

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
University of Oregon Cultural Resources Survey
Eugene, Lane County, Oregon
Summer 2006

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Klamath Hall
Historic building name: Science II
Building address: 1370 Franklin Blvd.
Ranking: Non-Contributing

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Brutalist
Building plan (footprint shape): Rectangular
Number of stories: 4 stories plus a basement
Foundation material(s): Poured concrete
Primary exterior wall material: Poured concrete
Secondary exterior wall material: Metal panels below windows
Roof configuration/type: Flat
Primary roof material: Built-Up Roof
Primary window type: Fixed
Primary window material: Metal
Decorative features and materials: Exposed poured concrete structural frame
Landscape features: Science Courtyard with light well at center, bike racks, Streisinger Courtyard to the east
Associated resources: Attached to Onyx Bridge, Willamette Hall and Streisinger Hall; Basement Science Library
Comments: Klamath Hall is a rectangular structure whose dominant visual feature is the expressed structural frame. The metal windows are set back several feet from the frame.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1967
Architect: Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill
Builder/Contractor: W.S. Hardie and Sons
Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s): N/A
Description/dates of major additions/alterations: Klamath Hall has been periodically remodeled on its interior. Most of these remodels have updated the systems within individual laboratories. The most significant change to the building is the attachment of Willamette Hall to the southern entry façade and Streisinger Hall on the northeastern edge in 1989. In addition, the Science Library light well was altered and bike racks were installed in 1999. Refer to Continuation Sheet 1 for details on specific alterations.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): Science Classrooms

Current use(s) or function(s): Science Classrooms

Area(s) of significance: Education, Architecture

Period of significance: 1967

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

The science departments at the University of Oregon continued to grow in enrollment and specialization during the late 1950s and early 1960s. By the mid 1960s, the facilities in Science I (Pacific Hall) and its East Addition (Onyx Bridge) were cramped and outdated. Emerging fields such as Molecular Biology needed space and specialized equipment. The University planned to augment the science facilities with new buildings. In addition to funding from the State of Oregon, much of the sponsorship for individual laboratories came from grants given by the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health.

The selection of Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill (SOM) to conduct the master planning for the science complex and design for Science II is significant in that this was the first firm from outside of the Northwest to design a campus building. This large, international firm is known for technically sophisticated buildings that emphasize utility. The master plan for the science complex called for incremental building with separate structures linked by corridors and courtyards to provide unity. The functional requirements of the departments housed within provide the organizational scheme for each individual building. The design for Klamath Hall (Science II) utilizes modern design principles to respond to the ever-changing functional needs. In keeping with Modernist principles, the only ornament is the expression of the structural frame. Not merely an aesthetic choice, the frame and corresponding lack of internal columns provides for open laboratory spaces, easy internal partitioning, and sun control. The use of fixed windows and reliance on mechanical ventilation also reflect the importance of technology in modern design. The desire to maximize internal flexibility drove the decisions for everything from mechanical systems to laboratory finishes. The Science Library's central location is a hub linking the various departments together. The Library's position in the basement maximizes the coverage on the site with the light well providing daylight and controlled access to the outdoors from within the facility. The Library is emblematic of the connection between utility and technology found throughout Klamath Hall and modern design.

Science II has been an important center for scientists at the University of Oregon since 1967. Alterations and updates to the building keep the facilities current with the latest in technical requirements. In 1990 the building was renamed Klamath Hall. Klamath currently houses facilities for Biology and Chemistry

The design of Klamath Hall emphasized technology and utility. Although designed by a prominent architect, it is not a notable example of their work or of the Brutalist style. The periodic internal remodels are consistent with the design intention to accommodate changing functional requirements. These alterations have not changed the essential form or character of the building. The connection of Willamette Hall and Streisinger Hall in 1989, however, dramatically changed the building. The entry experience and the character of the front elevation are particularly altered although structurally intact. Also, the Science Library light well was redesigned to address leakage problems. The loss of integrity from these additions and alterations combined with its low to very low significance compared to other campus buildings gives Klamath Hall its non-contributing status.

