

Greenhouse

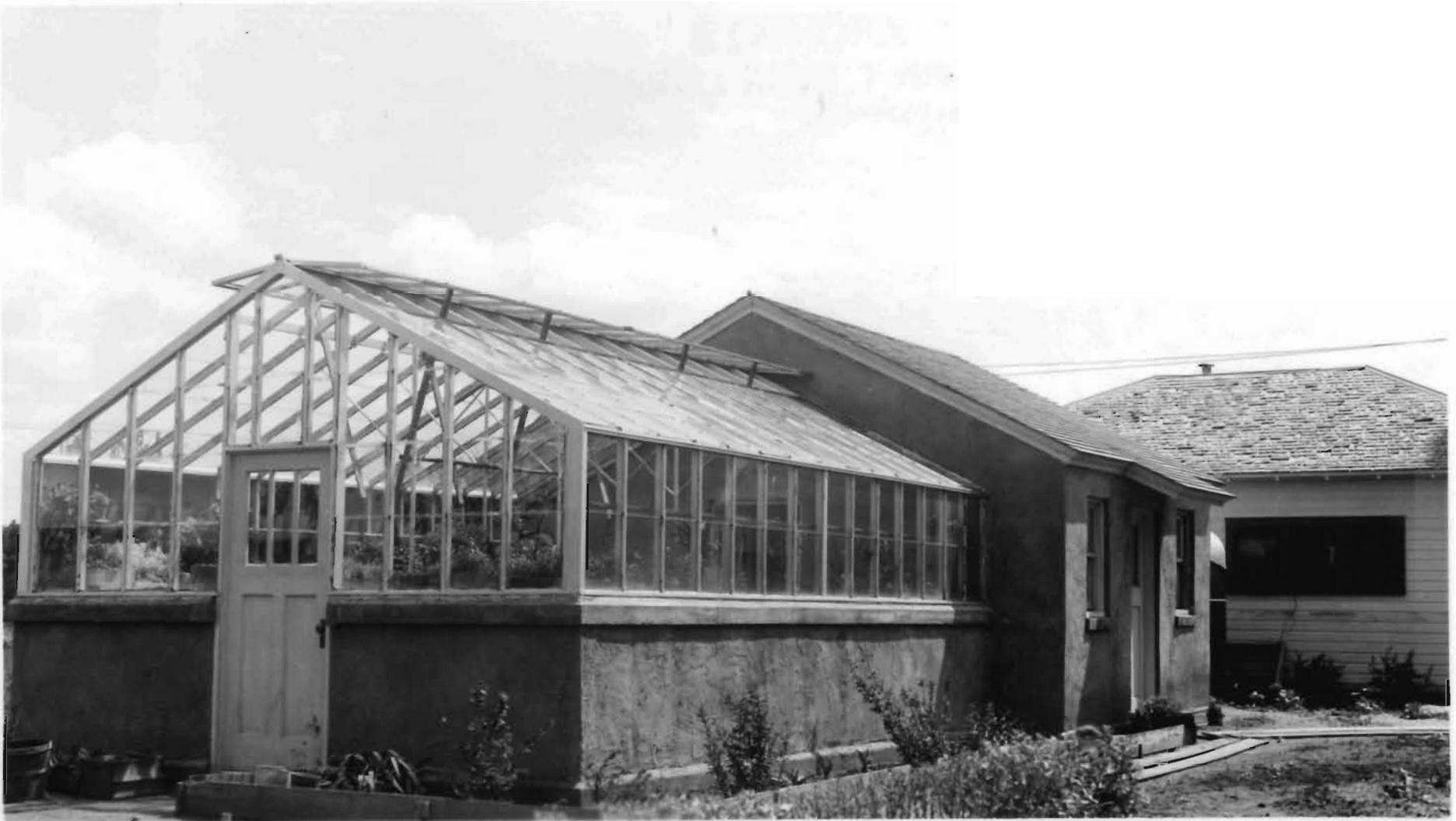
The institution has had three greenhouses:

In the 1930's, Dr. W. E. Bruner, professor of biology, suggested that the first greenhouse be built. Plans were drafted by Mr. Lawrence Webb, assistant engineer at the campus heating plant, and ground was broken in April 1937, on a site now occupied by Jennie M. Conrad Hall. At the time, the *Antelope* reported that it was expected that the 16'x28' building would take three weeks to complete. Most of the work was done by students of Walter Klehm, professor of industrial education, and the building was completed in November, 1937. Mr. Chris Lantz was the first greenhouse manager. The greenhouse was also used to house laboratory rats. The building was demolished in 1956.

