

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

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Pacific Hall
Historic building name: Science I
Building address: 1210 Franklin Blvd.
Ranking: Non-Contributing

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Early Modern
Building plan (footprint shape): L-shaped
Number of stories: 3.5
Foundation material(s): Poured Concrete
Primary exterior wall material: Poured Concrete
Secondary exterior wall material: N/A
Roof configuration/type: Flat
Primary roof material: Built-up roof
Primary window type: 4 panel metal frame with operable hopper in the lower panels
Primary window material: Metal
Decorative features and materials: Decorative tile at the south entrance
Landscape features: Small shrubs, deciduous trees, bike racks
Associated resources: Attached to Lawrence Hall, Onyx Bridge, & Columbia Hall; University Street Axis
Comments: The building is a three and a half story poured concrete structure organized as an L shape. The walls are unadorned concrete with metal windows set flush with the wall. The structure is a single mass with the exception of the projecting single story bay of the Northwestern entry. Pacific Hall is attached to Lawrence Hall at its northern end, Columbia Hall at the south by a skybridge, and to Onyx Bridge on the east.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1952
Architect: Lawrence, Tucker, & Wallman
Builder/Contractor: Ross B. Hammond Co.
Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s):
Description/dates of major additions/alterations: There have been periodic remodels to Pacific Hall, primarily to interior classroom spaces to accommodate new mechanical and technical requirements. Refer to Continuation Sheet 1 for details on remodels.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

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

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

Area(s) of significance: Education, Architecture

Period of significance: 1952

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

In the period following World War II, the University of Oregon experienced increasing enrollment and a need for buildings to house rapidly expanding programs. One of the areas that experienced the greatest growth was the sciences. During the early 1950s enrollment in science programs increased dramatically. The study of science at this time grew increasingly specialized with a need for new equipment and support spaces. The University intended for "Science I" to provide a modern home to all of the science disciplines.

The 1952 design by Lawrence, Tucker, and Wallman emphasized utility and economy. The internal arrangements stressed flexibility of partition walls and durability of materials. The designers selected a reinforced concrete frame to accommodate the mechanical and equipment load necessary for "modern" science programs. The building has simple rectangular massing with the exception of the projecting entry bay at the northwest edge. The unadorned walls and massing reflect the building's half modern style. It is said that the plain concrete façade is the result of budget cuts and that the original design called for brick. Further research is required to confirm this. The chair of the building committee of the State Board of Education, Dr. R.E. Kleinsorge, described Science I as "the single most important building ever added to the campus." Kleinsorge's sentiments are evidence of the increasing importance of science at the University of Oregon and the eagerness with which the community anticipated its construction. Typifying the new age of technological architecture, the building had a specially designed ventilating system, which pressurized inside air slightly greater than outside air, making labs odor-free. Also, chemistry labs were equipped with showers in their doors. (Sandahl). The building is connected to Columbia Hall via a skybridge on the second story. The building was connected in 1962 to what was originally known as the east wing of Science I but is now known as Onyx Bridge. In 1990, the building was renamed Pacific Hall. In 1990, a connection was added between Pacific Hall and the new wing of Lawrence Hall. The building continues to house science facilities but now also accommodates the Yamada Language Lab, Environmental Studies department, American English Institute, and facilities for the School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

The site was the third selected after several years of postponement. The first, in 1945, was at 14th Street and Kincaid, and the second in 1949 was at 18th Street and Kincaid. With the third site selected, the Extension Division building and several private homes were moved or demolished to clear the site (Sandahl).

The frequent remodels to Pacific Hall in support of the ever-changing equipment and technology are evidence of the University's continued commitment to provide first-rate technical spaces to its science community. In spite of the remodels and the expansion of the surrounding buildings, the utilitarian character of the exterior and interior spaces remains intact. Pacific Hall is well maintained and in good condition. Pacific Hall is a highly utilitarian structure that lacks distinction and is not eligible for the National Register on its own. It could, however, be a contributing resource in a district for its association with the growth of the science program at the University of Oregon. Despite its good integrity, it is classified as a non-contributing resource by the UO Campus Planning Office due to its very low significance compared with other buildings at the university

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENTHistoric Significance (check one): High Medium Low X 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):

X A. Associated with significant events C. Distinctive architecturally B. Associated with significant persons D. Archaeologically importantIf 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 type="checkbox"/> Historic photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary indexes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (see below) |

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES*Guides*

Teague, Edward. *The Architecture of the University of Oregon A History, Bibliography, & Research Guide*. Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 2004-2005.

Journals

"New Science Building is Last in Present Building Program:" Old Oregon 31 no.9 (June 1950): 7, ill. Lawrence Tucker, Wallmann File Classroom-Laboratory Building 2127 A Clippings & Photographs, Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene.

"Heralding a New Era for Science: A Building That is Not an Expenditure but an Investment." Old Oregon (June 1952): 2-6, ill. Lawrence Tucker, Wallmann File Classroom-Laboratory Building 2127 A Clippings & Photographs, Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene.

