

### 15 Women's Quad

Surrounded by Gerlinger Hall, Hendricks Hall, and Susan Campbell Hall, the Women's Quad (1910-1920) was built to accommodate women living on campus during this time. Hendricks and Susan Campbell were the first major women's dorms to be built on campus. During the time of Luella Clay Carson as Dean of Women, tennis courts were located on the Women's Quad. No woman on campus was allowed to play basketball – a sport she found “rough and unladylike”. Now, UO is home to one of the most prominent women's basketball teams in PAC-12 history. Nearby between Collier House and Hendricks, adjacent to the Women's Quad, the former Mary Spiller House (razed in 1951/52) was built in 1908 to provide housing for 20 women. It was named in honor of Spiller, the first woman member of the UO faculty.



### 16 Susan Campbell Hall

Constructed in early 1921, as the second all-women's dormitory, Susan Campbell Hall reflects a time when more women were moving away from home with more independence, enrolling in college, and receiving university educations. The original building consisted of three separate houses, each of which contained nine to twelve 4-woman suites. Each suite had a study room, wardrobe, dressing chamber, and sleeping porch. The meeting room and study space near the front of the building are still in use today.



### 17 Gerlinger Hall

Built in 1919 and originally named “Woman's Memorial Hall,” the building housed the Department of Physical Training for Women. Irene H. Gerlinger, the first woman on the UO Board of Regents, began a long campaign for the building in 1915, and consulted with architect Ellis Lawrence on its design. The building was renamed Gerlinger Hall for Irene in 1929. It was described as “a monument to noble womanhood”, and it is a landmark to the emerging roles of women in the 20th century. One of these noble women, Abigail Scott Duniway, (1834 - 1915), is remembered as the “Pioneer Woman Suffragist of the Great Northwest.” She led the campaign to achieve voting rights for Oregon women until 1912, when women gained the ballot. If you have time, visit the historic Gerlinger lounge space inside.



### 18 Luna Sculpture

“Luna” (2014) is a bronze sculpture located in the Straub Hall Green designed by American sculptor and UO graduate, Ellen Tykeson. “Luna is an archetypal female figure that juxtaposes the beauty of the mysterious with acceptance of the burdens inherent in life. In her powers reside the phases of the lunar calendar that order the rhythms of tides, fertility, birth, and growth... This effort is the story of [women], as the appearance of casual balance is the job of a life. The crystals of the inner edges represent the harshness, fragility, and natural order of human existence.” - Ellen Tykeson



### 19 Hayward Field Tower and Mural Track Tributes

Hayward Field accommodates the elite track team of the University of Oregon. The image of Raevyn Rogers is featured on the tower that looks over UO. Rogers ran for the Ducks track team until 2017 and was a six-time NCAA Division I champion and ten-time All-American at UO. She won consecutive outdoor 800 meter NCAA and Pac-12 Conference titles (2015, 2016, 2017), the 2017 Women's Bowerman Award, and an 800 meter bronze medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Additional women track athletes are featured on the adjacent mural along Agate Street, including Jordan Hasay (2013) and Keshia Baker (2010).



### 20 Museum of Natural and Cultural History

The Museum of Natural and Cultural History features exhibits showcasing the history of Oregon. It's a place for digging into science, celebrating culture, and joining together to create a just and sustainable world. Many of the museum's past and present exhibits have included a focus on women's history in Oregon. “Outliers and Outlaws,” chronicles the influx of lesbians to Eugene in the 1960s - 1990s. “Racing to Change: Oregon's Civil Rights Years - the Eugene Story,” chronicles the civil rights movement in Eugene during the 1960s and 1970s (available online). The museum is also famous for its remarkable collection of 10,000 year old sagebrush bark sandals, “Oregon's First Running Shoes,” recovered from Oregon cave sites.



### 21 Many Nations Longhouse and Mother's Day Powwow

Since 2005, the Many Nations Longhouse has been home to the Native American Student Union. The Mother's Day Powwow is hosted every year by the NASU. The event has been celebrated for over 55 years and designated as an Oregon Heritage Tradition by the Oregon State Parks. This free public event celebrates indigenous educators, mothers, graduating seniors, and the winner of the Miss Indian UO pageant through traditional dance and ceremony. Graduating seniors are honored with blankets and an honor song from the Native American community. The weekend-long celebration ends with a Washat service and salmon bake at the Many Nations Longhouse.



