums connected to a faucet in the basement. The first cisterns would have been open, allowing rainwater in, but also allowed refuse and other garbage into the water supply. Eventually College decide to add metal caps to the cisterns and to instead pump water in from wells in the area. The cistern infrastructure fell out of favor at MSU in the 1900s because the expense of adapting the system to fit the needs of the growing college. It cost $25,000 to alter the cistern in Station Terrace so it could provide water to the second floor (Harrison 2014)! [[10]](#footnote-10)
  + <https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/20140617_120031.jpg> - Photograph of the bottom of the Cook Hall cistern. Both the metal drum and the brick lining are visible.
* By the 1890s a water pipe network would eventually connect all of the buildings on campus to external water sources, but this network began in much earlier. In the 1870s, some of the plumbing on campus used wooden water pipes to move water from wells and other sources to various buildings (Kuhn 1955:105, 188). Excavations in 2008 at [[**Faculty Row]]** uncovered a segment of a “Wyckoff” wooden water pipe produced by Wyckoff Pipe and Creosoting Company. This pipe was likely manufactured at the Michigan Pipe Co. in Bay City, Michigan, one of the largest producers of wooden pipes in the entire country during the 19th century (Biggs 2019).[[11]](#footnote-11)
  + <https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/wp_model.png?resize=1024%2C757> - Different views of a 3D model of the Wyckoff wooden water pipe found during Faculty Row excavations. The full model can be viewed on CAP’s Sketchfab account. This model was created by Jack A. Biggs using Agisoft PhotoScan.
  + <https://i0.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/wyckoff-ad.png?resize=768%2C915> - Wyckoff Wooden Water Pipe advertisement an 1896 edition of ‘The Michigan Engineers’ Manual’. Note that the advertisement describes the Wyckoff as the “Cheapest and Best Water Pipe on The Market”. Original image (<https://archive.org/stream/michiganengineer1896michuoft#page/n391/mode/2up>)
* During the 1870s until 1900 the Land Grant funding from the Morrill Act was used to firmly establish the College, constructing new buildings quickly. Cheaper materials were favored to facilitate this growth. In addition to the lower initial costs of wooden pipes, especially compared to cast iron, the Michigan Pipe Co. claimed that the Wyckoff pipes were cheaper to maintain, resistant to freezing and frost damage, and maintained cleaner water. This claim may have been true, but the college decommissioned all of the wooden pipes on campus by the first decade of the 20th century and replaced them with iron ones. This was prompted because it was become clear that the wooden popes were no longer safe. In 1902 a medical doctor argued before the Boards of Trustees that the pipes allowed bacteria into the water during the warmer months, posing a danger unless the water was boiled first (Raslich 2016; Biggs 2019).[[12]](#footnote-12) This call was echoed in 1903 when the wooden water main collapsed during a fire at Station Terrace, hindering the efforts to put the fire out (Board of Trustees 1903:122). It seems that benefits of wooden pipes did not outweigh the health and safety costs.
* The earliest buildings on campus, like [[**Saints’ Rest]]**, did not have plumbed toilets, and instead most people living on the College grounds from the 1850s until the 1890s would use chamber pots and outdoor toilets, or privies. Chamber pots allowed people living in Saints’ Rest to use the facilities without leaving the building or even their room, a huge convenience during cold Michigan fall and spring months. Chamber pots were often stored under beds or in cabinets and then emptied into designated dumping area (Biggs 2018). [[13]](#footnote-13) A [[white granite]] chamber pot was excavated from Saints’ Rest dormitory in 2005. Although it looks like it was produced in this cool blue color, that is a result of it burning in the fire! The chamber pot originally would have been all white.
  + <https://i1.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Chamber-Pot.gif?fit=1024%2C576> – GIF of the chamber pot excavated from Saints’ Rest dormitory in 2005. The full model can be viewed on CAP’s Sketchfab account. This model was created by Jack A. Biggs using Agisoft PhotoScan
  + <https://i0.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/chamberpot.jpg> - Saints’ Rest chamber pot lid. A: exterior surface; B: interior surface
* In addition to their use as toilets, privies were often places where people would dump trash. Although many privies would have been scatter across campus in those years, only one has been found and excavated by the Campus Archaeology Program. In 2015 CAP survey crews excavated a privy at the site of Saints’ Rest, inside they found the **Mable** doll head and a doll figurine, as well as inkwells and other **instructional artifacts**, combs, bottles, and animal and plant remains.
  + Privies mentioned in BOT notes in digital archives:
    - 1868 – privies west of Boarding Hall (Saints’ Rest) and some near Hirt. Barn
    - 1880 – west of greenhouse
    - 1881 – Botanical Lab
    - 1882 – Privy built on south bank of Wells Hall
    - 1883 – remodeled privy west of Hort Barn
    - 1885 – privy moved to/from carpenter shop for farm hands to use
    - 1886 – privy near “old Garden Barn site” removed (prob talking of Hort. Barn?)
    - 1888 – privy built for Howard terrace
    - 1891 – Privy built for Abbot Hall for women’s use
    - 1893 – two privies built at Wells Hall