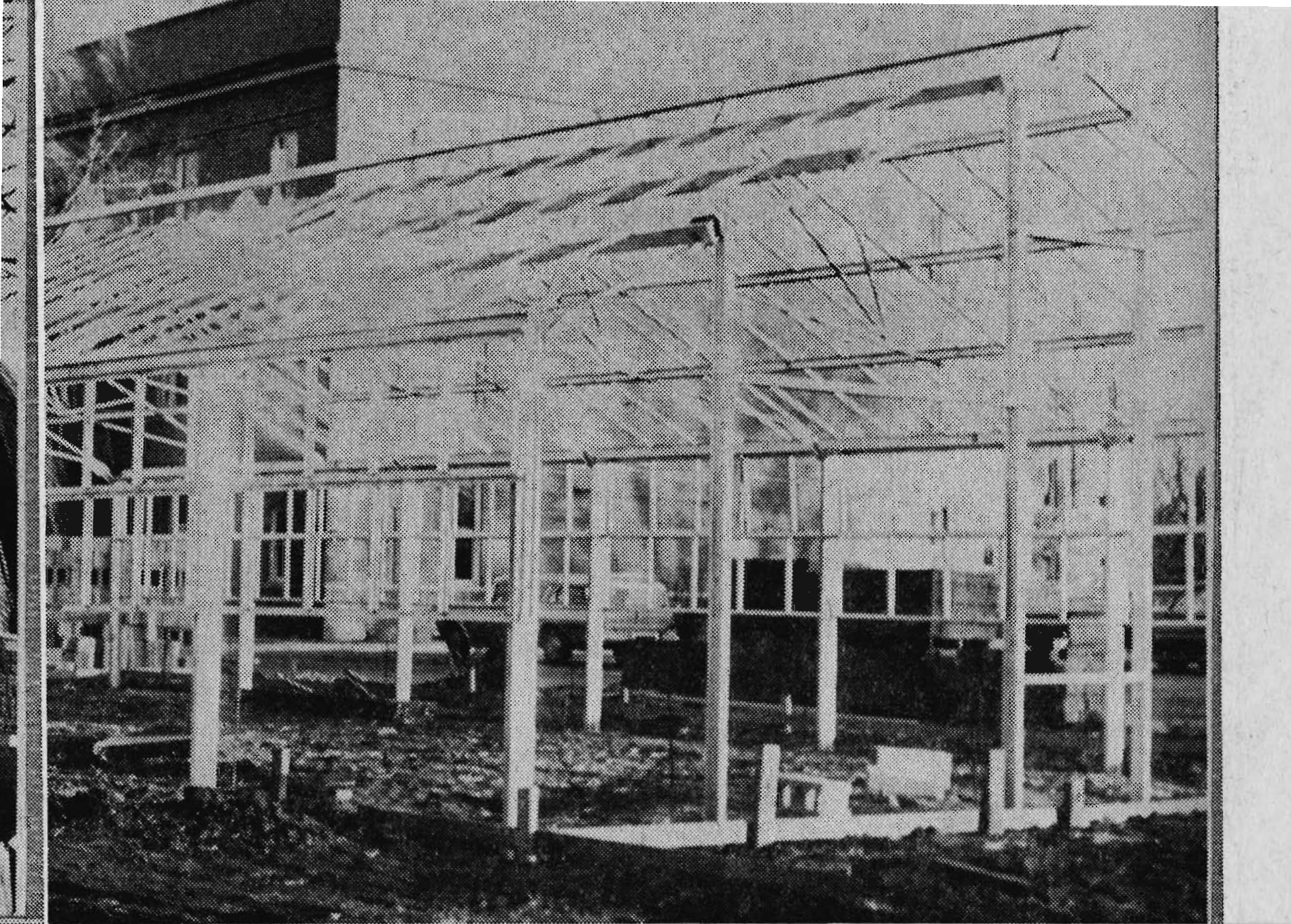
Ground was broken for the second greenhouse during the week of October 19, 1959, and construction of the 24'x64' building began in early November, 1959, on a site south of the gymnasium (now Copeland Hall). The *Antelope* reported that it was expected that construction would take about a month. The bricklaying was completed in early January, 1960, but construction was then stalled by bad weather, and the building was only occupied in June, 1960. The entire cost was \$17,500. A thermograph was installed in December, 1961, to monitor the temperature of the air and soil in various parts of the building. Larry Randolph was greenhouse manager from 1984 to 1997.

This second greenhouse was the only one in Nebraska to use no pesticides. Spiders were used to control insects. Because of this, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission used the greenhouse in the 1990's to raise three types of beetles it hoped to use against the invasive plant purple loosestrife. A severe hailstorm in June 2002 destroyed most of the glass and rendered this second greenhouse useless.

The third greenhouse was built on a site east of Bruner Hall of Science and south of Founders Hall. It was completed in March 2004 at a cost of \$350,000, which included a \$50,000 handicap access ramp. The only glass used in the greenhouse was that on the south-facing wall; all the other usually-glassed areas used Lexan, a hail-resistant plastic. Paul Twigg, associate professor of biology, has been greenhouse manager since its opening.



