

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
University of Oregon Cultural Resources Survey
Eugene, Lane County, Oregon
Summer 2006, Updated 2025

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Gerlinger Hall
Historic building name: Women's Memorial Hall
Building address: 1468 University St.
Ranking: Primary

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Georgian/Colonial Revival
Building plan (footprint shape): irregular
Number of stories: 3
Foundation material(s): concrete
Primary exterior wall material: brick
Secondary exterior wall material: none
Roof configuration/type: gable on hip at ends, gable in center with dormer windows
Primary roof material: wood shingle
Primary window type: multi-pane, including 3 sets of 3 x 3 panels with horizontal pivot, miscellaneous single hung sash
Primary window material: wood
Decorative features and materials: brick quoins and pilasters, soldier belt course, iron balconies with French doors; see Comments
Landscape features: perimeter sidewalk, entry driveway to east, perimeter shrubs, brick and cast stone wall
Associated resources: Gerlinger Field Green to south; Gerlinger Entrance Green to east; Knight Library Axis to north; Hendricks Hall and Susan Campbell Hall to north complete the Women's Memorial Quad with Gerlinger Hall
Comments: Additional decorative details include flat arches with cast stone keys and springers, wood molded cornice, Georgian details at two major entrances - columns and pilasters, arched pediment, shield and scroll motif, ox-eye windows, decorative downspouts

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1919-1921
Architect: Lawrence & Holford
Builder/Contractor: W.O. Heckart; H. Snook; Washington Brick; City Iron Works; Standard Artific Stone Company; Rushlight & Hastorf
Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s): N/A
Description/dates of major additions/alterations: Miscellaneous interior alterations throughout the life of the building, including 1969 breezeway connecting to Gerlinger Annex, 1975 locker room remodel, 1977 alumni kitchen remodel, 1982-3 pool and gymnasium floor remodel, 1984 elevator added, and 1998 laundry room remodel, new awnings in 2002.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): Women's gymnasium Current use(s) or function(s): Gymnasium, classrooms, offices
 Area(s) of significance: Education; Architecture, Women's College Education Period of significance: 1921
 Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

The Women's Memorial Hall was build largely as a tribute to the accomplishments of women. Built in 1919 and designed by Ellis Lawrence, the building was to house the Department of Physical Training for Women, the Department of Household Arts, the Infirmary and all the women's organizations call for special quarters. In addition it was to provide a center for the women's activities on campus. Irene H. Gerlinger, the first woman on the University of Oregon's Board of Regents and an ardent fundraiser and supporter for the University began a long campaign for the women's building in 1915. In 1921, the Women's Memorial Hall was dedicated and officially opened for use and in 1929 was renamed Gerlinger Hall. Mrs. Gerlinger was deeply involved in the design and decoration of the building.

Gerlinger Hall is part of the Women's Memorial Quadrangle, an open area planned in lawn, shaded by a mixture of shrubs and trees and traversed by a curvilinear walkway, designed by Ellis Lawrence, the first Dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts. The ensemble is considered a fine and rare example of a collegiate building group in the Georgian style. Gerlinger Hall still retains its historic Georgian details. Immediately south of the building is the Women's Physical Education Field, historically used in conjunction with the women's gymnasium in Gerlinger. This building is sited to the south of the Pioneer Axis and Knight Library Axis, north of the Gerlinger Field Green and west of the Gerlinger Entrance Green, all being investigated as part of the Getty Foundation Cultural Landscape Preservation Plan.

The Women's Memorial Quadrangle was listed on the National Register in 1992. Gerlinger Hall continues to maintain a high level of integrity based on the criteria set forth in the National Register forms. It is ranked as a primary resource for its excellent integrity combined with a high level of significance.

(see National Register Nomination for more details)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> University archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UO Planning Office files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers |
| <input checked="" 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 : <u>See below</u> |

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Architecture at the University of Oregon <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/>

Facilities Services Office. "Getty Foundation Campus Heritage Grant 2005." Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 2005.

Shellenbarger, Michael. "National Register Nomination for Women's Memorial Quadrangle." Eugene, OR, University of Oregon, 1991.