**Brick making**

* The bricks used to construct the first buildings on campus were manufactured right here at MSU. Historical records indicate that the clay for these bricks was gathered from [[Sleepy Hollow]] and may the reason why that area sits so low today. It is not entirely clear where the bricks were formed and fired or dried, but that work may have been done in the Adams Field area, near to Cowles House (Kuhn 1955:203).
* Board of Trustees records from 1855 and 1856[[14]](#footnote-14), accessible through the MSU archives website, show that to reduce costs the building committee prioritized identifying and using clay found near on campus grounds and constructed a brickyard to produce them (Minutes 1855:5; 1856:7). In 1857[[15]](#footnote-15) the university contracted a "Mr. A. Wood" to produce 500,000 bricks for the College. As part of the agreement the school allowed Mr. Wood free use of the brickyard and clays found on campus (Minutes 1857:18-19).
* The College stopped making their own bricks by the turn of the 20th century and the presence of college-made bricks at an archaeological site on campus helps CAP archaeologists date the deposit (Kuhn 1955:182). Finding bricks like these would tell archaeologists that they were looking at remains from one of the older buildings on campus. This can be very useful because, while we find bricks almost every where on campus, this helps us identify which may be of historical importance and which may be from last week. When older buildings on campus are destroyed or demolished the rubble has to be removed or buried, often both!
  + <img src="https://live.staticflickr.com/3332/3613528129\_4b29af70a6\_h.jpg" alt= "Profile view of the Brick layer at Beal Street excavation, 2009." style="width:75%;"><div class="center">Profile view of the Brick layer at Beal Street excavation, 2009</div> </div>
* In the 19th and early 20th century the College often dumped these remains in occupied parts of campus or used them in land alteration projects. CAP archaeologists discovered that the remains of [[College Hall->Beaumont Archaeology]] were used to shore up the sides of the Red Cedar River in the 1920s.

