Green Terrace Hall

Green Terrace Hall was built sometime between 1885 and 1893, during the Kearney building boom period, by E. K. Greene, brother-in-law of George Frank, who built the Frank House. By the time the Normal School occupied it, the building had been used for a variety of purposes. It was used as a dormitory for workers at the Kearney Cottonmill, and became a hotel after the Midway Hotel burned down on March 24, 1890, and later an apartment hotel. In 1903 it was occupied by the Dr. Chittenden Young Ladies' Seminary. The City of Kearney purchased it for \$50,000 in 1903 and deeded it to the State of Nebraska as part of the subsidy Kearney offered the State to get the Normal School located in Kearney.

Green Terrace Hall was a three-story building 150 long and 60 feet deep made of brick and red sandstone. It contained 74 rooms, 16 halls, 40 closets, 6 bathrooms, 4 toilet rooms with basins, 8 water closets, 4 kitchen sinks, 6 vestibules, and 12 fireplaces and mantels.

At the November 7, 1903, meeting of the State Board of Education, the Board's architect, George A. Berlinghof, submitted plans and specifications for the remodeling of the building to make it more suitable as a college dormitory. The City of Kearney had agreed to pay for this also, and did.

Mrs. Eva Case was the first Preceptress. She was succeeded by Miss Anna Caldwell, who was succeeded by Miss Sarah Brindley. Unlike the later Housemothers, the Preceptresses were members of the faculty and were expected to teach.

For the first twenty-five years of its existence, Green Terrace Hall was the college's only dormitory. In September 1930, a residence hall for women, was completed and named Eva J. Case Hall in honor of Mrs. Eva Case, Green Terrace's first Preceptress.

In 1914, Acting President M. R. Snodgrass requested the purchase of a heater for heating the bath water at Green Terrace Hall during the summer. Before this time hot water for bathing was available only during the winter when the heating plant was operating.

Students sometimes called the building "Cockroach Castle".

Green Terrace Hall was shut down in Fall Term 1944 because of a shortage of enrollees due to World War II, and was reopened for use in the summer of 1947.

A television was first installed in the building in 1955.

The building was demolished in 1959. The site is now (2009) occupied by Antelope Hall on UNK's campus.



Green Terrace Hall as seen from the southwest, 1903

This is what the building looked liked when it was acquired by the City of Kearney and deeded to the College



Green Terrace Hall as seen from the Administration Building, 1912

View is to the northwest.



Green Terrace Hall as seen from the southeast, about 1912



Residents on the steps of Green Terrace Hall, 1917



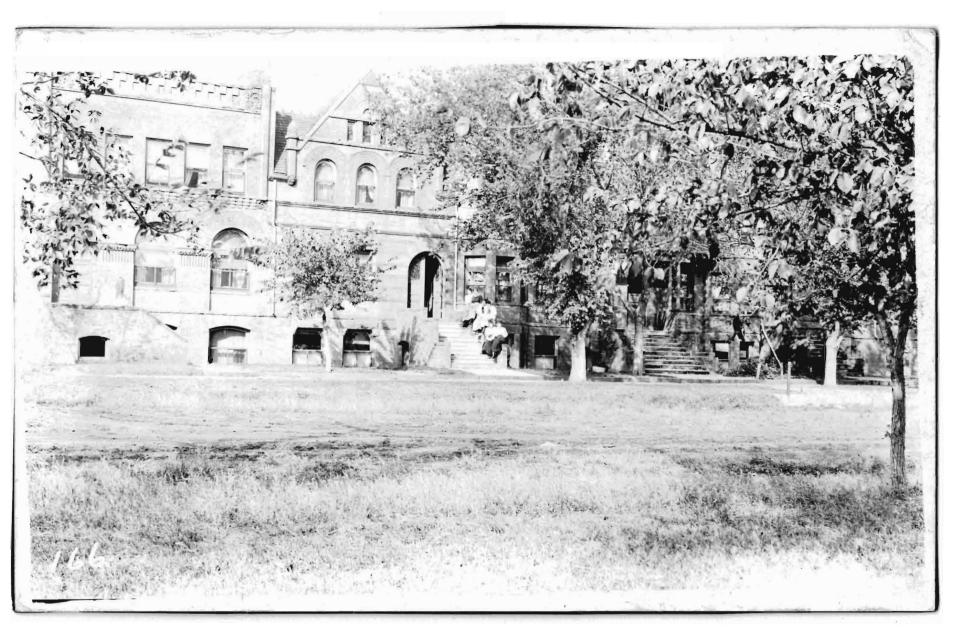
Night view of Green Terrace Hall, 1917



Sarah Brindley, Preceptress of Green Terrace Hall, in her room in the Hall, 1917.

Unlike the later Housemothers, Preceptresses had faculty status and also taught courses.

This is one of a large series of photos by penmanship instructor John A. Stryker, taken 1915-1917.



