

State Capitol Building

❖ Built in 1886 ❖



For more than a century, the golden dome of the State Capitol has been a symbol of Iowa government and politics. The Capitol, dedicated in 1884 and completed in 1886, is built of limestone, granite and sandstone. It is famous for its 23 carat gold-covered dome which rises 275 feet above the Capitol grounds and is one of the largest of its kind. One of the nation's best examples of 19th-century architecture, the Iowa Statehouse is a showcase for artwork, carved woodwork and decorative wall and ceiling paintings. 🍷

Photo Credit: SHSI, Chuck Greiner

State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa

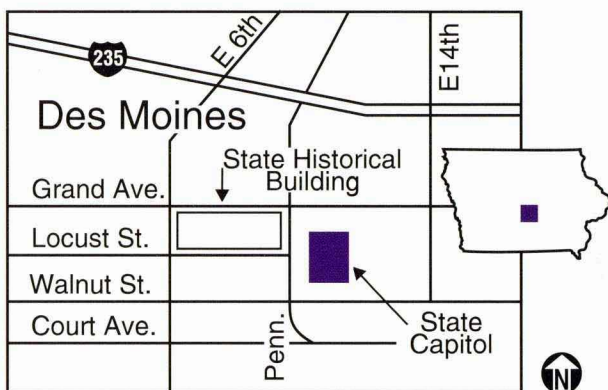
Every aspect of the Capitol's architecture is breathtaking for visitors, from mosaic artwork and detailed stenciling, to the marble Grand Stairway, three-story open rotunda and the statues and monuments surrounding the building.



SHSI, Chuck Greiner

The current Capitol is the state's third. After moving from Burlington and then Iowa City, Des Moines was selected because of its central location. The State Capitol houses the Iowa Legislature, Iowa Supreme Court, Law Library and the Offices of the Governor, Treasurer, Auditor and Secretary of State.

Among the many significant historical items on display throughout the Capitol are the Iowa Constitution, a scale model of the battleship USS Iowa, original battle flags carried by Iowa regiments, and a collection of dolls depicting Iowa's first ladies in replicas of their inaugural gowns.



State Capitol, E. 12th & Grand, Des Moines

Hours: Open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and holidays. Tours available. Free admission.

Address: For more information contact the State Capitol Tour Guide, East 12th and Grand, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Call (515) 281-5591.

The State Historical Society of Iowa invites you to visit all of Iowa's historic sites.