### 22 Lyllye Reynolds-Parker Black Cultural Center

This center is named for Lyllye Reynolds-Parker, a civil rights activist and UO alumna, who used her talents as an UO student advisor for 17 years. She has the incredible ability to make anyone feel welcomed from the moment you meet her. She was born in Eugene in a house without running water, discriminated against throughout her life, and went to college as a 40-year-old single mother. The center was dedicated in her honor on October 12th, 2019. Reynolds-Parker has inspired many through her career and activism, and is an important figure in the history of women at UO. Mabel Janet Byrd is also an inspiring alumni figure for women of color, considering Black people were systematically excluded from Oregon until the 1920's, as she advocated for civil rights and enrolled at UO in 1917. She was the first African American student to attend UO.



### 23 Yell 'O Statue at Matthew Knight Arena

The infamous Yell 'O Statue, positioned prominently between Matthew Knight Arena and the Ford Alumni Center, stands 8 feet tall to greet fans into the arena. Led by 2011 UO graduate Alison Brown, with a team of 20 artists, “Yell -O” took one year to create. Brown was previously a resident advisor in the Living Learning Center, turning her dorm room into a makeshift studio as she juggled sculpting with her studies. The statue was unveiled on January 23rd, 2016. Weighing 1,000 pounds, this statue will not falter. The statue was donated by Tom and Molly Clarey, who graduated in 1972 and 1982.



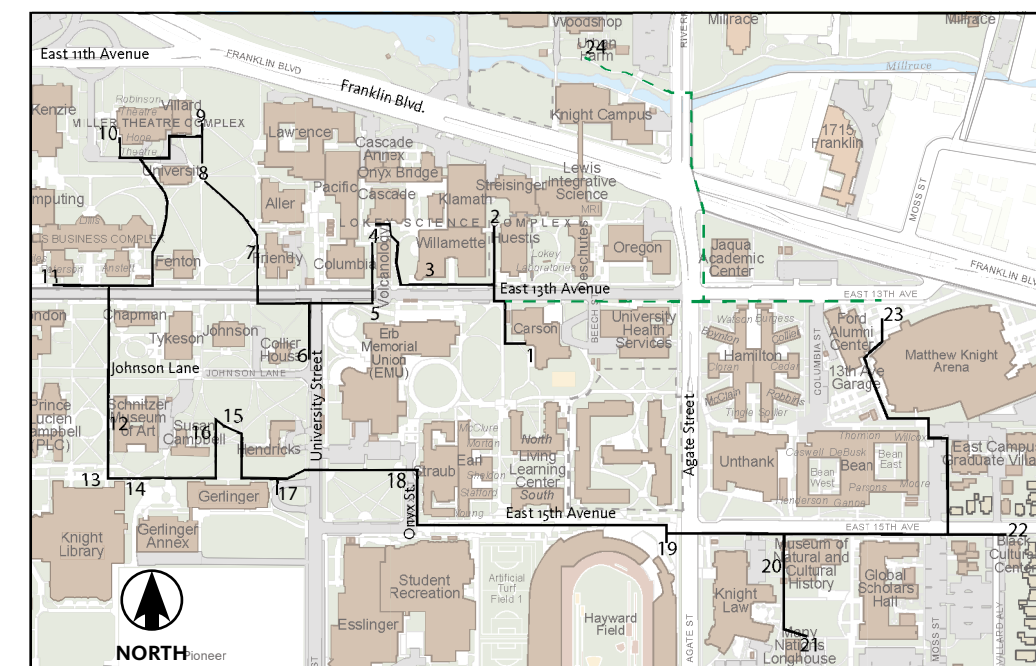
### 24 Urban Farm (additional tour stop)

The Urban Farm began in 1975, when a group of students started growing food in an unused space. After the departure of Richard Britz who initiated the project, the fate of the Urban Farm was hanging on by a thread. In the winter of 1983, Ann Bettman, who had worked at the Urban Farm and was teaching, was interested in developing the space slowly with perennial plantings of flowers and vegetable beds that would establish the structure of the garden. Her passion for this project kept the Urban Farm alive. Bettman's momentum allowed the farm to thrive. In 1991-92, Cynthia Girling, Landscape Architecture faculty member, derived a plan to identify the farm as an outdoor classroom so that the Urban Farm could continue to flourish.



Photo credit: Around the O

# Women in the History of the Campus Built Environment




**University of Oregon**  
Self-guided Tour, August 2024

The University of Oregon has a rich history of women that is reflected in the campus built environment. This tour takes you throughout the campus, highlighting stops featuring important contributions by women that are reflected in the built environment. The first stop of the tour, Carson Hall, is located east of the EMU and south of Streisinger Hall. If desired, you may take this tour in the opposite direction, starting with stop #23 at the Yell 'O Statue near Matthew Knight Arena, then travel southeast to the Black Cultural Center. This tour takes approximately one to one and a half hours to complete, and stop #24 is an additional highlight you may want to explore.

