

# McKenzie Hall Preservation Plan

Open House

Office of Campus Planning

May 18, 2026



# Introductions – UO Team



Bruce Budzik, Sm Pjcts & Capital Improvements Mngr, Design & Construction



Amalia Leifeste, Assoc. Professor, Venerable Chair & Director of Historic Preservation



Phoenix Nwokedi, Student Historic Preservation Planning Assistant, Campus Planning



Janell Cottam, Director of Planning & Design, UO CAS



Daisy-O'lice Williams, Assoc. Professor, Architecture



Benjamin Schmitz, Student Historic Preservation Planning Assistant, Campus Planning



Emily Eng, Director, Campus Planning



Liz Thorstenson, Planning Associate – Historic Preservation, Campus Planning (*Project Manager*)

# Introductions: Architectural Resources Group (ARG)



Maya M. Foty  
Principal



Matthew M. Davis  
Principal



Architectural  
Resources Group



*Key ARG Staff (left to right)*

- Elysha Paluszek, Senior Associate
- Caitlin Cranley, Associate
- Jon Rusch, Senior Associate
- Morgan Quirk, Associate



**Moreland Consulting**  
Kimberly Moreland  
Founder and CEO



# McKenzie Hall Facts – Did you know?



# Presentation Agenda

**1. Project Background**

*Why are we doing this?*

**2. Preservation Plan Basics**

*What are we doing?*

**3. Initial Findings**

*What have we found out?*

**4. Next Steps**

*What's left to do?*

# 1. Project Background

O



## Genesis of Project

What prompted UO Campus Planning to pursue this grant program?



# **Conserving Black Modernism / African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund**



# Goals of the Preservation Plan and Interpretation



## **2. What is a Preservation Plan?**

**O**



## Central Purpose

**A Preservation Plan is a building manual that combines:**

- A summary of the building's history
- A full evaluation of historic significance, including identification of its character-defining features
- An assessment of current conditions and recommended treatments