Newspaper Articles

"Hammond Wins Contract for U.O. Science Building." *Journal of Commerce*. March 22, 1950. Lawrence Tucker, Wallmann File Classroom-Laboratory Building 2127 A Clippings & Photographs, Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene.

"U.O. Science Building Figures Invited" Unknown Newspaper clipping Portland, OR February 15, 1950 Lawrence Tucker, Wallmann File Classroom-Laboratory Building 2127 A Clippings & Photographs, Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene.

University of Oregon Campus Planning Manuals

University of Oregon Campus Planning Office. Contract with Lawrence, Tucker, Wallmann to construct Science, Classroom and Laboratory Building Campus Planning Office. University of Oregon, Eugene. 1950

University of Oregon Campus Planning Office. .Project Manual Alterations to the Main Science Building. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1968.

Refer to Continuation Sheet 2

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Jennifer L. Flathman, Erin Pochert, Winter 2006

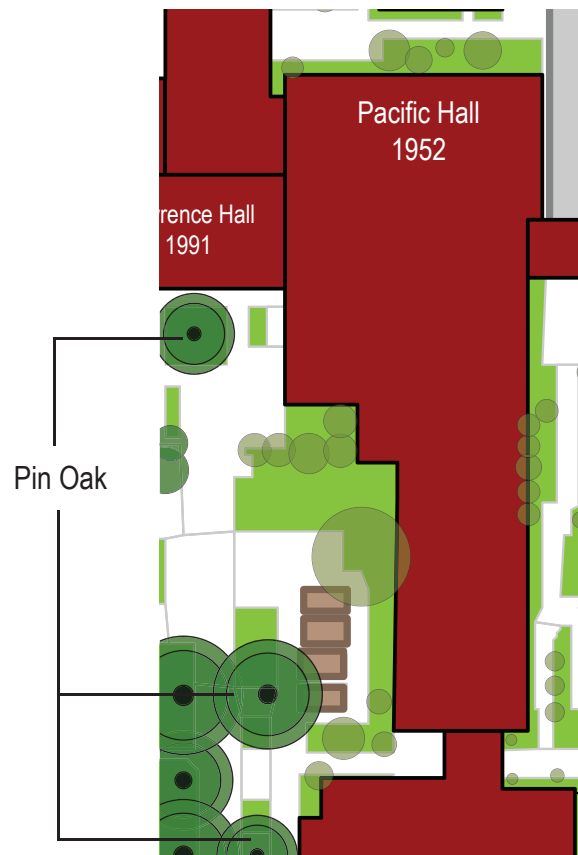
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name: Pacificcropped.jpg

PHOTOGRAPH



SITE PLAN



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Continuation Sheet 1**Section Architectural History Page 1**

1962 Connection to Onyx Bridge
1968 Alteration to interiors including frame and masonry block partitioning, millwork and custom cabinet work, electrical, plumbing and air conditioning
1973 Improvements to the Cooling System
1976 Renovation of the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing of 2nd and 3rd Floors to accommodate labs, animal colony spaces, and offices
1979 Upgrades to lighting and ventilation systems
1980 Installation of energy efficient lighting fixtures
1980 Addition of elevator, signage restroom stalls, handrails for handicap accessibility
1986 Installation of energy management systems and upgrades to HVAC
1990 Remodeling for use by School of Architecture and Allied Arts including demolition and installation of new partitions wall, electrical and cabinetry
1990 Connection to new wing of Lawrence Hall
1990 Remodeling of 1st floor lab for use by Yamada Language Center
1994 Upgrades to HVAC system for Energy Conservation
1995 Remodel of third floor lab
2001 Redesign of lighting for Phillips lab
2002 Gutting asbestos removal, installation of new cabinetry, seating in Lecture room
2003 Installation of new aluminum windows
2003 Removal of partition walls, installation of new casework, hardware, flooring, painting, mechanical, and electrical work
2004 Installation new bitumen base built up roof

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Continuation Sheet 2**Section Bibliography Page 2**

Project Manual Science Main Cooling Addition. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1973

Project Manual Specifications for University of Oregon Main Science Building Renovation. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1976

Project Manual Safety Deficiency Corrections. Phase. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1979.

Project Manual Building No 35A and 35b Science I Bonneville Power Administration Institutional Buildings Program. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1980.

Project Manual Facilities Accessibility Project: Science Main, Geology, Volcanology, McArthur Court, Leighton Pool, and Esslinger Hall. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1980.

Project Manual Buildings no 35a and 35b Science Main Block US Department of Energy Institutional Conservation Program. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1986.

Project Manual Science Facilities Additions and Alterations. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1990.

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Project Manual 2001 Phillips Lab Remodel. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2001.

Project Manual Thornton Lab Project. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2002.

Project Manual Classroom Model. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2002.

Project Manual Exterior Repairs Project Pacific Hall. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2003

Project Manual Cresko Lab. Campus Planning Office, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2003

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Sandahl, David A. and Ricardo Castro. *An Architectural History of the University of Oregon.* University of Oregon, September 3, 1975.