**Artifacts of education**

* One of the most unique things about being archaeologists at an institution like MSU is that we find many artifacts related instructional activities and learning. These are rare finds for sites dating to the 1800s, even at known schoolhouses, because schools and students often had few material items to lose. (Helton 2010:119-121)
* Unlike one-room schoolhouses, students attending MSU did not lack for specialized education materials and CAP have found a number of these over the years. The instructional artifacts we most commonly are glass laboratory equipment used to teach courses in scientific agriculture and veterinary medicine. CAP archaeologists have recovered microscope slides, a syringe stopper, and plenty of lab glass, or the remains of beakers, pipettes, and test tubes used to train students in biology, botany, and chemistry.
  + <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3866>
  + <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3936>
  + <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3936>
* <img src="https://i0.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/FullSizeRender-11.jpg?resize=300%2C228"> alt= Colorless Schott & Gen Lab Glass Fragment, likely an 800-milliliter flask.
* Colorless Schott & Gen Lab Glass Fragment, likely an 880 milliliter flask
* CAP archaeologists have also found cultural material related to writing: ink wells, a slate pencil, and lantern bases that would have been part of the everyday students, faculty, and staff. While inkwells could be ornate and were produced in a verity of materials, studies of individual inkwells from campus have shown that they tend to be plain, utilitarian objects that reflect their use as objects of learning, rather than display (.
* <img src="https://i2.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/inkwell1-e1374496929439.jpg?resize=1024%2C856"> alt= Colorless glass inkwell found on MSU’s campus, broken into base and finish, embossed with the words “Higgins Brooklyn NY” on base.
* Colorless glass bottle found on MSU’s campus, broken into base and finish, embossed with the words “Higgins Brooklyn NY” on base.
* <img src="https://i1.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/IMG\_1651.jpg?resize=300%2C197"> alt= Ink bottle/well found in the Saints’ Rest privy. Left: Cox’s Carmine Ink, Right: Cobalt Conical Inkwell
* Ink bottle/well found in the privy. Left: Cox’s Carmine Ink, which possibly held red ink, Right: Cobalt Conical Inkwell
  + <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=4127>
  + <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=2221>
* **Lanterns were important aspects of daily life for students and faculty living on campus because up until 1890s only the chemistry laboratory, workshops, and the library had electric lights. Students who waited to the last minute to write their essays would have had to write by lamp or candlelight (Kuhn 1955:190-191)!** 
  + **CAP found over 773 fragments of hurricane style glass lampshades for kerosene lamps found in the West Circle Privy, associated with saints Rest – these lamps were so common and the dangers of them were so well known that College guidelines stated that any student “filling a lamp with kerosene when it is burning, or in the evening or night” could be expelled.**
* Oil lamps also have a place in the history of MSU because archaeological investigations of the first dorm on campus, [[Saints’ Rest]], indicate that a lantern may have started the fire which led to its destruction in 1876 (Kuhn 190 / 191)
  + <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=4446>
* <img src="https://i1.wp.com/campusarch.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/historic\_lantern\_base1.gif?zoom=2&resize=442%2C256"> alt= GIF of a historic duplex lantern base found during the 2018 summer field season. The full model can be viewed on CAP’s Sketchfab account. This model was created by Jack A. Biggs using Agisoft PhotoScan.
* GIF of a historic duplex lantern base found during the 2018 summer field season. The full model can be viewed on CAP’s Sketchfab account. This model was created by Jack A. Biggs using Agisoft PhotoScan.
* Sciences

**Cowles House**

* [Blog 1](http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5987) - MSU’s oldest standing building – completed in 1857, one of four homes built for the earliest faculty on Faculty Row. After 1874, when it was known as Faculty Row #7, it served as the home of the Professor of Botonny.
  + During these early decades, Cowles house was not only a place of residence, but was also a hub of campus entertainment. Early on, no organized social life existed on MSU’s campus. Students instead gravitated towards faculty homes, where faculty and staff would regularly host small get-togethers
  + The Abbots were known to invite students and guest into their home – students would come weekly to discuss lit and to read
  + They also entertained on weekends – open to students on Saturday night
  + By early 1900s Cowles House repurposed to serve a more administrative function, a 1927 map lists it as “Secretary’s House”
  + In 1941 under Hannah Cowles House once again became the home of the president of the university. As such, the building underwent major renovations after the end of World War II, during which much of the building was rebuilt and a new wing was added to the west end (Kuhn 1955:402). Recently, Cowles House has functioned as an entertainment and banquet space, as recent presidents have decided to live off campus
  + Cowles House has been of great interest to Campus Archaeology due to its location within the Sacred Space. As little has changed in this part of campus, this area has the potential for preserving intact archaeological deposits from the earliest days of campus. CAP has conducted numerous surveys around the building, including in 2009, 2011, 2012, and 2014 (CAP Reports 7, 11, and 15), but we are yet to find any clear features or concentrations of materials. Instead, only a diffuse scatter of artifacts has been found around the building. Brick fragments, window glass, nails, and other construction debris are the most common objects found, while a few ceramic sherds, animal bones, bottle glass, and two golf balls have also been recovered. In general, this record is likely the result of construction and remodeling episodes, mixed in with trash from everyday life.
* [Blog 2](http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=158) - It was home to MAC’s earliest presidents, Williams and Abott, and also to the professors of Botany, such as William J. Beal and Ernst Bessey. It was also home to President Hannah, and, most recently, to President McPherson. Currently, it is used as a banquet hall. Since its construction, the building has been modified significantly; only a portion of the original building is still evident, and it is much larger than its original size.