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENTHistoric Significance (check one): High Medium Low Very Low or NoneIntegrity (check one): Excellent Good Fair PoorCondition (check one): Excellent Good Fair PoorBuilding designation: City Landmark National Register National Historic Landmark Not listedPreliminary National Register eligibility findingsBuilding is potentially eligible: Individually or As a contributing resource in a district only

If eligible individually, applicable criteria (check all that apply):

- A. Associated with significant events C. Distinctive architecturally
 B. Associated with significant persons D. Archaeologically important

If applicable, building qualifies under NR Criterion Considerations: Yes No If yes, which apply:Building is NOT eligible: Intact but lacks distinction or Altered/loss of integrity or Not 50 years old

DOCUMENTATION

Indicate resources consulted when researching this building (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UO Planning Office files | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sanborn maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Building permits | <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO files |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | <input type="checkbox"/> State Historic Society |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local Historic Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal interviews | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary indexes | Other _____ see below _____ |

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES*Building Proposals*

Skidmore Owings, and Merrill. *University of Oregon Science Building. Second Addition. Pre-preliminary Submittal*. University Planning Facilities Services Box 2 of 5, Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1964.

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Mohr, Fed to James B. Hall, editor *Chemical and Engineering News* 11 April 1966. University Planning Facilities Services Box 3 of 5. Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene.

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Project Manual Mechanical, Plumbing, Heating, & Ventilation for Molecular Biology Laboratories Second Addition, Phase 2. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1970.

Project Manual Specifications for University of Oregon Science Building Second Addition Remodel. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1971.

Refer to Continuation Sheet 2

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Jennifer L. Flathman, Erin Pochert, 01/02/2006

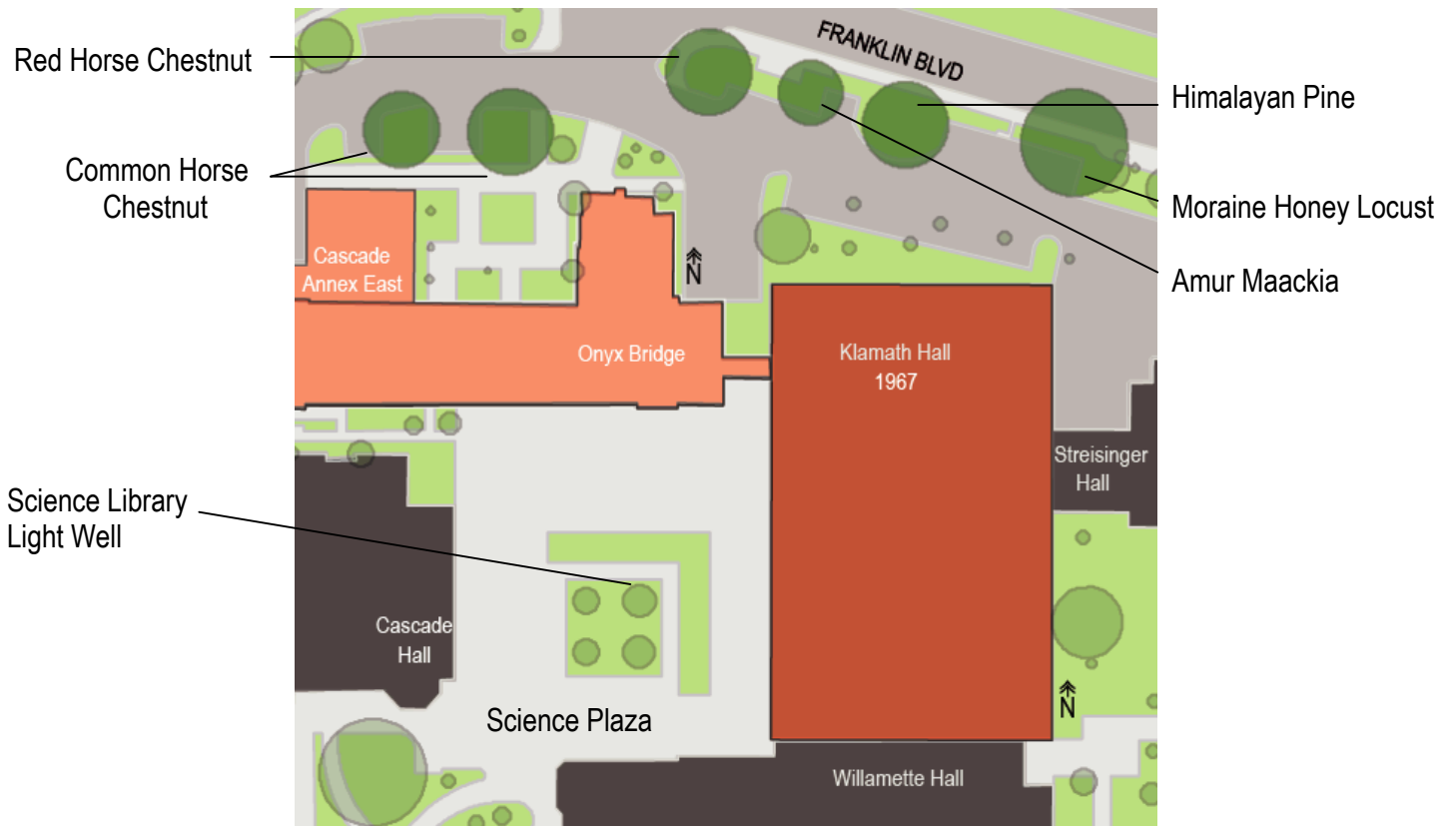
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name: Klamathcropped.jpg

