

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

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Allen (Eric W.) Hall

Historic building name: Allen Hall and/or Journalism Building (see separate survey form)

Building address: 1020 University Street

Ranking: Tertiary

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Modern

Building plan (footprint shape): Rectangular

Number of stories: 3

Foundation material(s): Concrete

Primary exterior wall material: Limestone

Secondary exterior wall material: Brick

Roof configuration/type: Flat

Primary roof material: Vinyl

Primary window type: Steel sash

Primary window material: Steel

Decorative features and materials: Raised limestone plaques throughout west façade

Associated resources: Journalism Building (attached), Old Campus Quad

Comments: The building is named after Eric W. Allen, the first Dean of the School of Journalism

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1953-54

Architect: Church, Newberry and Roehr Architects

Builder/Contractor: JG Watts Construction Company

Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s): N/A

Description/dates of major additions/alterations: 1999, lobby added to south side by Boucher, Mouchka, and Larson.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): School of Journalism, University Press

Current use(s) or function(s): School of Journalism, General Classrooms

Area(s) of significance: Education, Communication, 20th c. Architecture

Period of significance: 1953

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

Allen Hall was constructed in 1953 by Church, Newberry and Roehr Architects. The contractor was J. G. Watts Construction Company. The building is of the Modern Style with a rectangular plan, three stories and a concrete foundation. While the walls are made of concrete, they have a brick and limestone veneer, with limestone being the primary surface material on the West façade. Vinyl is used on the flat roof, and the primary windows are steel sash. Decorative features include nine raised limestone plaques that represent old printers marks. The landscape includes a sunken patio on the Old Campus Quad that is situated to the West. The old Journalism Building is attached to the East. Allen Hall originally was designed to accommodate every aspect of the mass communications field and the entire first floor housed the University Press, with its letterpress, offset and bindery equipment.¹ The University of Oregon's journalism program was the first comprehensive curriculum of its kind in the field, and the Department of Journalism that was established in 1912 was one of the first in the country. In addition, the seminar room was designed to be a replica of Dean Eric Allen's living room. Dean Allen, who joined the Journalism faculty in 1916 and served as its head for 28 years, died in 1944, (Sandahl). During Allen Hall's construction, the Journalism Building was completely remodeled as the East wing of Allen Hall.²

In 1999, Boucher, Mouchka, and Larson designed the South Lobby that connects Allen Hall with the Journalism Building and created a new main entrance where the loading dock once was. Cameron, McCarthy, Gilbert and Scheibe designed the 1999 Ted M. Natt first Amendment Entry Plaza.

Allen Hall has good integrity and is in good condition. Because of its minor architectural value, it would not be eligible for the National Register as an individual resource under Criterion C but it could be a contributing resource in a group or district. Due to its low significance compared with other buildings on campus, it has been ranked as a tertiary resource.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary indexes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: see below |

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary source materials, Allen Hall architectural drawings located in the Facilities Services hanging files.

Bivins, Thomas H., "The Evolution of Allen Hall," a framed report hanging in the Allen Hall lobby, 1998.

"Formal Opening – Eric W. Allen Hall," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 8 October 1954, p. 1.

Shellenbarger, Michael and Kimberly K. Lakin. *Ellis Lawrence building survey*. Portland, OR: State Historic Preservation Office, 1989.

Shellenbarger, Michael, *University of Oregon architecture: a personal tour*. Eugene, OR: s.n. , 1986.

Teague, EH. (2004, Oct. 10). Allen Hall. *The Architecture of the University of Oregon*. Retrieved Mar. 1, 2006, from <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/>

Sandahl, David Alan and Castro, Ricardo, *An architectural history of the University of Oregon*, s.l.: s.n., 1975.

Wardell, Jackie, "New J-Building to be Named for Late Dean," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 2 April 1953, p. 3.