**First Greenhouse, Built 1937
Where Conrad Hall Now Stands**



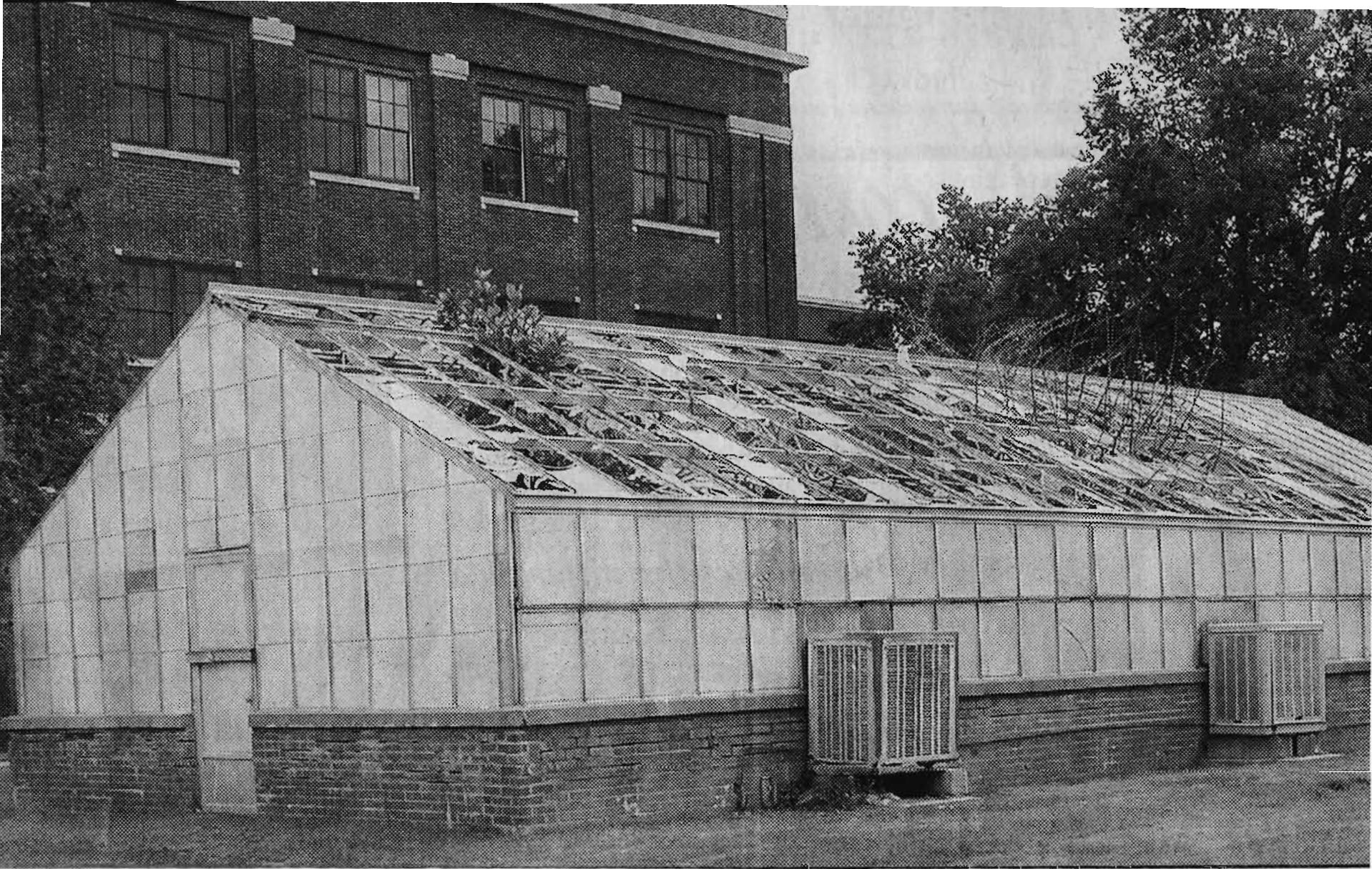
**Second Greenhouse
Under Construction, December 1959**



**Second Greenhouse
Under Construction, February 1960**



Second Greenhouse, 1965



**Second Greenhouse, August 2004
Just Before Demolition
Two Years After Hailstorm Damage of June 2002**



Former Site of Second Greenhouse, Razed in 2004



Greenhouse, 2009

View Looks to the Southwest



Greenhouse, 2009

View Looks to the Northwest



Greenhouse, 2009

View Looks to the Northwest

Bruner Hall of Science Complex on the Left



Greenhouse, 2009

View Looks to the North-Northeast



Greenhouse, 2009
View Looks to the Northeast



Greenhouse, 2009

Interior View Looks to the West



Greenhouse, 2009

Interior View Looks to the East-Northeast



Greenhouse, 2009
Interior View of Lab Area