**It is intended as an ongoing reference.**

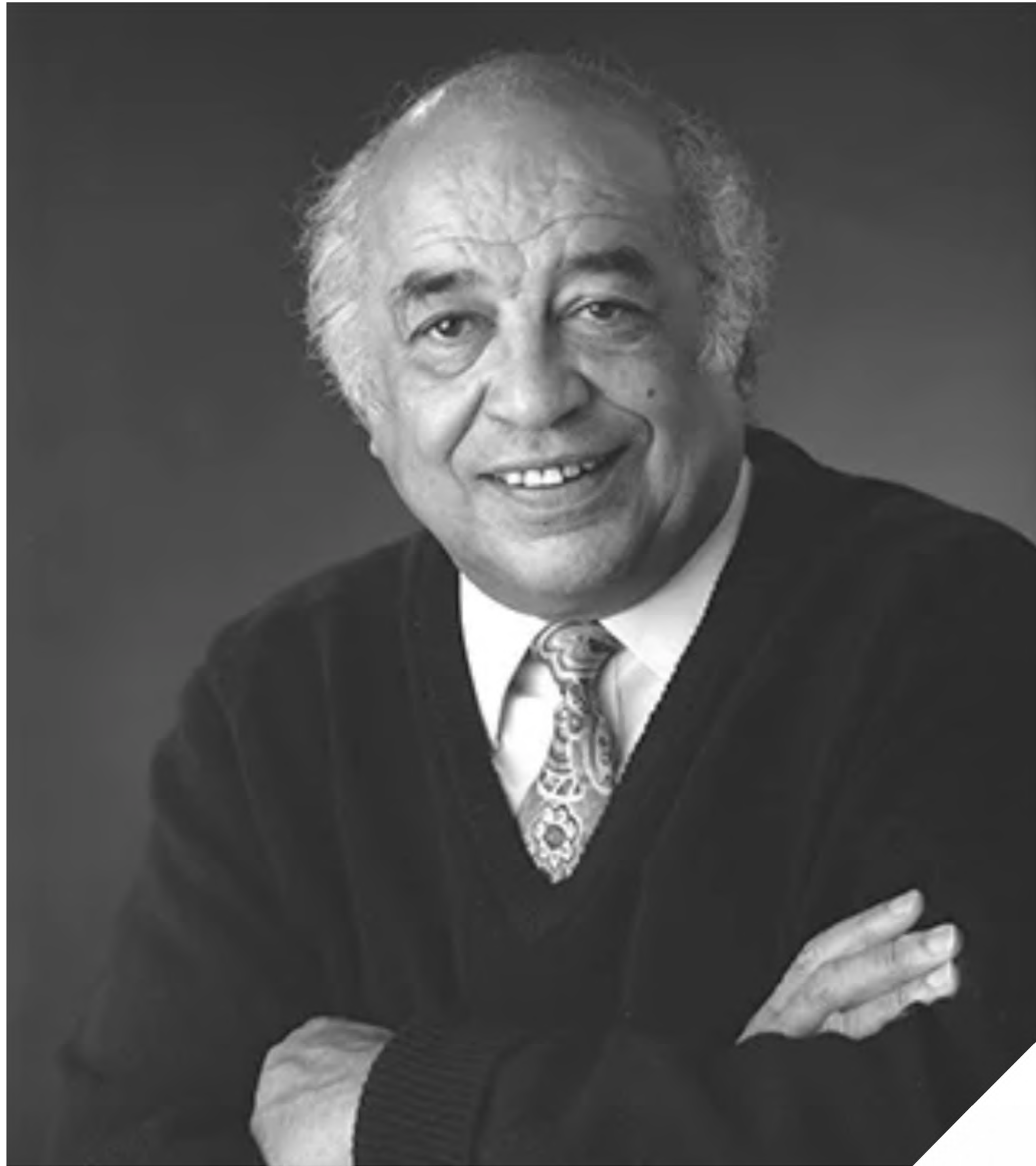


## Typical Contents

1. Project Background
2. Property Description
3. Property History
4. Architectural Context/Architect Biography
5. Evaluation of Significance
6. Conditions Assessment and Treatment Recommendations

### **3. What have we been finding out about McKenzie Hall?**

**O**



# **Significance of DeNorval “De” Unthank, Jr.**

**Breaking Barriers in Oregon**

**A Family of Community Builders**

**Parents Were Pillars of Portland**

# A Quiet Giant: Dedicated to Excellence and Scholarship

**A Call to Serve**



**Education & Opportunity**



**Working With & Helping  
People Find Solutions**



## Summary Timeline

- 1965-1967** UO planned and secured funding for a new Law Center
- 1968** DeNorval Unthank, Jr. oversaw the design of the building while partner at Wilmsen, Endicott & Unthank
- 1968-1970** Law Center was constructed, overseen by Unthank Seder Poticha Architects
- 1971** Law Center was dedicated
- 1997** Building was renamed Grayson Hall
- 1999** A new School of Law facility was completed; building renovated for use by the College of Arts and Sciences
- 2002** Building was renamed McKenzie Hall

# McKenzie Hall's Architectural Context & Significance



# McKenzie Hall's Architectural Context & Significance



Villa Savoye (Le Corbusier, 1931)



Bauhaus Building (Walter Gropius, 1925)



La Cité Radieuse (Le Corbusier, 1952)



Boston City Hall (Kallmann McKinnell & Knowles, 1969)