**Illicit Activity on Campus: smoking pipes, alcohol bottles, and drugs**

* Alcohol - <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5897>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=7017>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5882>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5701>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5650>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5572>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3047>
* Drugs - <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=5661>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?s=medicine>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=4072>
* Smoking - <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=1868>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?page_id=6943>; <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3979>;
* Kuhn 1955:210 – Smoking banned in 1908 and East Lasing “Dry” since its chartering in 1907 (Kuhn 1955: 321)

**Lack of Funds**

* Lack of funds did not only impact infrastructure, in the summer of 1858 the school’s chef and his staff all resigned because the College could no longer pay them. [[Mrs. Sarah Langdon Williams-> Sarah Williams]] arguably saved the future University when she students to prepare and serve meals for the rest of the summer term (Kuhn 1955:33).
* To get around the fact that the school could not afford subscriptions to newspapers and agricultural journals college President Joseph Williams solicited gifts from publishers, government officials, and federal agencies and his offer to “bind and preserved” whatever journals and papers were sent to the school (Kuhn 1955:33-35). A humble beginning to a library that was added to by the private collections of professors accumulated during their previous occupations (Kuhn 1955:32).
  + <https://projects.kora.matrix.msu.edu/files/162-565-5435/A002338.jpg> - This photograph is of the interior of Linton Hall when it was used as the library and museum for the college from 1881 to 1927. Two men and one woman, all reading. Image courtesy of MSU Archives and Historical Collections
* Staff and faculty often went unpaid for long stretches of time in the 1850s and 1860s and the Board of Trustees ignored all problems that were not life threatening. This lack of expenditure caused future damages and the general [[poor construction->Poor Construction]] of College [[infrastructure->Infrastructure]] and lowered the moral of students and faculty. Most damaging however was the Board’s decision to change the goal of the school to keep agricultural education within the reach of all students by charging no rent or fees. Starting in 1859 students about $1.50 per month to attend the College, at a time when farm workers in the Midwest earned $13 a month on average (Kuhn 1955:54-55; US Census Bureau 1975:163[[16]](#footnote-16).
  + <https://github.com/jeffjb4488/ArchaeologyPhotos/blob/master/BOT%20Minutes_1860_p.67_contactors.png?raw=true> – Board of Trustees Minutes 1860, Oct. 4, 1860: Board agrees to end term early on November 1 to allow time to repair College Call over the winter. Also agree to use the lowest “responsible” bidder.
* Even the existence of such staple buildings as the MSU Student Union were threatened by lack of funds. Planned in 1905, the construction of the Union was delayed by World War I and in 1923, when 20 years of alumni donations had failed to raise the necessary funds those who supported the Union took a different approach. Alumni secretary Robert J. McCarthy organized “Excavation Week” where male students and professors dug the basement of the new structure. Female students and others who did not dig, supported the efforts by serving food and playing music. These actions saved money and also helped raise donations, eventually saving the Union (Kuhn 1995:265; MSU Union:History). [[17]](#footnote-17)
  + Already have photots

**Paranormal Society**

* “With a passion for discovering the unknown and the paranormal, we operate out of Michigan State University. As with many investigative groups out there, we collect evidence using special equipment to both prove and disprove paranormal occurrences. Our group is home to those who are interested in learning about, researching, and exploring the paranormal and supernatural world.”
* The MSU Paranormal Society was founded in 2010 and partnered with CAP to present the Apparitions and Archaeology Haunted Tour since it began in 2013.
* Co-Presidents: Sarah Lienard and Ben Goldman
* Lead Investigator: Carl Erznoznik
* Chairman of Membership: Brienna Shear
* Chairman of Funds: Bree Rice
* Chairman of Social Media: Emily Springer
* Webpage: <https://msuparanormal.wixsite.com/msu-paranormal?fbclid=IwAR26gEgkGE-EuRGI9lh3-bRIFH9JQq3J-sKgJ3a4tMOiYLgTzclU4wwu1ks>
* Twitter- @msuparanormal

**Mable**

* <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=4104>
* <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3826>

**Irma Thompson / Gendered space**

* <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=2676>
* <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=1668>
* <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3543>
* <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3223>

Mrytle Craig / Racialized Space

A “secretary’s house” from 1902 to 1904 time was the residence of the College’s first African American woman to arrive on campus. At that time African American students were admitted to M.A.C., but were not permitted to live in the dorms (Michael 2016). African American men would live off campus, but this was also a time when the movement of women on campus was highly constrained. In 1900 rules containing women’s behavior on campus included a requirement that to be out of the dorm at night “young women” needed written permission and a male chaperone and could not leave the campus grounds at night, even with a chaperone (Kuhn 1955:208). As a young African American woman, Myrtle Craig presented the administration with a conundrum, Craig, according to racist boarding practice, could not live in the [[Women’s Building|Morrill Hall]], but according to sexist curfew rules, neither could she live off campus. - <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=4030>

In 1941 Cowles House again became the residence for the University President, then President Hannah and his family. The house was scheduled to be remodeled in 1941, but major reconstruction was postponed until the end of World War II. When the reconstruction were completed much of the building was rebuilt and a new wing was added to the west end. Funds for hte reconstruction were provided by the Fred C. Jenison Estate and it was at this point the house was given its current name, Alice Cowles was the mother of Mr. Jenison. (Kuhn 1955:402; Painter 2018).

