



### Laing Middle School

## QUICK FACT FRIDAY

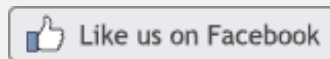
Did you know that Laing is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year? The school was founded in 1866 by Cornelia Hancock, a Quaker and a former Union Army nurse. In the aftermath of the Civil War, while travelling to Port Royal with Laura Towne, the founder of the Penn School, Cornelia Hancock determined to stop her journey in Mount Pleasant and provide a school for children of African descent. Classes began on January 29, 1866 in the war-damaged Presbyterian Church on Hibben Street in the Old Village. The first class had 50 students. Without

chairs, desks or chalk, they used charcoal to write on the columns. In colder weather, a fire was started. [READ MORE](#)

The Town of Mount Pleasant Communications Office, with the support of the Historical Commission, releases a Quick Fact Friday about the History of Mount Pleasant weekly. From the American Indian Era to the 21st Century Dawns, "Our History" website has it all. Join us in discovering what makes Mount Pleasant such a distinctive historical place!

### Our History

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