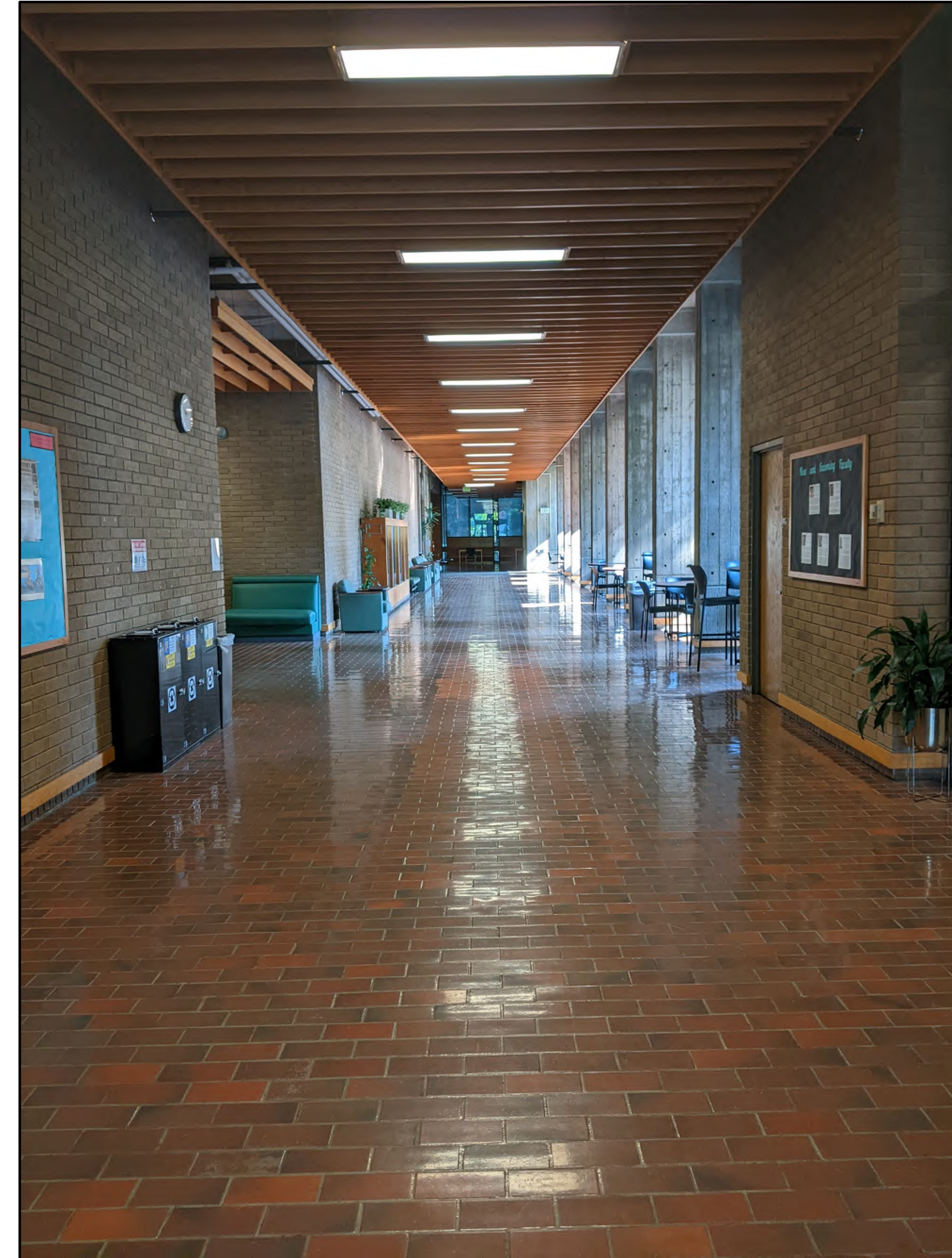
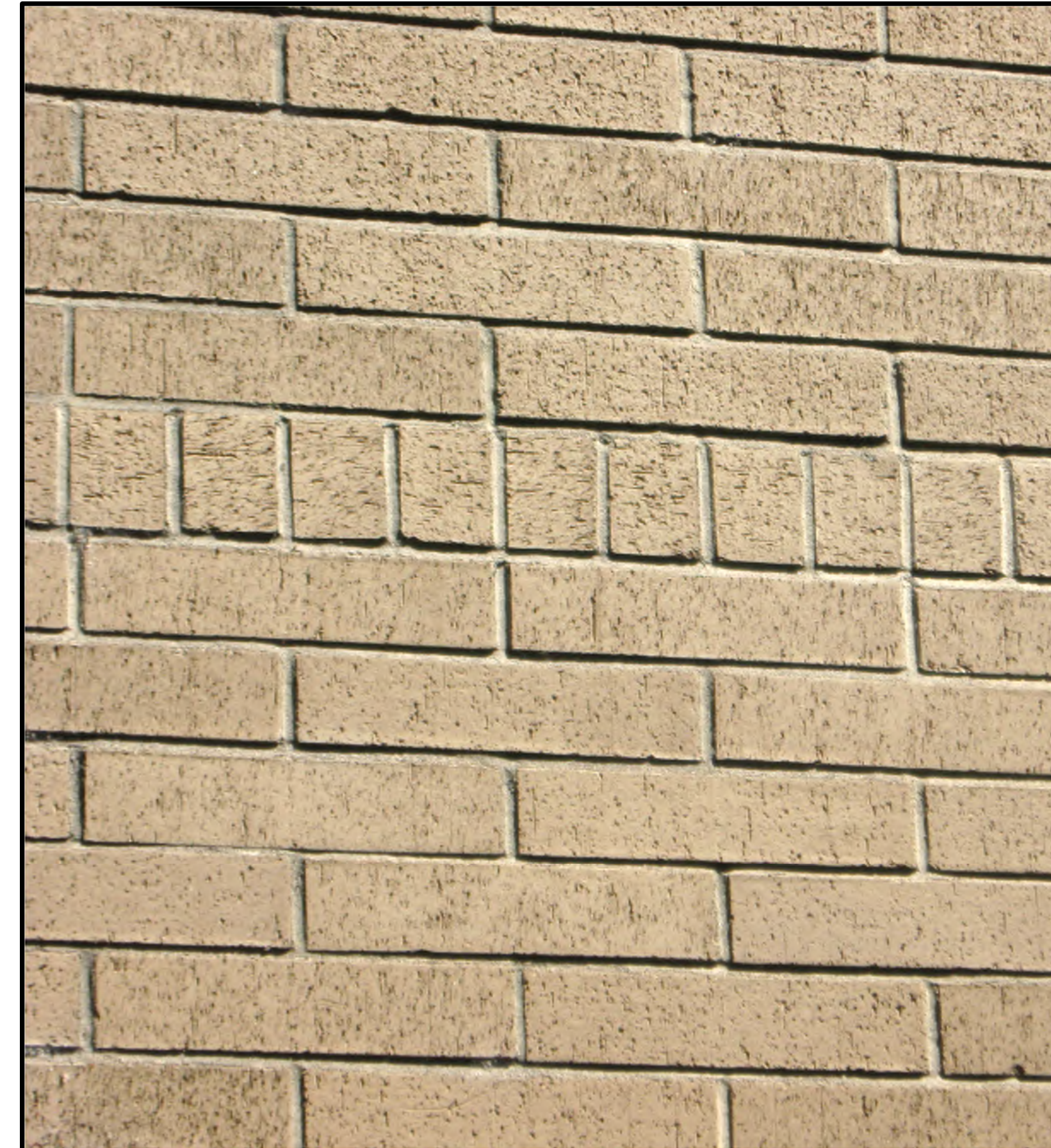
# McKenzie Hall's Architectural Context & Significance

