

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

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Computing Center
Historic building name: Computing Center
Building address: 1225 Kincaid Street
Ranking: Non--Contributing

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Modern
Building plan (footprint shape): Rectangle
Number of stories: 2
Foundation material(s): Concrete
Primary exterior wall material: Brick
Secondary exterior wall material: Stucco
Roof configuration/type: Flat
Primary roof material: Vinyl
Primary window type: fixed rectangular panes above and below operable horizontal pivot transoms
Primary window material: Aluminum
Decorative features and materials: vertical brick coursing, simplistic massing, extremely vertical windows
Landscape features: Located at the west end of the Deady Hall Walk with ramps, stairs, a loading dock, foundation plantings (trees: Birch, Flowering Cherry, Flame Ash; shrubs: primarily rhododendron; assorted perennials), rectangular concrete planter (north façade), brick and concrete planters (south courtyard) and two benches (south courtyard)
Associated resources: The Computing Center abuts Lillis Business Complex, but the buildings remain unconnected; adjacent to Dads' Gates Axis, Deady Hall Walk Axis
Comments

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1967
Architect: Morin and Longwood
Builder/Contractor: Vik Construction Co.
Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s): N/A
Description/dates of major additions/alterations: Second story addition, 1970 by Morin and Longwood; addition of skylights, replacement of ceiling tiles, and enlargement of bathrooms by architects Robertson and Sherwood in 2001; south entry plaza redesigned, 2004, Cameron, McCarthy, Gilbert and Scheibe.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): Computing center

Current use(s) or function(s): Computing center

Area(s) of significance: Education

Period of significance: 1966

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

The Computing Center, constructed in 1966 and opened in 1967, was designed in the Modern style by architects Morin and Longwood. It has a rectangular building plan, 2 stories, and a concrete foundation. The primary exterior wall material is brick, with stucco as the secondary material. The roof is flat with vinyl roofing material, and the building has aluminum framed pane windows. Vertical brick coursing and the simplistic, horizontal box massing contradicted by a sense of verticality inferred by the narrow, tall windows are the only decorative features. The surrounding landscape consists of shrub beds.

Ever since it was erected, the Computing Center has functioned as a resource center for all campus computer needs, and may prove to be significant for its relationship to the roots of the computer age on campus. The purpose of the center is to both provide educational facilities and to provide scientific computations for research projects. University faculty and students had to use facilities in other parts of Oregon as well as California for their computing needs prior to its construction. The Computing Center was supported partially by a \$30,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.¹ It was originally a single story structure but it is now rumored to have been designed to support a second story. This alleged intention was fully realized in 1970 when a second-story addition was done by the original architects, creating the building that is seen today. The only other changes to the building are the addition of skylights, replacement of ceiling tiles, and enlargement of bathrooms by architects Robertson and Sherwood in 2001. In addition, the southern entry plaza was redesigned when the Lillis Business Center was constructed in 2004.

While the building has much of its integrity intact and is in excellent condition, it is not exemplar in style. When it reaches 50 years of age, it will need to be reevaluated for significance to the campus before a judgment can be made regarding its eligibility for the National Register. For now, it is ranked as a non-contributing resource due to its very low significance compared to other campus buildings.

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

 A. Associated with significant events C. Distinctive architecturally B. Associated with significant persons D. Archaeologically important If applicable, building qualifies underNR 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

Primary source materials, Computing Center architectural drawings located in the UO Planning Office/Facilities Services hanging files.

"Statistical Laboratory and computing center to open," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 21 September 1960. p. 10.

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

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Dustin Welch and Andrea Blaser, Winter 2006

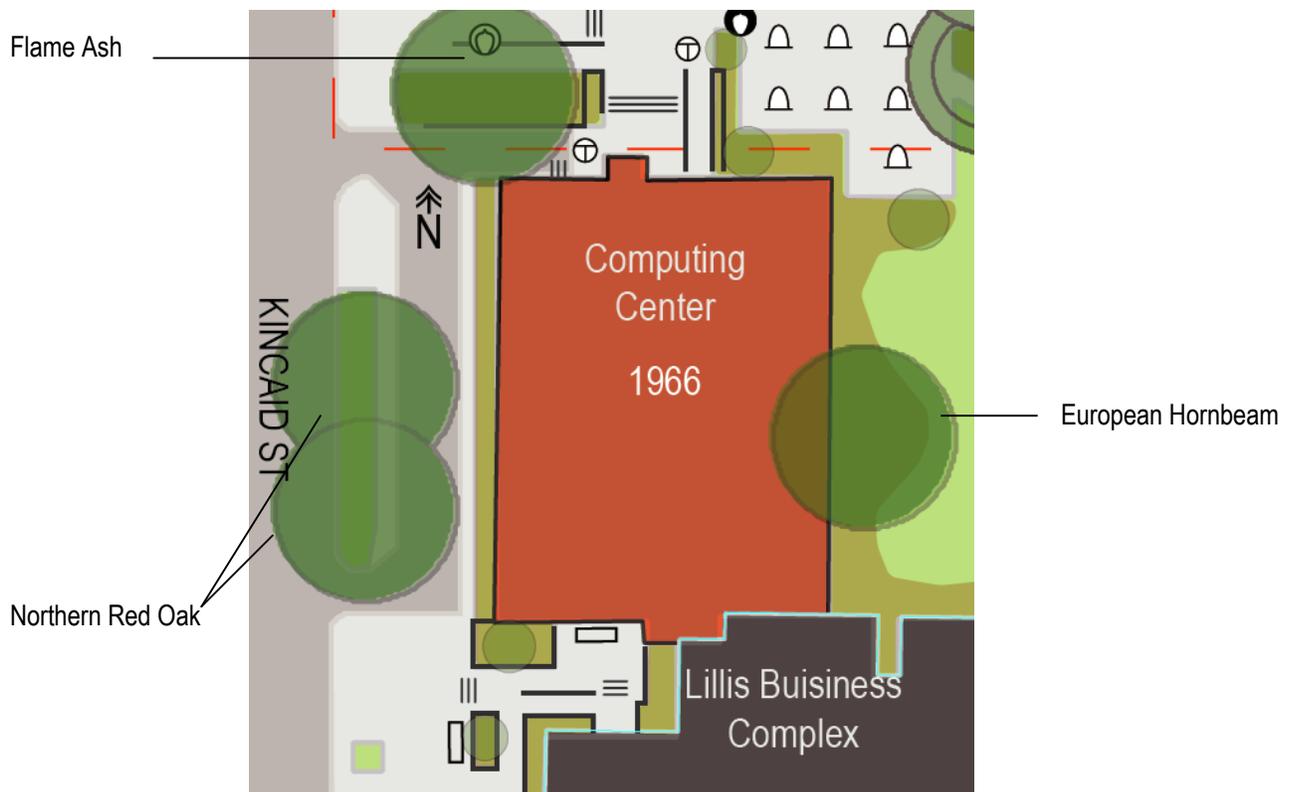
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name:

PHOTOGRAPH



SITE PLAN



Endnotes

¹ "Statistical Laboratory and computing center to open," *Eugene (OR) Oregon Daily Emerald*, 21 September 1960. p. 10.