*While this tour features a range of contributions from self-identified women, this tour is not a holistic representation of all people who identify as women. Additionally, many of these tour elements are not representative of a time period that was inclusive of all self-identifying women and women of color.*

**Tours available on the UOregon App**

 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

**Land Acknowledgment:** *The University of Oregon is located within the traditional homelands of the Southern Kalapuya. Following the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855, Kalapuya people were forcibly removed to the Coast Reservation in Western Oregon. Today, descendants are citizens of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians of Oregon.*



### 1 Carson Hall

Named for Luella Clay Carson, who came to UO in 1888 as a Professor of English and Elocution, specializing in written and oral composition. She was the first head of the English department. Formalizing her de facto position, the university appointed her Dean of Women in 1895. The east stairwell of the Knight Library is inscribed with a quote attributed to her, “Settle your beliefs and convictions... and then write from yourself... The thoughts which are your own – of your own creation and convictions – are those that burn and are full of interest to you and those who hear them.”



### 2 Streisinger Hall and the Science Complex

Streisinger Hall was named for the husband of Lotte Streisinger, geneticist and biology professor George Streisinger. Lotte was born to a Jewish family in 1927 in Munich, Germany. In 1937, she immigrated to America, fleeing hostile Nazi Germany. In 1960, she moved to Eugene with her family, continuing her work as a potter, becoming a central figure of the Eugene art community. In 1971, she spearheaded the opening of Eugene’s Saturday Market which continues to this day. She served as visual arts coordinator for the Streisinger Hall and Science Complex project of 1989. Lotte also contributed tiles with small circles representing raindrops to the “Science Walk”, which are located in the courtyard paving between Willamette Hall and Streisinger Hall.



### 3 Women in Science

This sculpture head is of Marie Curie, created in 1991 by Wayne Chabre, on Willamette Hall and selected for placement by the physicists who work there. Curie is remembered for discovering radium and polonium, and is the only person to win Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields. Her contributions to the fields of physics and chemistry continue to inspire women in science. Today, the UO Women in Graduate Science organization strives for gender equality by focusing on the professional development of women in all disciplines of science to enable them to become successful contributors in their fields.



### 4 Cascade Charley

“Cascade Charley - Water Contemplation Place” is a waterfall fountain made of masonry, ceramic, and stone. Artist Alice Wingwall designed the waterfall fountain to engage senses other than just sight—primarily hearing—because at the time she designed it (1991) she was going blind. Blue markers on the ground around “Cascade Charley” are locations from which you can experience different sounds from the waterfall. At the west end of the “Science Walk”, she collaborated with artist Scott Wylie to make the path look like it was coming out of the fountain. As described by Lotte Streisinger in 2005, “Wingwall is almost totally blind...but she hears well. The fountain has two sounds of water, a sheet of water and a drop”.



### 5 Erb Memorial Union

Adell McMillan (1933 – 2010) served the Erb Memorial Union (EMU) as its first woman director from 1975 – 1991. Adell was also a collector of contemporary Pacific Northwest art, active community volunteer, author (including “A Common Ground: The EMU, UO from 1950-2000”), and philanthropist. Upon her death in 2010, Adell donated her private art collection to UO. The Adell McMillan Art Gallery, is named in her honor for years of service as director. The EMU is also home to the Women’s Center, a safe place where women can work and relax. The Women’s Center is a safe and affirming place for all gender identities and has many resources, including: a lending library, lactation room, relaxation space, menstrual and safer sex supplies.



### 6 Collier Landscape

The Collier House was built in 1886 and originally occupied by George and Sybel Collier (Smith), and their seven children. Sybel, a trained botanist, went out into the local environs with a horse and buggy to discreetly collect trees and shrubs to plant around the house, lending great charm to the home. Among the collection were large conifers and shade trees, evergreen and flowering shrubs, and bright perennial flowers. Originally there was a large pasture and barn to the west where their old grey horse “Prince” was stabled. It is believed that many of the large conifers standing on the property today were collected by her.



### 7 Friendly Hall

For over 15 years there was no dormitory at UO. The funding for the first dormitory on the UO campus was approved by the state legislature in 1893. This was initially conceived to be a co-ed dormitory, later named Friendly Hall, and a rectangular, 3-story building. It contained 40 rooms to accommodate 90 students and consisted of two wings separated by a solid dividing wall, the north wing for women, and the south wing for men with a common dining hall. After only 1 year, it switched to a mens’ only dormitory, no longer accepting women. The building continued to be used in this fashion until 1928, when Straub Hall opened as the new dorm and it was then converted into office space. Today, it is used as a building for classrooms and offices.