## Form and Scale



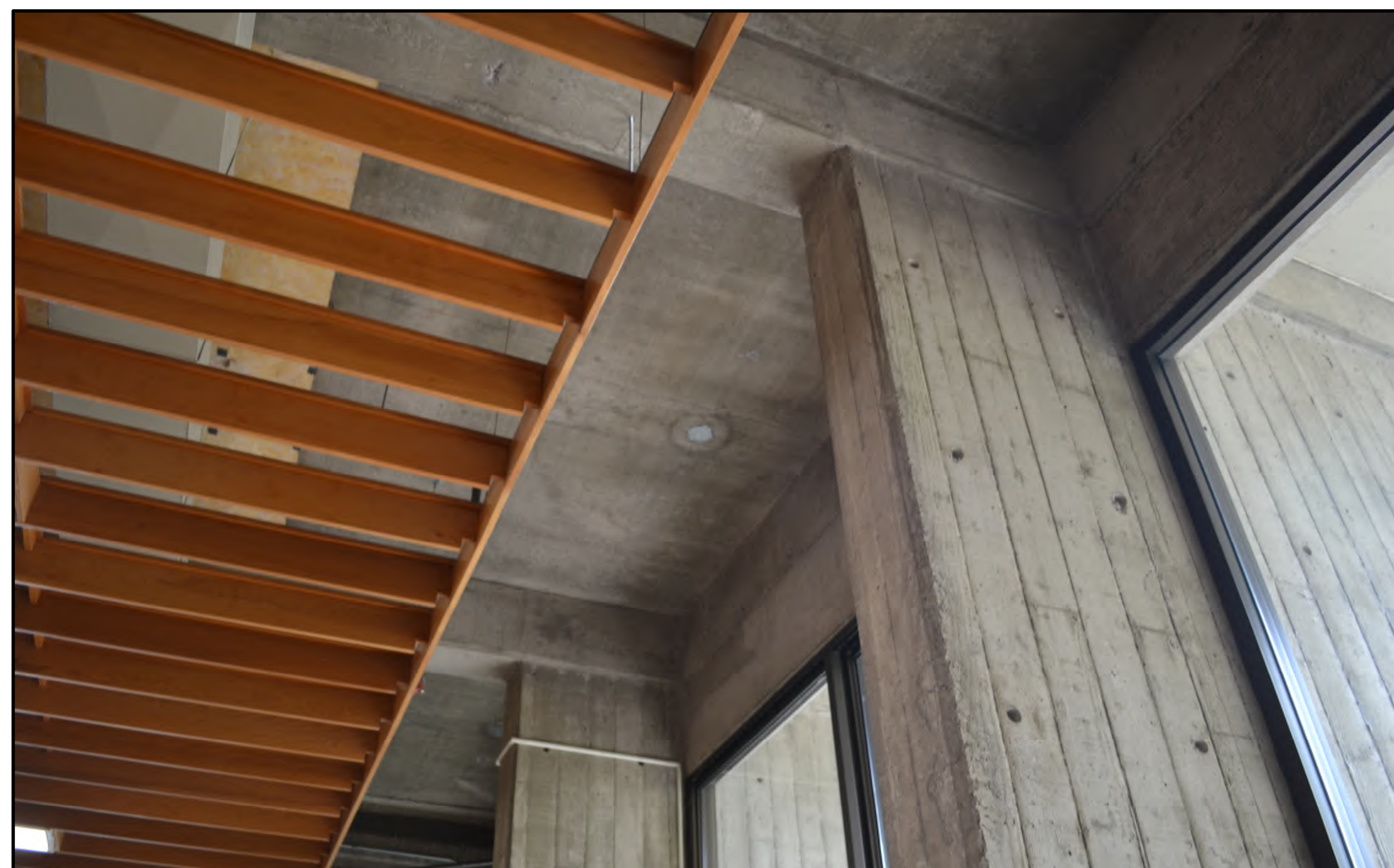
# McKenzie Hall's Architectural Context & Significance