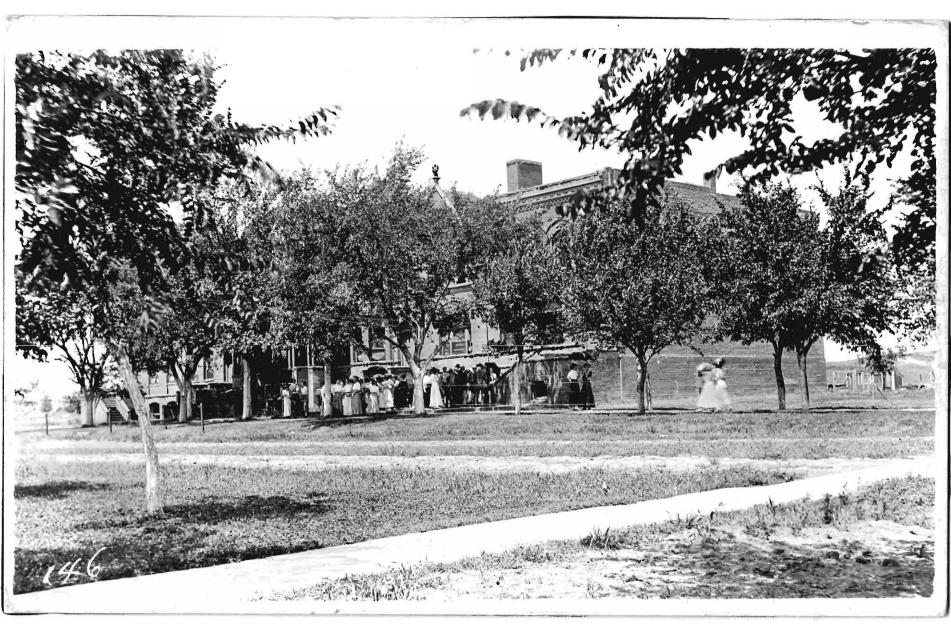
Green Terrace Hall seen from the southwest, 1917



Lobby of Green Terrace Hall, 1917



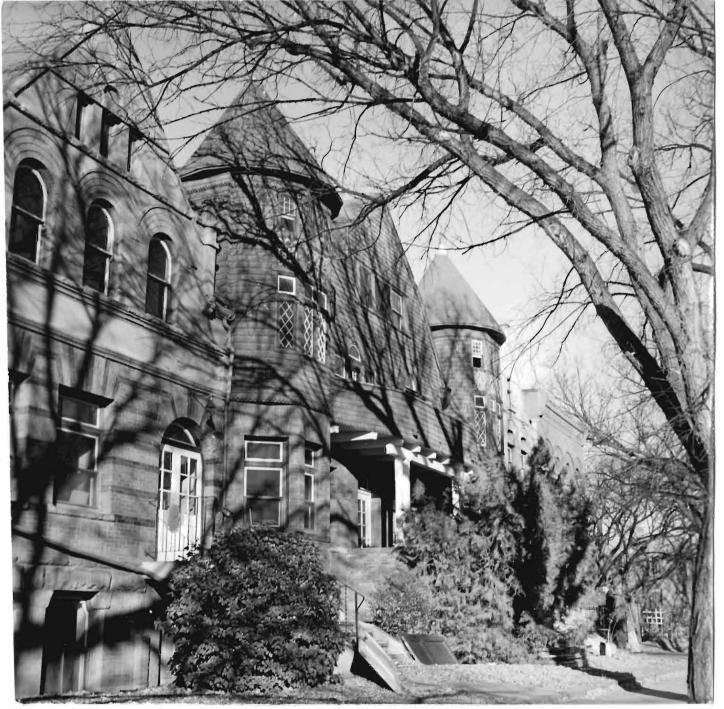
Fireplace and Mantel in Basement of Green Terrace Hall



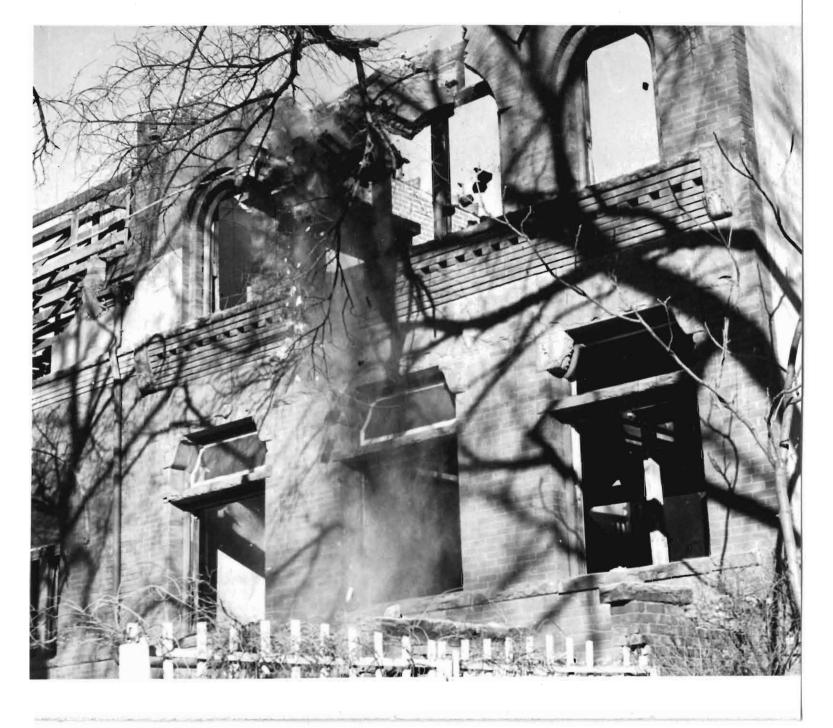
Green Terrace Hall seen from the southeast, in 1917



Green Terrace Hall as seen from the southeast, just before it was demolished in 1959.



Green Terrace Hall as seen from the southwest, just before it was demolished in 1959.



Demolition of Green Terrace Hall, December 1959