

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

**RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION**

Current building name: Journalism Building

Historic building name: McClure Annex, Allen Hall

Building address: 1020 University Street

Ranking: Tertiary

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

Architectural style classification: Half Modern

Building plan (footprint shape): Rectangular

Number of stories: 3

Foundation material(s): Concrete

Primary exterior wall material: Brick

Secondary exterior wall material: N/A

Roof configuration/type: Flat

Primary roof material: Built up roofing

Primary window type: Multi-pane double hung

Primary window material: Wood

Decorative features and materials: Cast stone pinnacles, brick diaper pattern, stone bas-relief over the south entrance

Landscape features: Located on the University Street Axis with lawn, walks, trees shrub and perennial plantings. Several brick landscape walls form planting beds near the east entrance of the building. Allen Hall, constructed in 1953 as an addition, is located on the east edge of the Old Campus Quad. Ted M. Natt 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Plaza adjacent to the east.

Associated resources: Allen Hall (attached), Old Campus Quad

Comments: The Journalism Building is commonly referred to as Allen Hall as the two are connected and Allen is the common name for the complex.

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY**

Date of construction: 1922-1923

Architect: Lawrence and Holford

Builder/Contractor: Thomas Muir

Moved? (yes/no): No                      Date of move(s): N/A

Description/dates of major additions/alterations: Major addition (Allen Hall) and remodel in 1953 by J.G. Watts. New entrances and interior remodel c. 1999. Further research needed as to when the cast stone pinnacles and wooden balcony over east entrance were removed as well as when the bas-relief sculpture was installed.

**HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE**

Original use(s) or function(s): University printing

Current use(s) or function(s): General classrooms, School of Journalism

Area(s) of significance: Education, 20<sup>th</sup> c. Architecture

Period of significance: 1922-1923

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

The Journalism Building is a rectangular structure of the Half Modern style. It has 3 stories, a concrete foundation, and has a brick wall exterior. The roof is flat and is composed of built up roofing. It has multi-pane, double hung windows made of wood and the brick exterior is laid in a diaper pattern.<sup>1</sup> Some of its decorative features have been removed including the wooden balcony over the east entrance and the cast stone pinnacles. A bas-relief sculpture over the south entrance was placed on the building in 1936 and created by Louise Utter with Works Progress Administration funds. Utter also contributed to the design and creation of the Knight Library heads during the same time period. The sculpture's inscription reads: "A free & enlightened press the surest guarantor of liberty."<sup>2</sup>

The 1953 addition (Allen Hall) replaced McClure Hall on the west side of the Journalism Building. At that time the Journalism Building was completely remodeled to become the East wing of Allen Hall. New concrete interior walls were added (the brick wall were no longer bearing) and decorative elements were removed (cast stone pinnacles, wood balcony, flower box). In 1999 the loading dock was converted to a new building entrance (south lobby). The new south lobby, designed by Boucher, Mouchka, and Larson, connects Allen Hall with the Journalism Building. As part of this project, Cameron, McCarthy, Gilbert and Scheibe created the Ted M. Natt 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Plaza and redesigned the entrance to the building along the University Street Axis.

The surrounding landscape consists of lawns, walks, stairs and ramps as well as several large trees (See site plan for tree species identification). Designed by Lawrence and Holford and constructed by Thomas Muir, the Journalism Building was originally designed to be an annex to McClure Hall, with the intention that it would house the chemistry department. But when the old women's gym and Lawrence Annex burned down on July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1922, the university needed a home for the journalism program right away, and what was supposed to be McClure Annex became the Journalism Building.<sup>3</sup> The University of Oregon's journalism program was the first comprehensive curriculum of its kind in the field, and the Department of Journalism that was established in 1912 was one of the first in the country. The University Press and the University Printing Department (formerly known as the Oregon Scholastic Press) were located on the first floor until 1996.<sup>4</sup>

While the exterior of the building has maintained a fair amount of integrity, the interior has been substantially renovated and reorganized. However, due to its association to Ellis Lawrence as the chief designer and the Department of Journalism at the University of Oregon, the building is eligible for the National Register as part of a district nomination in the area of Education or Architecture as a contributing resource. The UO Planning Office has ranked the building as a tertiary resource due to its fair integrity and comparatively low campus significance.

**NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

Historic Significance (check one):  High  Medium  Low  Very Low or None

Integrity (check one):  Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

Condition (check one):  Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

Building designation:  City Landmark  National Register  National Historic Landmark  Not listed

Preliminary National Register eligibility findings

Building 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 type="checkbox"/> University archives        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UO Planning Office files | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary indexes                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: see below     |

**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Primary source materials, Allen Hall architectural drawings located in Facilities Services hanging files.

Bivins, Thomas H., "The Evolution of Allen Hall," a framed report hanging in the Allen Hall lobby, 1998.

"Formal Opening – Eric W. Allen Hall," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 8 October 1954, p. 1.

Shellenbarger, Michael and Kimberly K. Lakin. *Ellis Lawrence building survey*. Portland, OR: State Historic Preservation Office, 1989.