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Dustin Welch and Andrea Blaser, Winter 2006

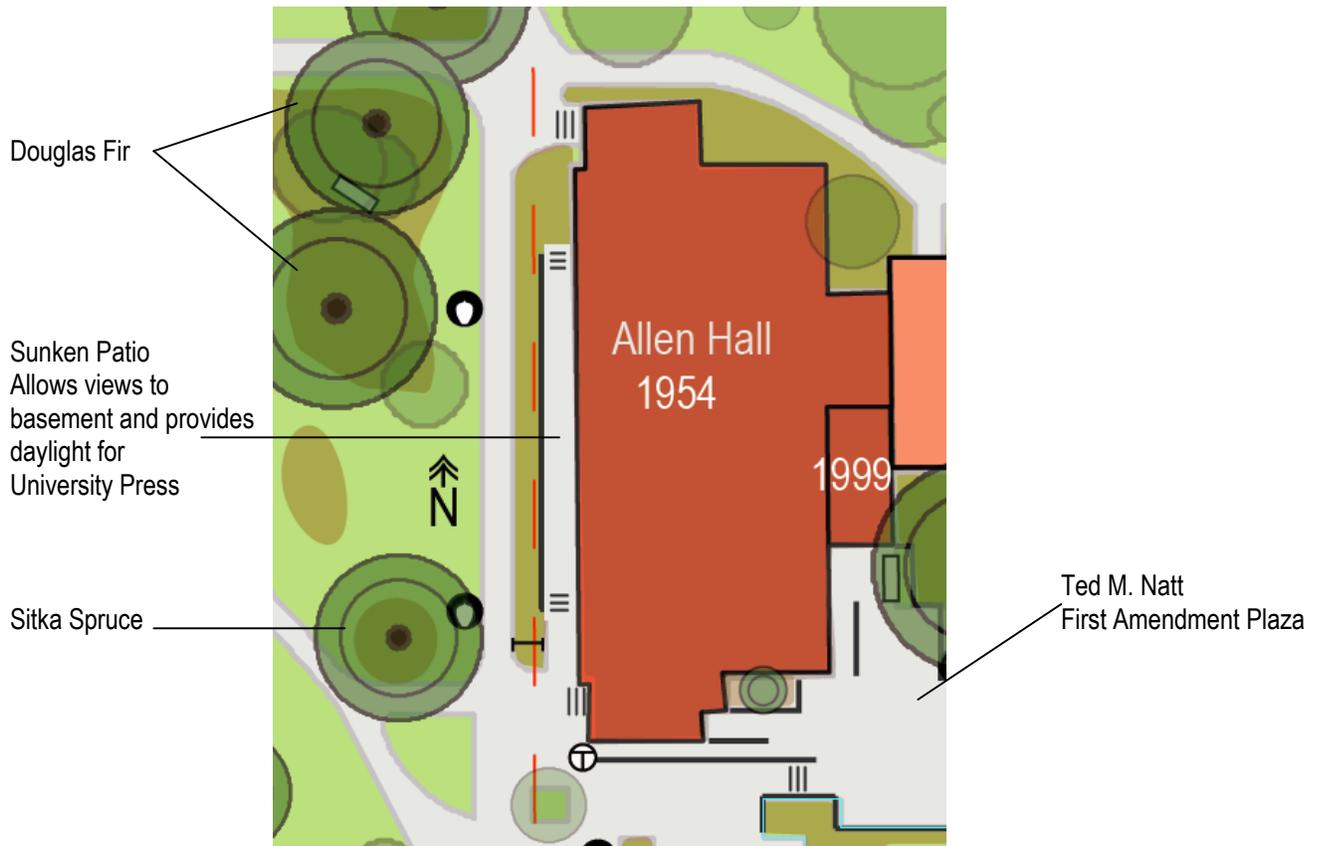
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name:

PHOTOGRAPH



SITE PLAN



¹ The *University of Oregon Catalog*, 1924-1925, lists the University Press in the basement of McClure Hall and connected to the first floor of the Journalism Building. The *University of Oregon Catalog*, 1955-1956, lists the University Press in the basement of the new Allen Hall and is connected to the Oregon Scholastic Press located on the first floor of the old Journalism Building.

² "Formal Opening – Eric W. Allen Hall," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 8 October 1954, p. 1-4.