

# Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities Summer 2023

Focusing the creative expertise of the University of Iowa on individual Iowa communities to produce significant impacts.



What a terrific year we had in Clinton! IISC students completed 20 projects that included a housing assessment, park designs, a stormwater utility study, public art, and communications strategies. We hope you'll take some time to learn about some of the powerful projects that came out of the <u>Clinton</u> <u>partnership</u>!



Explore Final Projects from Clinton-IISC Partnership

For nearly a year, a well-traveled path was formed between the City of Clinton and the University of Iowa campus. A partnership between the community on Iowa's eastern



## Documentary Celebrates Historic African American Church

Founded in 1868, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church played a vital role for the Black and African American community of Clinton. The church was border and the lowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC), involved more than 130 students and faculty in active collaborations with city government leaders, nonprofit staffs, and businesses. The students completed 20 projects, all of which responded directly to needs expressed by Clinton partners. Some of the students' plans are already being put into place, while others will be crucial toward finding financial support for construction and rehabilitation projects.

The students' work for Clinton is now accessible online, including their final presentations (slides and posters), reports, and, when applicable, design drawings. Learn about the full gamut of projects completed by students in the College of Business, the College of Engineering, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Graduate

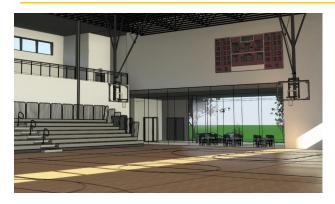
College: https://iisc.uiowa.edu/partners/clinto n.

forced to close during the pandemic and has not reopened, although a brewery that is dedicated to preserving historic places has opened in the adjoining property.

Arman Hodasefat, an MFA student in Cinematic Arts, created a short documentary film about the church. In addition to welcoming people of all races and backgrounds, the church is remembered for congregants LaMetta Wynn, the mayor of Clinton from 1995 to 2007 and the first African-American woman mayor in the state (whose daughter Kathryn Wynn-Calvin is pictured above); and Frederick Wayman "Duke" Slater, a University of Iowa football player and Chicago-based judge whose father, George Slater, served as the church's pastor.

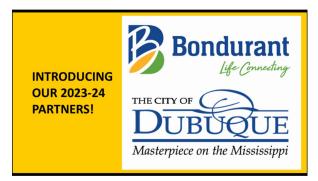
### WATCH THE DOCUMENTARY

# CLINTON PROJECTS



#### Statewide Engineering Projects Cap Spring Semester

Teams of Civil and Environmental Engineering students completed a range of projects for IISC partners this spring as part of their capstone process. One of these was a construction and engineering design for <u>a new gymnasium and multi-purpose</u> <u>space for the City of Manning</u>. The building, which is intended to provide much-needed exercise space for the community, a new senior center, extended parking, and courts for practices and tournaments, exceeded the city's



## Our 2023-24 Partners: Bondurant and Dubuque

It's summer, which means IISC staff is in the midst of conversations with our new partners, Bondurant and Dubuque, to finalize a slate of projects for the coming academic year. The two communities' proposals, which were selected from a very competitive field, will provide unique learning opportunities for University of Iowa students.

Bondurant, which is just north of Des Moines in Polk County, is one of the fastest expectations. "The students dreamed big while still taking into account our needs and constraints," says City Manager **Dawn Meyer**. She adds that the highly professional visuals the team produced (including the one above) "will be a huge selling point as we work to fund this amazing project."

Other spring engineering projects included:

- Clinton Eagle Point Park campground design and city infill development
- Keosaqua <u>building rehabilitation</u>
- Marquette trail underpass
- Maquoketa <u>single family subdivision</u>, <u>Stewart Farm subdivision</u>, and <u>open</u> <u>space redevelopment</u>
- North Liberty <u>traffic impact study</u> and <u>Ranshaw Way underpass</u>
- Sidney park expansion

growing communities in the state. The city is seeking assistance with its rapidly increasing infrastructure needs and quality of life amenities. Dubuque, which was an IISC partner a decade ago, has become a sustainability leader in our state. Seeking to address inequities in how climate change is affecting its most vulnerable residents, the city hopes to work with IISC toward greater mobility for all resident while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Look to our website later this summer for a full list of the projects we'll be accomplishing in collaboration with these lowa communities!

https://iisc.uiowa.edu/



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