

HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
University of Oregon Cultural Resources Survey
Eugene, Lane County, Oregon
Spring 2025

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Riley Hall
Historic building name: Sacred Heart Nurses Dorm (Marian Hall), Pat Riley Hall
Building address: 650 E 11th Avenue
Ranking: Tertiary

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Modern, Brutalism
Building plan (footprint shape): Asymmetrical
Number of stories: 2 plus half basement
Foundation material(s): Concrete
Primary exterior wall material: Concrete
Secondary exterior wall material: Brick
Roof configuration/type: Flat
Primary roof material: Elastic sheet roofing
Primary window type: Slider
Primary window material: Aluminum
Decorative features and materials: Pre-cast concrete sculptured panels, concrete structural frame with stucco finish, exposed aggregate finish, brick panels
Landscape features: Brick walls framing lower level courtyards, entryways, and concrete paths. Enclosed courtyard. Large deciduous trees in courtyards facing 11th Avenue with a mix of smaller ornamental trees, shrubs and perennials.
Associated resources: None
Comments: Located off-campus on 11th Avenue, adjacent to Peace Health Complex.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1964
Architect: Wilmsen, Endicott, and Unthank; Lloyd Bond and Associates, landscape
Builder/Contractor: Unknown
Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s): N/A
Description/dates of major additions/alterations: 1994, Accessibility and repairs project.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): Dormitory

Current use(s) or function(s): Dormitory

Area(s) of significance: Education, Architecture

Period of significance: 1964

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

Originally named Marian Hall, this dormitory was built by Sacred Heart Hospital to house nursing students. It was acquired by Northwest Christian University (NCU) in 1971. Then, in 1987 the University of Oregon bought the building from NCU. It is located off-campus adjacent to the original Sacred Heart campus. At the request of students, Marian Hall was renamed in 1989 after World War II veteran Harold "Pat" Riley, Jr., who died in France in 1944.

Riley Hall was completed in 1964 in the Brutalist Modern style by architects Wilmsen, Endicott, and Unthank. DeNorval Unthank Jr. signed the drawings so it is possible that he was the lead designer on this project. Unthank was the first African American to graduate from the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts in 1952. Despite facing racial discrimination that was prevalent at the time, Unthank was a prolific and successful architect from 1952 to 1998. Unthank designed schools, public buildings and business facilities around the state of Oregon, including some in the Eugene area, such as McKenzie Hall, Bean Hall, Lane County Courthouse, J.F. Kennedy Junior High School, and Springfield's Thurston High School, and the Crasemann House on Madrona Street.

The blocky form and exposed concrete exterior exhibits a number of brutalist characteristics. Design elements such as the sculptural nature of the pre-cast concrete panels, the stucco finish on the concrete structural frame, and brick panels and walls soften the typically harsh style.

The landscape was designed by noted landscape architect, Lloyd Bond. Lloyd Bond established the region's first Landscape Architecture firm in Eugene, Oregon in 1953. During the forty years that he managed Lloyd Bond & Associates his knowledge of resource analysis, environmental planning and design helped to create a variety of landscapes throughout Oregon as well as in Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska. Landscape features include an enclosed courtyard, and brick walls framing sunken courtyards, entryways, and concrete paths. There are large deciduous trees facing 11th Avenue with a mix of smaller ornamental trees, shrubs and perennials. Riley Hall is located off-campus, so it is not associated with the design or development of campus.

The building is intact and in good condition. No additions or major remodels have affected the exterior. While the building has excellent integrity, is a good example of modern architecture, and is possibly associated with the work of DeNorval Unthank Jr. and Lloyd Bond, it is not a primary example of brutalist architecture when compared to other examples in Eugene. Therefore, it is not eligible to be listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places. Given the building's excellent integrity and low significance, it is rated as a tertiary resource. This ranking could possibly shift to Secondary if additional information about DeNorval Unthank Jr. becomes available and it is determined that this resource is a significant example of his work.

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 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 : <u>see below</u> |

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary source materials, Riley Hall architectural drawings, Campus Planning and Facilities Management.

Teague, EH. (2004, Oct. 10). Riley Hall. The Architecture of the University of Oregon. Retrieved 2022, from <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/>

Eugene Planning and Development, Eugene Modernism 1935-1965

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Campus Planning Office

Recorded: Campus Planning Office, Spring 2025

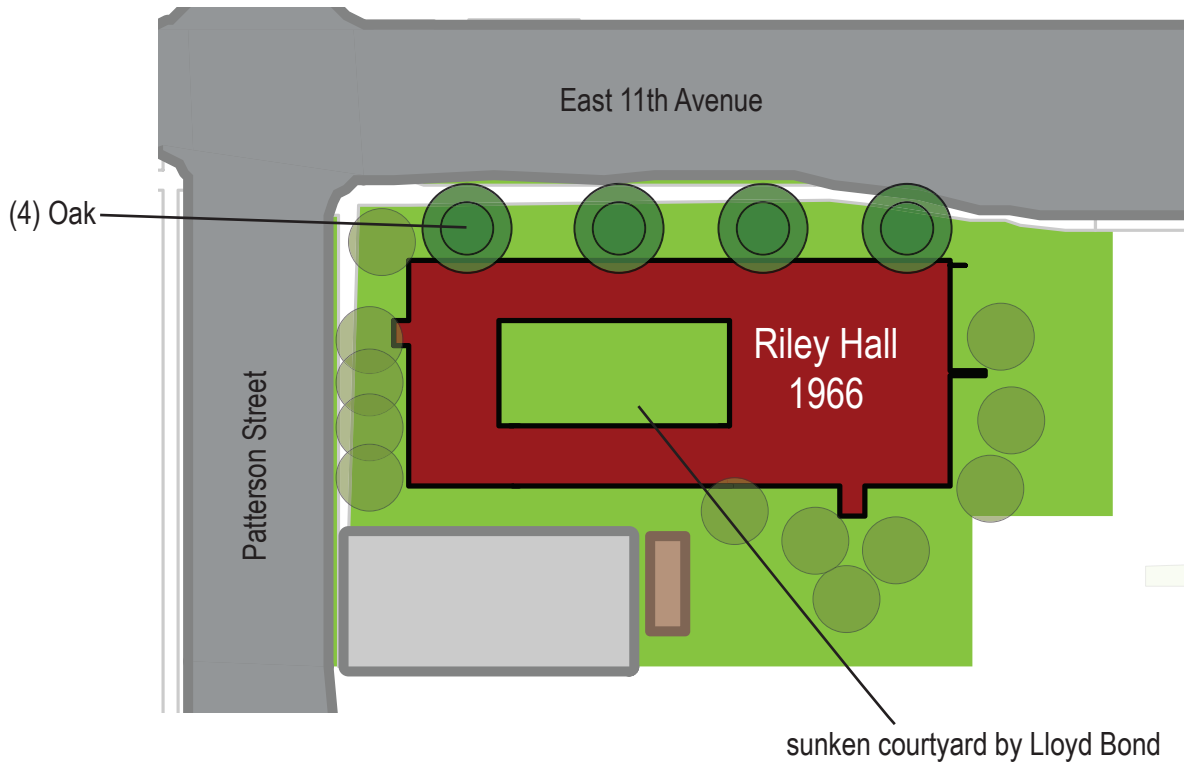
Photo number or name:

PHOTOGRAPH



(See Continuation Sheet 2 for additional photos of this building)

SITE PLAN



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Continuation Sheet 2

Section **Photos** **Page 5**



Figure 1. Riley Hall, c1960, northwest aerial view



Figure 2. Riley Hall, c1989, south elevation