### 8 University Hall Steps

University Hall was the first building on the UO campus when it opened its doors in 1876. (The building was previously named after Mathew Deady, however was denamed in 2020 due to the racist values and beliefs he held). There are essentially two main entrances to the building, one on the west which provided a direct connection to downtown Eugene – this was the men’s entrance, and one on the east – which was the women’s entrance. The steps on the east were perceived as being shallower, aiding in the preference of the time for womens’ ankles to not be exposed as they walked up the steps to the front door.



### 9 Flower and Fern Fanatics at Villard Hall

The tradition of the Fern & Flower Procession of graduating coeds each spring grew out of a secret society of junior girls call the FFFs (Fern Flower Fanatics) formed in 1894 by Luella Clay Carson to beautify the campus. In 1900, the first Fern & Flower Procession led by Mary Straub & Susie Barnard laid garlands on the steps of Villard Hall. Students spoke highly of Dr. Carson, the university’s first dean of women, “It was she who gave us the artistic side of life.” The FFFs planted ferns under Dr. Carson’s Villard hall office window, where it was said the ferns were still visible 50 years later on the east side of Villard under the window. In 1951, the Flower & Fern Procession, consisting of women graduates, was held on the Women’s Quad.



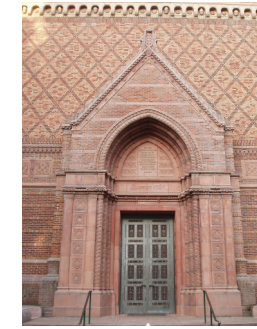
### 10 Normal Gate

At the founding of the University in 1876, University Hall housed the Normal School. Its curriculum trained teachers, primarily women, as a means of satisfying the overwhelming demand for primary education in developing rural communities throughout the state. The Normal School’s final graduating class – the class of 1885 – finished its studies at what is now Western Oregon University. Before the move, members of the class of 1885 commemorated the Normal School and its contribution to the university’s beginnings with the gate. During the construction of Robinson Theater in 1947, the gate was almost completely buried. In 2004, the Normal Gate was uncovered and restored by Historic Preservation students.



### 11 Corazon Aquino Tree at Peterson Hall

Named after Corazon “Cory” Aquino, former President of the Phillipines, champion of democracy, and heroine of the People Power Movement that toppled the dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos in the 1980s, this tree was planted to memorialize Aquino’s visit of profound institutional significance to the UO campus in 1995. In 1997, she returned to UO as the Carlton Raymond and Wilberta Ripley Savage Visiting Professor in International Relations and Peace. This tree honors her extraordinary courage.



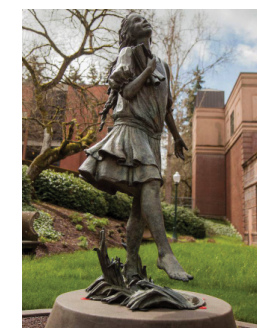
### 12 Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (JSMA)

Gertrude Bass Warner was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1863. She attended boarding school in Paris and the University of Chicago. She visited thousands of cultural sites and became an innovator in the promotion of Asian art and cultural appreciation. In 1922, she became the curator of life and first director of the UO Museum of Art (currently JSMA), helping to design the historic building with famed architect Ellis F. Lawrence. The museum houses the Murray Warner Collection of Asian Art, which she donated to UO in 1933. She is considered a female pioneer of museum studies.



### 13 Knight Library

Louise Utter Pritchard, (1912 - 1965) born in Washington, designed the Heads on the Frieze (look up to see the frieze near the building cornice) on the historic Knight Library façade, along with Edna C. Dunberg, who died before the work was completed in 1937. Pritchard attended UO in 1930, majoring in art. Louise’s existing work at UO includes the distinctive plaque, now located inside Allen Hall, bearing the inscription, “A free & enlightened press the surest guarantor of liberty.”



### 14 Opal Whiteley Sculpture

Opal Whiteley (1897 – 1992) born in Colton, Washington was the oldest of five children. Whiteley graduated from UO in 1921 and went on to become an eclectic American nature writer and diarist, publishing her childhood journal, *The Story of Opal*, in 1920. Whiteley was a controversial figure, as people began to question the authenticity of her work, alleging she actually wrote the diary at age 20. Whiteley is UO’s greatest enigma and is considered “among the strangest, and yet most interesting personalities to attend.” This bronze statue in her honor commemorating her life, was designed by American sculptor and UO graduate, Ellen Tykeson.