## Materials



# McKenzie Hall's Architectural Context & Significance

## Visual Patterns



# McKenzie Hall's Architectural Context & Significance

## Intangible Aspects



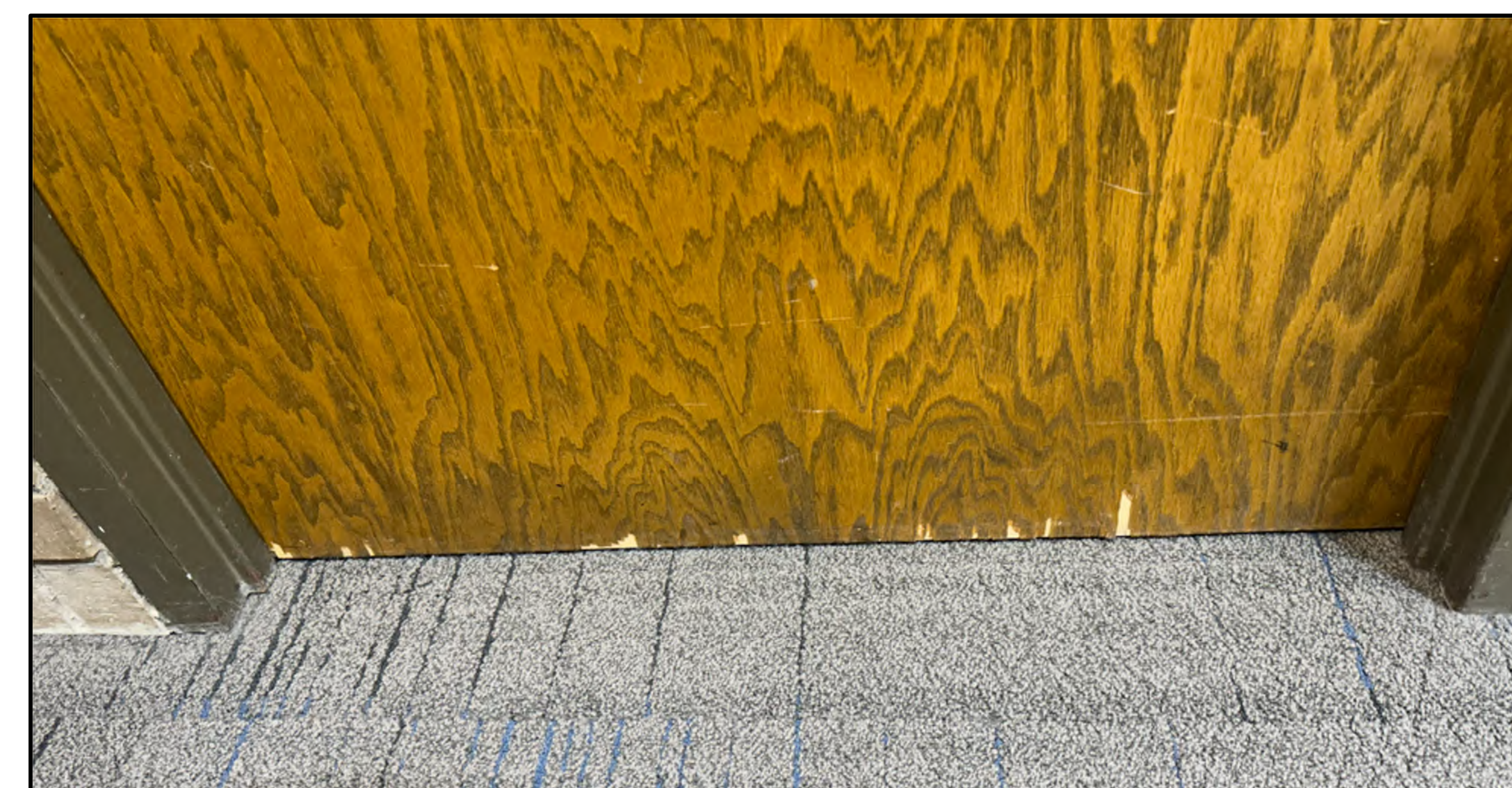
# Preliminary Conditions Assessment

## Typical Condition Issues at Exterior



# Preliminary Conditions Assessment

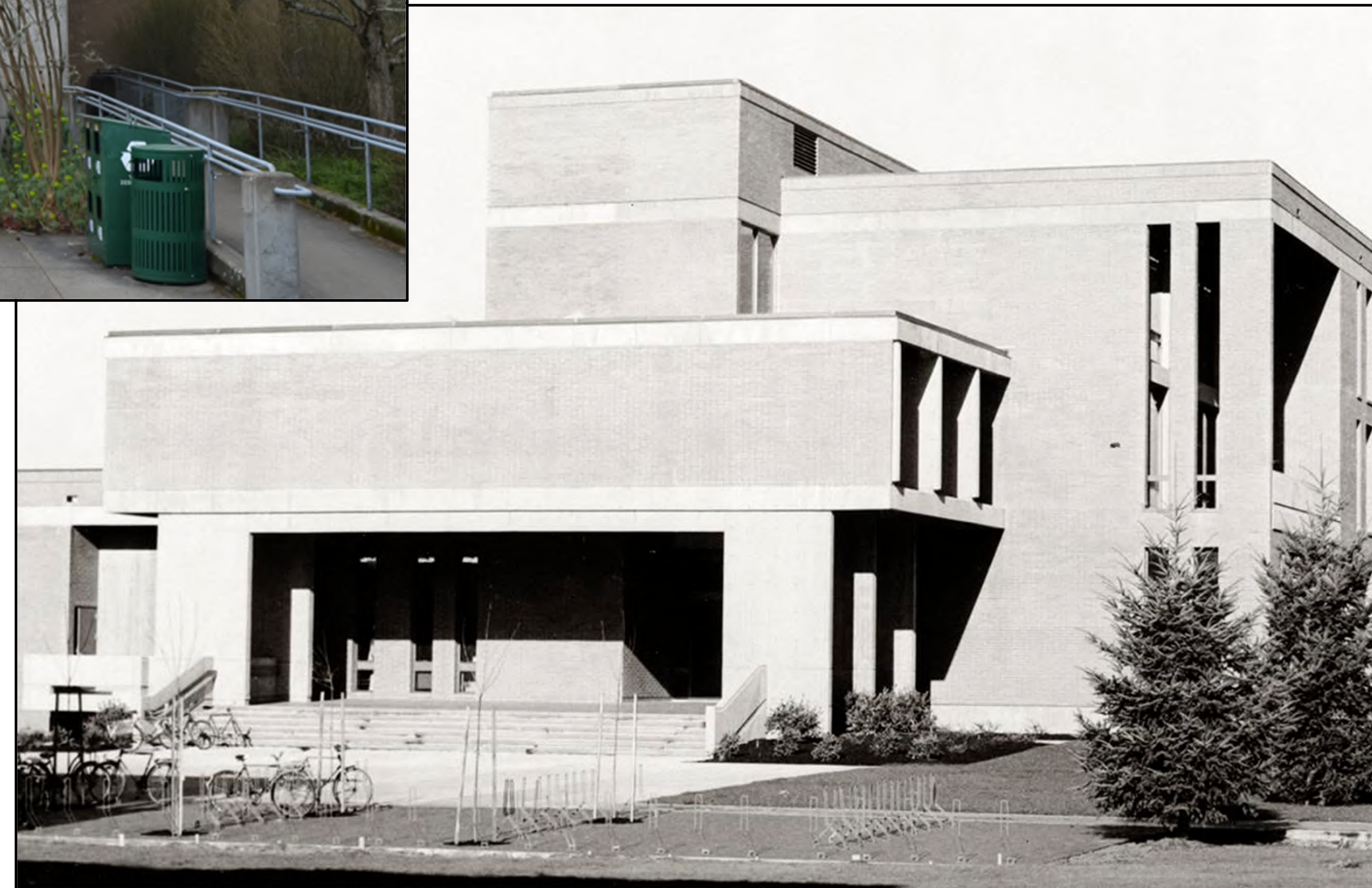
## Typical Condition Issues at Interior



# Preliminary Conditions Assessment



Accretions



