

The Dynamo Monument

In an effort to offer something to replace the void left by the dismantlement of the geodesic dome, it was agreed that a monument would be constructed on its site. The Hinman College Council gave money to an art student to create a wooden sculpture to enhance the aesthetical qualities of the grounds.¹ The plaque at the base of the monument has mostly worn away but the name R. Penfield can still be made out as can the dates 1972-73. Besides that, little is known about who constructed the monument or the actual construction process. What was produced was the wooden structure of a dynamo, which is a type of electrical generator. Although the exact reason why this was picked is unclear, it can be safely guessed that the dynamo represents Hinman as a community full of energy and vitality. At some point in time the wood began to rot away and the dynamo fell apart. Unfortunately, it is now a mere fraction of what it once was.

Still, its legacy lives on today. The annual Hinman yearbook is called *Dynamo* after the structure. The energy and vitality that it represents still exists within the student body of Hinman College to this very day and no amount of snow, wind or rain can damage that. The Dynamo itself may not be standing but what it represents still does. The wood may rot away, but the Dynamo is still a monument to the pioneering spirit of Hinman.

¹ Ibid.