Shellenbarger, Michael. "University of Oregon Architecture - A Personal Tour." Prepared for Historic Preservation Week and The Collier House Centennial. Eugene, OR, University of Oregon, 1986.

University of Oregon 125th Anniversary <http://anniversary.uoregon.edu/tour/collier.html>

University of Oregon Historic Preservation. Ellis Lawrence Building Survey. 2 vols. Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 1989.

University Planning Office. "University of Oregon Building Records, Projects and Improvements." [CD-ROM] Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 2006.

University Planning Office. University of Oregon South Central Campus Diagnosis. Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 2002.

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Kathleen Mertz and Elise Mendonca, Winter 2006

Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

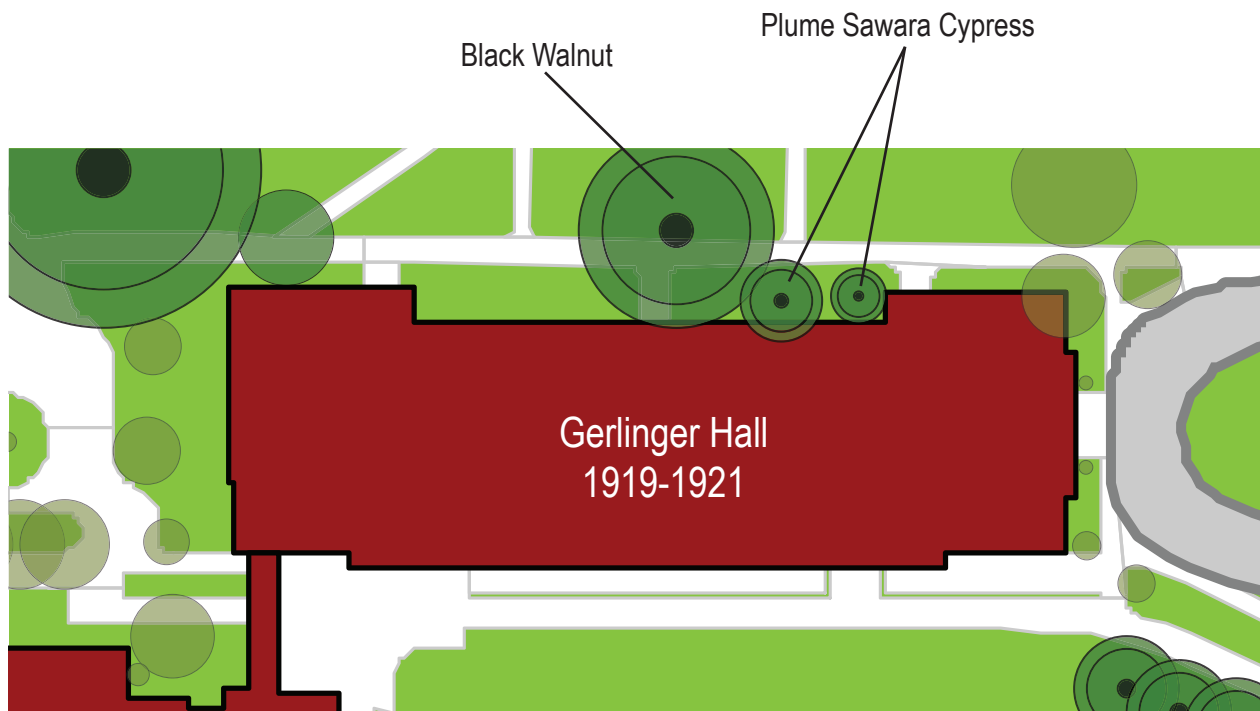
Photo number or name:

PHOTOGRAPH



(See Continuation Sheet 1 for additional photos of this building)

SITE PLAN



HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

University of Oregon Cultural Resources Survey

Eugene, Lane County, Oregon

Spring 2006, Updated 2025

Continuation Sheet 2

Section

Photos

Page 4



Figure 1. Gerlinger Hall, north elevation



Figure 2. Gerlinger Hall, east elevation