PHOTOGRAPH



SITE PLAN



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Continuation Sheet 1

Section Architectural History Page 1

- 1968 Construction of New laboratory spaces
- 1970 Finishing of Organic Chemistry and Molecular Biology Laboratories including mechanical, plumbing, heating, and ventilation
- 1971 Remodeling of shafts, roof penthouses and ceiling spaces on each floor for mechanical equipment
- 1981 Remodeling of rooms 120 and 168 including removal of partition walls and new wall finishes
- 1981 Installation of Fire Dampers for Room 120
- 1981 Installation of new ventilation of Electron Microscope room
- 1982 Ventilation improvements for rooms 168/120
- 1986 Installation of lighting controls for energy conservation
- 1986 Installation of heat recovery system for energy conservation
- 1987 Library Asbestos Abatement Removal of ceiling and sprayed on insulation material
- 1989 Demolition and replacement of concrete decking in courtyard plaza
- 1989 Connection to Streisinger and Willamette Hall
- 1992 Renovation of former chemistry labs into computer labs in basement
- 1999 Science Library light well altered and covered bike racks installed.
- 2000 Remodeling of Organic Chemistry lab including HVAC and fume hoods
- 2001 Renovation of 2nd Floor labs including new casework, lab tops, gas, air, plumbing, electrical hardware, walls, doors, ceilings
- 2002 Renovation of storage rooms into a teach lab including ADA compliant restrooms
- 2002 Addition of corridor sprinklers and outlets for future sprinklers
- 2002 Renovation of Semi-conductor lab including casework, fume hoods, and darkroom
- 2003 Plaza repair including new concrete slab, bike paths and bike shelters
- 2003 Remodel of Lonergan Lab with new lighting, electrical, ventilation, and fire controls

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Continuation Sheet 2

Section Bibliography **Page** 2

Klamath Hall Building Plans. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene.

Project Manual Science Room 120/168 Improvements. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1981.

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Project Manual Science II Electron Microscope Room Ventilation. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1981.

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Project Manual Klamath Hall 323/327 Organic Chemistry Lab Remodel. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2000.

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Project Manual Science Library Plaza Repair. Campus Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2003.

Project Manual Klamath Hall Lonergan Lab Remodel. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2003

University of Oregon Science Buildings Additions and Alteration: A Manual for Prospective Architectural Consultants November 1984.
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