

Illinois State University

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Founding Celebration

1997

1997 Founder's Day Handouts

Illinois State University

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No. 6677 Box 1119
20th General Assembly, State of Illinois
A. D. 1857
An Act for the establish-
ment & Maintenance
of the Normal University

Illinois' first public university
Celebrates its Founding
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

1857 Attorney Abraham Lincoln prepares the financial documents for Illinois State Normal University, the first public university in Illinois. "Normal" is the name given to institutions that train teachers.



1997 Illinois State University's teacher education heritage is stronger than ever. One of every seven teachers in Illinois classrooms graduated from our university. The Illinois Teacher of the Year for 1995 and 1996 are Illinois State alumni.



Charles Hovey



1857 Principal Charles Hovey and other leaders at Illinois State Normal University establish laboratory schools to give practical classroom experience to students preparing to be teachers.



1997 The legacy of our early leaders is seen in Thomas Metcalf School and University High School, which comprise the fifth largest laboratory school system in the country. Last year nearly 50,000 hours of clinical experience were provided to education majors through the two schools.



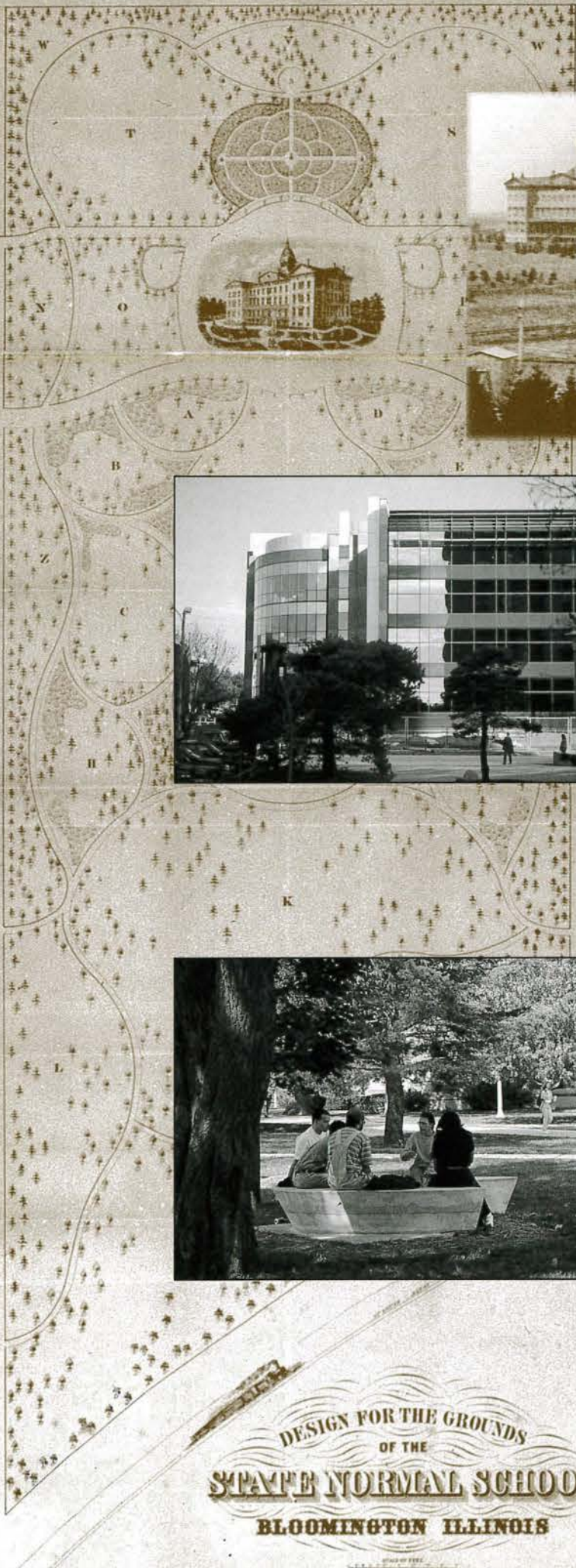
1857 A total of 43 students attend their first classes at Illinois State Normal University. Founder Jesse W. Fell hopes that one day the University will grow into a multipurpose institution, offering degrees in a variety of programs.



1997 More than 19,000 students attend Illinois State University, choosing from 58 programs and 157 fields of study in applied science and technology, arts and sciences, business, education, and fine arts.



Jesse W. Fell



1857 Illinois State Normal University's first classes are taught in Major's Hall, located above a Bloomington grocery store. The first campus building, Old Main, is in the planning stage.

1997 Illinois State University prepares to dedicate a \$30 million state-of-the-art science laboratory building. A performing arts center is in the planning stage.

1857 Jesse W. Fell's vision for Illinois State Normal University is that "...every kind of tree that will flourish in Central Illinois should be planted on the grounds."



1997 The Fell Arboretum is a curated collection of trees and plants beautifully integrated with art and architecture on the Illinois State University campus.

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**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**



An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity

UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS 1997

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