Additionally, just as now, no objects in the past were used only by a single gender, only by looking at how life was lived and how objects were actually used at MSU in the past could we begin to understand how artifacts can tell us about gender and the gendered landscape.

1. Letter from John Beaumont about the Beaumont Tower Cornerstone, October 20, 1928 MSU Achieves and Historical Collections, UA 2.1.8 Frank S. Kedzie Papers, A007735.jpg. <https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/162-565-2073/letter-from-john-beaumont-about-the-beaumont-tower-cornerstone-1928/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. David Lewandowski and Terry Brock, “College Hall Field Report”, Campus Archaeology Report No. 8, Manuscript, Lansing, MI; Ben Akey and Jeff Burnett, “Beaumont West Survey: Archaeological Report”, Campus Archaeology Report No. 30, Manuscript, Lansing, MI [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. McKay, Gretchen 2000 “For these ghost hunters, it's all in the ectoplasm”, *Pittsburg Post-Gazette* February 22, 2000. <https://old.post-gazette.com/magazine/20000222ghost2.asp> ; Historic Tours of America, 2020, “5 Most Common Types Of Ghosts and Spirits”, *Ghosts and Gravestones*, Historic Tours of America. <https://www.ghostsandgravestones.com/types-of-ghosts> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Terry Brock, 2010, “Saints’ Rest Field Report”, Campus Archaeology Report No. 1, Manuscript, East Lansing, MI [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Emery, Katy Meyers, 2015, “More Than Just Nightsoil: Preliminary Findings from MSU’s First Privy”, Blog, November 12, 2015, <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3852> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Bill Castanier, 10/21/2013, “Preserving the Legacy of Morrill Hall”, *MSU Alumni*, https://alumni.msu.edu/stay-informed/story.cfm?id=611 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. \*\*Brock, Terry\*\* 2009 &emsp; “More Survey, Today at Beaumont Tower”, //MSU Campus Archaeology Program//, September 15, 2009. <a href= “<http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=162>”> <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=162></a> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Collins-Cecil, Erin 2015 &emsp; “Diagnosing Issues of Brick Masonry Walls”, *Berman and Wright: Architecture, Engendering, and Planning*, March 13, 2015. <a href= “<https://bermanwright.com/diagnosing-issues-of-brick-masonry-walls/>”><https://bermanwright.com/diagnosing-issues-of-brick-masonry-walls/></a> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Wisconsin Historical Society, 2020, “Identifying Problems with Your Historic Brick Foundation” <a href= “<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS4217>”> <https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS4217></a> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Harrison, Ian 2014, “Cisterns: MSU’s History of Water”, Blog, June 19, 2014, <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3093> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Biggs, Jack, 2019 “Just a Pipe Dream: The Use of Wooden Water Pipes at MSU”, Blog, March 13, 2019, <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=7225> [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Raslich, Nicole, 2016, “Water Sanitation at MSU”, Blog, February 3, 2016, <http://campusarch.msu.edu/?p=3974> [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
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14. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1855, Offices of Board of Trustees and President, University Archives & Historical Collections, UA 1, MINUTES 1855 <https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/157-544-229/meeting-minutes-1855/>; Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1956, Offices of Board of Trustees and President, University Archives & Historical Collections, UA 1, MINUTES 1856; <https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/157-544-230/meeting-minutes-1856/> [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1857, Offices of Board of Trustees and President, University Archives & Historical Collections, UA 1, MINUTES 1857 <https://onthebanks.msu.edu/Object/157-544-231/meeting-minutes-1857/> [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. U.S. Census Bureau. 1975 “Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970”, Department of Commerce, 93rd Congress, 1st Session, House Document No.93-78 (Part 1). [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. MSU Union, 2020, “History of The Union”, The Division of Residential and Hospitality Services, Michigan state University, East Lansing, <https://union.msu.edu/about/history> [↑](#footnote-ref-17)