Shellenbarger, Michael, *University of Oregon architecture: a personal tour*. Eugene, OR: s.n. , 1986.

Teague, EH. (2004, Oct. 10). Allen Hall. *The Architecture of the University of Oregon*. Retrieved Mar. 1, 2006, from <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/>

Sandahl, David Alan and Castro, Ricardo, *An architectural history of the University of Oregon*, s.l.: s.n., 1975.

Wardell, Jackie, "New J-Building to be Named for Late Dean," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 2 April 1953, p. 3.

**RECORDING INFORMATION**

Researched: Dustin Welch and Andrea Blaser, Winter 2006

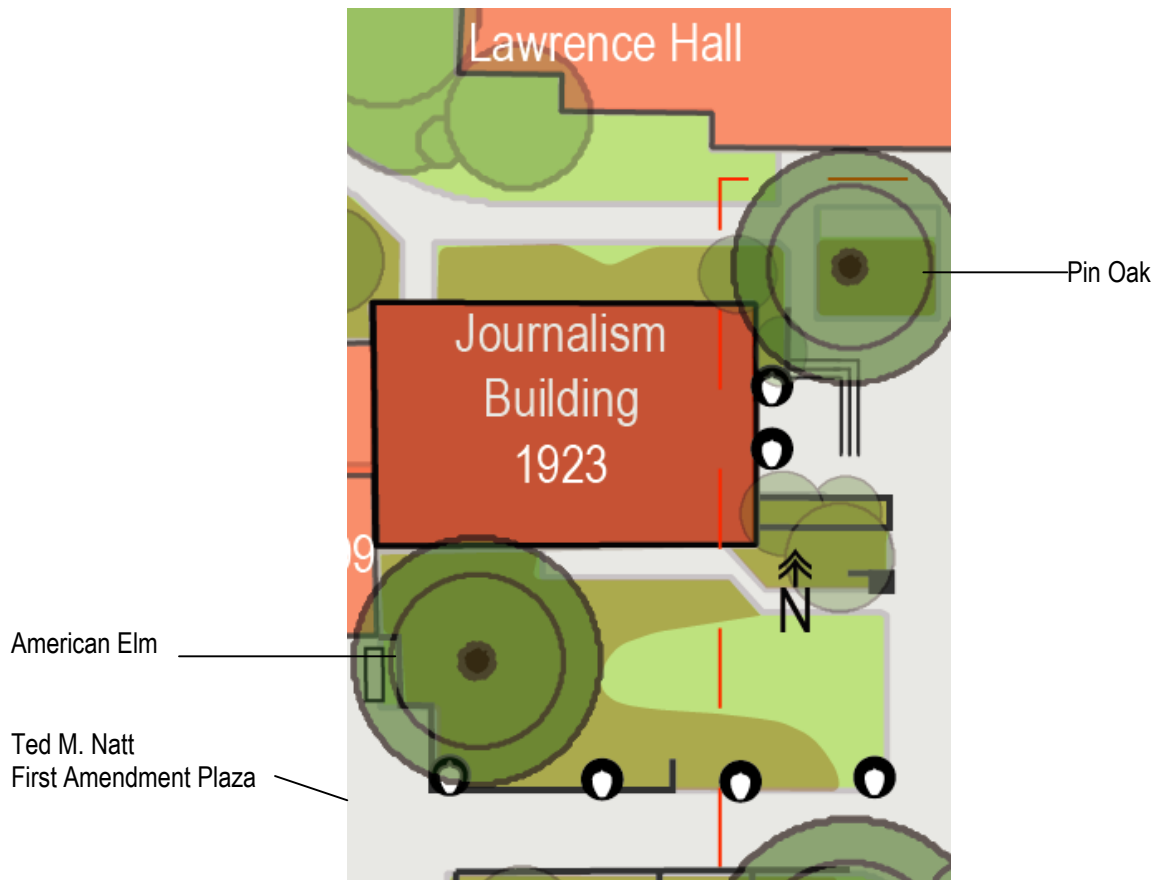
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name:

**PHOTOGRAPH**



**SITE PLAN**



## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> Shellenbarger, Michael and Kimberly K. Lakin. *Ellis Lawrence building survey*. Portland, OR: State Historic Preservation Office, 1989.

<sup>2</sup> Teague, EH. (2004, Oct. 10). Outdoor Sculpture and Building Ornamentation, Plaque. *The Architecture of the University of Oregon*. Retrieved Mar. 1, 2006, from <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/>

<sup>3</sup> Bivins, Thomas H., "The Evolution of Allen Hall," a framed report hanging in the Allen Hall lobby, 1998.

<sup>4</sup> The *University of Oregon Catalog*, 1924-1925, lists the University Press in the basement of McClure Hall and connected to the first floor of the Journalism Building. The *University of Oregon Catalog*, 1955-1956, lists the University Press in the basement of the new Allen Hall and is connected to the Oregon Scholastic Press located on the first floor of the old Journalism Building.