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Public Information Office
Director's Office
"Seek The Monument", 1962

Supplemental descriptive notes

This is a 25-minute movie prepared by the Public Information Office and Mid-West Television Productions in commemoration of the centennial of the land grant universities.

The movie begins with a statement that there were three original faculty members and shows a student, James N. Matthews, the first student, walking through the prairie on the way to the University of Illinois. After giving the title, it refers to the 94th Founder's Day, the year 1862, the Civil War and industrialization.

Jonathan B. Turner is mentioned, as is his 1853 resolution in the Illinois legislature. Justin S. Morrill is credited with the 1862 land grant act. The movie uses still photographs and states that as Allan Nevins said, "The University was created in 1862-1880." Four cities bid for the location and Urbana won with the best offer. It is one and one-half miles from Champaign to Urbana. There are several still shots of Urbana in the 1860s.

The movie mentioned the Illinois Industrial University building or the "Elephant" and states that tuition for scholars in the classes was from 16 to 20 dollars. It shows pictures of a tug-of-war and various early athletic events.

It mentions John M. Gregory, Selim H. Peabody and shows a picture of the Illinois Industrial University notice of classes. It states that an outstanding early graduate was responsible for a condensed milk process. It also says that an early governor and shows a picture of a supposed governor, said that the state washed its hands of the university. The University produced teachers and the narrator says that the University is now seventh in the United States and third in the number of PhD's. The narrator says that Thomas J. Burrill in his laboratory was a forerunner of the research interests of the University. There is a shot of the November, 1874 Illini, a shot of the maypole, the Home Economics laboratory, President Draper and the team of horses. The movie states that Draper was a keen executive and shows a sculptured head of Draper, various shots of the campus, a procession in 1915, a building dedication, a concert, a girls' hockey game, tractors, laboratories, Bob Zuppke, G. Huff, Harry Gill, Poole, Arthur N. Talbot, the Memorial Union, the broadwalk and discusses the traditions of a great land grant institution.

The movie shows shots of buildings. It says that students have opportunities in dentistry, agriculture (it shows cattle), government business, humanities, sciences, engineering, the arts. The narrator states that the University of Illinois is one of the nation's great land grant institutions, developed antibiotics. In the growth of milk production, raising soy beans. The narrator states that in 1922, Tykociner devised a way of putting a sound track on movie film which was due to the 1913 invention of the photoelectric cell at Illinois. The narrator mentions Illinois' contribution to developing synthetic rubber and the redesign of a railway car wheel and of railway rails, the 1941 development of the Betatron by Professor Kerst and the use of high energy x-rays. The narrator

states that in 1954, people at the Medical Collage determined that cancer cells move into the bloodstream during operations. He states that the aero-medical laboratory did work in relation to putting two monkeys into space. He mentions the University Heating Research House and research advances. After the narration and the movies and still shots of the University's history, David D. Henry gives a 1962 talk.

Henry states "What of the future? May this year remind us that the nation's greatest resources are human resources and that the function of the university is to harvest the talent of the nation by a cultivation through education." Henry refers to five hallmarks of the University, which were taken from an earlier Nevins' talk: (1) optimism; (2) idealism; (3) ready acceptance of risks; (4) a taste for action; (5) realism. Henry says that Illinois is a great institution. There is a reference to John M. Gregory's grave and a quotation that "If you seek his monument, look around." Then the Alma Mater is sung with still shots of Krannert Art Museum, campus scenes, the Assembly Hall, models of the Chicago campus, and a movie of Chief Illiniwek's dance.

Produced by Scott Craig, narrator is Lloyd Ummel, script supervision by Charles Flynn and animated and directed by Stan Block.