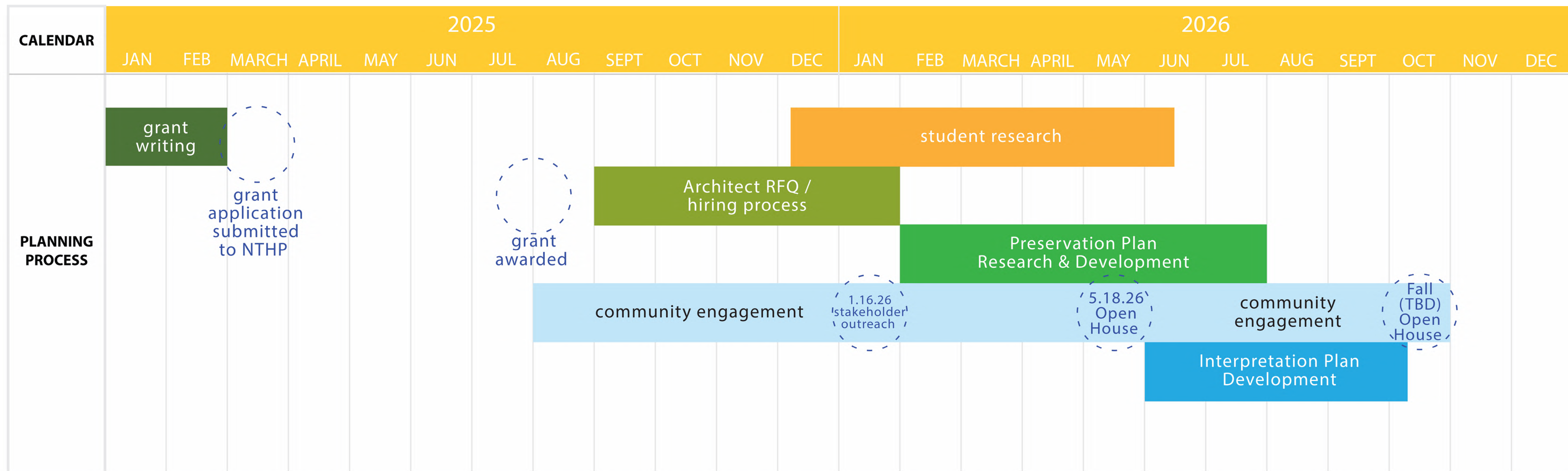
# 4. Next Steps

O

# Schedule

## Project Timeline

## UO Campus Planning



## Next Open House

**Date: Fall 2026 (TBD)**

**Location: UO McKenzie Hall**

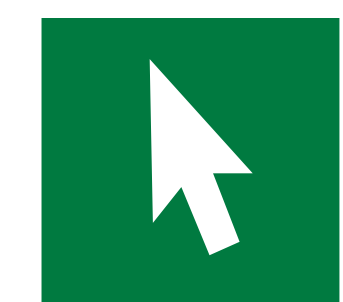
**Purpose: To share the findings of the McKenzie Hall Preservation Plan and celebrate the interpretive display element**



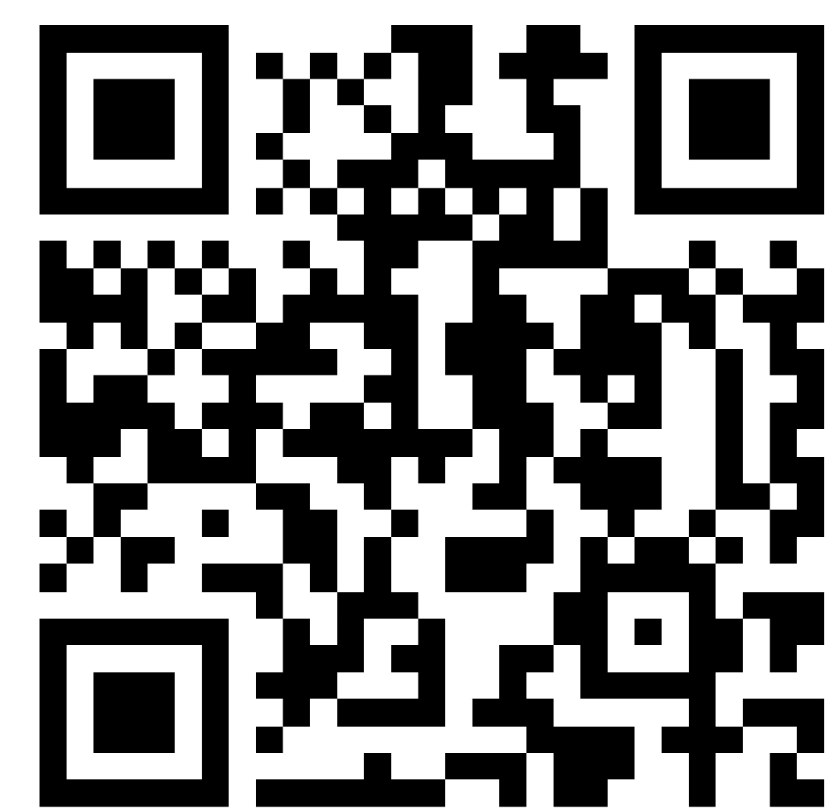
# Follow us Online!



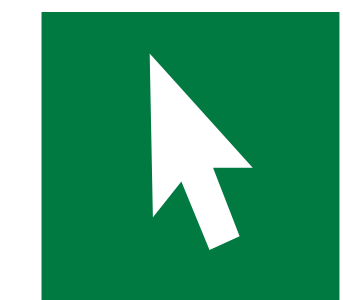
## **McKenzie Hall Preservation Plan**



<https://cpfm.uoregon.edu/mckenzie-hall-preservation-plan>



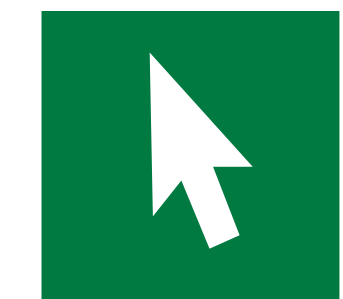
## **UO Campus Planning**



<https://cpfm.uoregon.edu/campus-planning>



## **National Trust for Historic Preservation Conserving Black Modernism Grants**



<https://savingplaces.org/conserving-black-modernism>



# Questions & Discussion



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON