Statues of the Liberty Walk

1. Margaret Thatcher
2. Ronald Reagan
3. Winston Churchill
4. George Washington
5. Victory Bell
6. Abraham Lincoln

Buildings

7. Searle Center
8. Dow Hotel and Conference Center
9. Knorr Family Laboratory Wing
10. Strosacker Science Center
11. Moss Hall
12. Knowlton Hall
13. Kendall Hall
14. Lane Hall
15. Alumni Walk
16. Central Hall
17. Howard Music Building
18. Hillsdale Academy

Grewcock Student Union serves as the central gathering place for students. It includes the Knorr Family Dining Room and A.J.’s Café, the campus bookstore, and the student union center. Dedicated 2000.


Dow Science Building holds classrooms, laboratories, research areas, and computer resources for the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics, as well as faculty offices. Dedicated 1996.

Moss Hall houses administrative offices, including the President’s Office. It sits on the former location of Knowlton Hall. Dedicated 2000.

Strosacker Science Center and Moss Family Laboratory Wing features classrooms, laboratories, research areas, and computer resources for the Biology, Chemistry, and Physics Departments. It also features the David M. Fisk Museum of Natural History, restored from the original museum that was destroyed in the fire of 1894.

Knowlton Hall, which towers above the campus and surrounding area as it endures the symbol of the College. It houses many administrative offices, including the Dean’s Offices and the Admissions Office. Cornerstone laid 1974.

Mossy Library contains nearly 300,000 volumes, in addition to rare and special collections. Hillsdale College students can study in the presence of historic books in both the Ludwig von Mises Room, which houses the Austrian economist’s personal library, and in the Richardson Heritage Room, which houses the library’s rare books. Dedicated 1997.


Kendall Hall houses classrooms and faculty offices for the Classics, Politics, Rhetoric, and Psychology Departments. Dedicated 2005.

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Lane Hall is the sister building to Kendall Hall. It holds classrooms and faculty offices for the Economics, Business, Accounting, and Education Departments, among others. It also houses the Alumni Coffee Cart on the first floor. Dedicated 2005.

Alumni Walk consists of engraved bricks featuring names of alumni and friends of the College. Purchase of the bricks supports the Alumni Legacy Scholarship program, which grants financial aid to children and grandchildren of Hillsdale College alumni.

Mary Randall Preschool is a private school that has been in operation since 1939. Members of Hillsdale College’s Education Department teach local children.

Children’s Garden includes a putting shed, a pond, a Blue Ribbon Fair Garden, and an herb garden.

Slayton Arboretum was established in 1990 to display and preserve living plant collections and native plant communities, and to study and disseminate knowledge about plants through teaching, research, education, publications, and public outreach programs.

Biermann Athletic Center accommodates intercollegiate and intramural athletics and provides expanded athletic facilities. It includes a track, indoor tennis courts, and a large multi-floor for student activities and large campus events such as Commencement. Dedicated 2013.

The Fine Arts Building houses the Art and Theatre Departments. It contains classrooms, faculty offices, design labs, studios, dressing rooms, and Marwell Auditorium, which seats 350. The Daugherty Gallery hosts numerous exhibits by professional artists, Hillsdale faculty, and students. Dedicated 1992.

Howard Music Building houses the Music Department. It contains the Noltkmann Rehearsal Hall, Conrad Recital Hall, faculty offices, practice rooms, jazz and percussion studios, and a classroom. Dedicated 2003.

Broadman Hall is one of the older structures on campus. It houses faculty offices, practice rooms, and a small recital hall.

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Amber Health and Wellness Center offers consultation and treatment services to students. A registered nurse maintains regular hours, and other health care professionals—including counselors—are available throughout the week.

Roche Sports Complex includes the 60,000-square-foot Dow Tennis and Potter Arena with a fitness center and a basketball and volleyball arena. Muddy Waters Football Field, and the Hermitz Track. In addition, the building houses the John “Jack” McAvoy Natatorium, racquetball courts, locker room facilities, a weight room, and coaching and administrative offices. Dedicated 1998.

The Stanton Foundation Center for American Classical Education houses College staff, including the K-12 American Classical Education Department. Dedicated 2019.

Hillsdale Academy was founded in 1850 and offers a K-12 curriculum based on the foundational tenets of the Judeo-Christian and Greco-Roman tradition. Dedicated 1996.

Hillen Park provides 190 acres for general recreation and intramural and club sports. Features include a driving range, sand volleyball courts, mountain bike trails, and a soccer field. Dedicated 2011.

Residence Halls

19. Simpson Residence
20. Goalewy Residence
21. Waterman Residence
22. McIntyre Residence
23. Olds Residence
24. Mauck Residence
25. Dissing Residence

*Please note that these building numbers do not correspond with emergency services.*
History & Mission

Hillsdale College was founded as Michigan Central College in Spring Arbor, Michigan, in 1844. Nine years later it moved to Hillsdale and assumed its current name. As stated in its Articles of Association, the College undertakes its work “grateful to God for the inestimable blessings—resulting from the prevalence of civil and religious liberty and intelligent piety in the land, and believing that the diffusion of sound learning is essential to the perpetuity of these blessings.”

Though established by Freewill Baptists, Hillsdale has been officially non-denominational since its inception. It was the first American college to prohibit in its charter any discrimination based on race, religion, or sex, and became an early force for the abolition of slavery. It was also the second college in the nation to grant four-year liberal arts degrees to women.

Professor and preacher Ransom Dunn, who would serve Hillsdale College for half a century, raised money to construct the new Hilltop campus in the early 1860s by riding 6,000 miles on horseback on the Wisconsin and Minnesota frontier. It was largely through Dunn’s efforts that Hillsdale would survive while over 80 percent of colleges founded before the Civil War would not.

A higher percentage of Hillsdale students enlisted during the Civil War than from any other western college. Of the more than 400 who fought for the Union, three won the Congressional Medal of Honor, three became generals, and many more served as regimental commanders. Sixty gave their lives.

Because of the College’s anti-slavery reputation and its role in founding the new Republican party (College President Edmund Fairfield was a leader at the first convention), many notable speakers visited its campus during the Civil War era, including Frederick Douglass and Edward Everett, who preceded Lincoln at Gettysburg.

Hillsdale’s modern rise to prominence occurred in the 1970s. On the pretense that some of its students were receiving federal loans, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare attempted to interfere with the College’s internal affairs, including a demand that Hillsdale begin counting its students by race. Hillsdale’s trustees responded with two toughly worded resolutions: One, the College would continue its policy of non-discrimination; Two, “with the help of God” it would “resist, by all legal means, any encroachments on its independence.”

Following almost a decade of litigation, the U.S. Supreme Court decided against Hillsdale in 1984. By this time, the College had announced that rather than complying with unconstitutional federal regulation, it would instruct its students that they could no longer bring federal taxpayer money to Hillsdale. Instead, the College would replace that aid with private contributions.

Hillsdale continues to carry out its original mission today, both in the classroom and nationwide, through its many outreach programs, including its monthly speech digest Imprimis.

Statues of the Liberty Walk

Margaret Thatcher
1925–2013
Bruce Wolfe’s statue of Margaret Thatcher is the first and only statue of the former British prime minister in North America. Lady Thatcher visited Hillsdale on November 16, 1994, and delivered a speech titled “The Moral Foundations of Society.” Dedicated May 9, 2008.

George Washington
1732–1799
Scultped by Hillsdale College Associate Professor of Art Anthony Frudakis, this is the first statue created for the Liberty Walk. In its first annual message to Congress, Washington stated the common view of the Founders: “Knowledge is in every country the safest basis of public happiness.” Dedicated May 9, 2003.

Abraham Lincoln
1809–1865
This sculpture by Hillsdale College Associate Professor of Art Anthony Frudakis depicts a pensive Lincoln in the midst of war. Hillsdale men were instrumental in the founding of the Republican Party in 1854, and two Civil War veterans from Hillsdale College helped carry Lincoln’s casket to the slain president’s final resting place in Springfield, Ill. Dedicated May 9, 2009.

Thomas Jefferson
1743–1826
Scultped by Hillsdale Associate Professor of Art Anthony Frudakis, Jefferson is seated near the cornerstone of Central Hall, which also contains the cornerstone of the College’s first building, dedicated on July 4, 1853. Edmund Fairfield, the College’s second president, gave a speech titled “The College and the Republic.” Dedicated April 16, 2009.

Civil War Monument
This statue of a Union soldier sculpted by Lorado Taft was commissioned by Hillsdale’s Alpha Kappa Phi Literary Society to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of the Civil War. It bears the names of Hillsdale Alpha Kappa Phi students who gave their lives for their country during that conflict. Dedicated June 20, 1895.

Hillsdale Eagle
Scultped by Sandy Scott, this half-ton bronze eagle is the largest of several eagles on campus. The statue marks the beginning of the Alumni Walk, where bricks inscribed with messages from friends and alumni of the College line the path to Central Hall. Dedicated May 14, 1994.

Viscount Churchill
1874—1965
Residing in the main lobby of the Greweck Student Union, this statue was sculpted by Hillsdale alumna Heather Trickett. ’94 Churchill stands at a mahogany standing desk given to him by his children. Dedicated January 2008.

Ronald Reagan
1911—2004
In 2001, to mark the centennial of Ronald Reagan’s birthday, Hillsdale College dedicated this statue of Reagan by Hillsdale Associate Professor of Art Anthony Frudakis. In November 1977, after serving as governor of California and before becoming the 40th President of the United States, Reagan gave a speech titled “Whatever Happened to Free Enterprise?” at Hillsdale College. Dedicated October 7, 2011.

James Madison
1751—1836
Standing in front of Delp Hall along the Alumni Walk, this statue was sculpted by Associate Professor of Art Anthony Frudakis. Madison holds a quill and ink, a nod to his contributions in writing The Federalist Papers and U.S. Constitution. Dedicated September 22, 2020.

Frederick Douglass
1818—1895
More than 130 years after Frederick Douglass delivered the address “Popular Error and Ungovver” at Hillsdale College in 1883, a statue of the famed abolitionist by Bruce Wolfe was dedicated on campus. The statue depicts Douglass as a scholar carrying a book under his arm. He is intentionally placed near the Abraham Lincoln statue and the Civil War monument. Dedicated May 12, 2017.

Socrates
C. 470–399 B.C.
Located on the main level of Mossey Library, this 42-inch bronze sculpture of the ancient Greek philosopher was sculpted by Associate Professor of Art Anthony Frudakis. Hillsdale College faculty and staff gave this statue to the library in 1995.