

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

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building

Historic building name: School of Music Building

Building address: 961 East 18th Street

Ranking: Beall – Secondary; Other portions of the Music Building – Non-contributing

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Georgian Colonial (original); Moderne(1948 add.); Utilitarian (1955 add.); Utilitarian (1977 add.)

Building plan (footprint shape): L-shaped

Number of stories: 2

Foundation material(s): Concrete

Primary exterior wall material: Brick (common bond)

Secondary exterior wall material: Wood shingles

Roof configuration/type: Hipped gable with gable wing

Primary roof material: metal

Primary window type: 12/12 double hung windows

Primary window material: wood

Decorative features and materials: Brick quoins and arches; cornices; cast stone tablet & key stones; wood widow's walk and finials.

Landscape features: There is a parking lot on the south east side of the building complex. Sidewalks boarder the entire building, and there is an original courtyard on the east side of the complex that sits between the original structure and the later addition.

Associated resources: Other Lawrence-designed buildings, especially Education.

Comments: The music complex is the combination of several buildings that have been added to throughout the years. The first building of the music complex is the long, rectangular structure that sits in between Beall Concert Hall and the 1948's addition to the south side. Beall Concert Hall is a brick building with a rectangular footprint. Later additions include a 1955 addition that connected the original structure and the 1948 addition, and an extensive 1977 addition.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: Beall Concert Hall 1921; Music Hall 1924

Architect: Lawrence and Holford (original structure); Wick, Hilgers, and Scott, 1948 South addition; Wick and Hilgers, 1955 addition;

Broome, Oringdulph, O'Toole and Rudolf , 1977 addition

Builder/Contractor: Trancell and Parelius; Lanning and Hoggan (masonry); Rushlight and Hasdorf (heating and plumbing); Kendall Heating Co.; Ernest Thomas Cast Stone Co.; Kautz Mfr. Col. (Millwork)

Moved? (yes/no): No

Date of move(s): n/a

Description/dates of major additions/alterations: 1948, south building was added to the complex but not connected to the original building; 1955, addition to the east side of Beall Concert Hall; 1977, addition to the north side of Beall Concert Hall as well as to the northeast side of the 1948 addition (also connected the 1948 addition with the original structure).

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

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

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

Area(s) of significance: Architecture, Music, Education

Period of significance: 1921-1924

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building has undergone a number of changes throughout the years. In 1921, the University of Oregon constructed the School of Music building, designed by Ellis Lawrence. The original building consisted of a long, rectangular two-story building with wood shingles and fabric awnings. A concert hall was also a part of the original design plan, which was completed in 1924 and connected to the shingled building. Both the concert hall and the two-story building were in Ellis Lawrence's original design plan. At the time of its construction, the site was quite distant from the main campus, due to the faculty's desire to be as far away as possible from the railroad (then Franklin Blvd). World War II army barracks, located to the north of the building (but not connected to any of the original structures), temporarily housed classrooms and practice rooms, and did so until the 1977 addition was completed. There is speculation that the south wing of the original structure was made of surplus World War I barracks. While two-story SATC (Students Army Training Corps) barracks were constructed near University Avenue in 1918, no evidence has been found to support the claim that the music building was constructed of these barracks three years later.

In the 1930's, a small amphitheater in the east courtyard was designed by T.A. Cutherbert, and completed under a work program (Sandahl). Although the courtyard exists today, little remains of its original design, which was bordered by trees and shrubs and sloped gently from rear to front with a lawn stage, two feet above the audience area. In 1948, an administration and instruction unit was added to the south side of the building in a much simpler, moderne style. The 1955 addition to the east side of Lawrence's concert hall established space for rehearsals. In 1973 the music building was named Beall Concert Hall after, Robert Vinton Beall. This Medford farming family donated sizeable funds to the University. The Beall family donation funded the construction of the School of Music's well-known Jurgen Ahrend organ. A 1977 addition on the north side of Beall Hall and the connection of the 1948 wing to the east addition made the Music complex one unit. On July 11, 2005 it was renamed MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building, after the current University of Oregon President's mother. The original structure connected to Beall and the 1948 addition are in good condition and seem to have maintained a good amount of integrity with the original windows intact and minimal obstruction with later additions.

Ellis Lawrence's concert hall was inspired by the time he spent in Boston during the construction of the Boston Symphony Concert Hall. Although a smaller scale and far less ornamental than Boston Symphony Hall, its architectural lineage is evident. The original structures embodied what Lawrence called "Georgian Colonial" style. The use of brick quoins, balustrades with finials, and pediments emphasize this style. The auditorium was built by a Eugene holding company, which leased it to the University until 1928 when ownership was transferred to UO. Unfortunately, much of Lawrence's design is obscured and diminished by the additions on the north and east side of the building. The west façade is mostly intact except an addition of stairs. Many of the windows, particularly on the south side, have been obscured to improve stage function and acoustics.

MarAbel B. Frohnmayer Music Building's significance is strongly related to Ellis Lawrence's contribution to the design of several buildings on campus between 1914 and 1946. However, the complex as a whole lacks integrity and is not eligible for the National Register. Beall Concert Hall's integrity is good despite these alterations and remains the most distinct portion of the music complex. For campus planning purposes, Beall Concert Hall is considered separately from the other Music Building additions and it is ranked as a secondary resource for its good integrity and medium significance. Other portions of the Music Building are given a non-contributing ranking for their lower significance and lesser integrity.

NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENTHistoric Significance (check one): High Medium (Beal) Low Very Low or None (other portions of Music Building)Integrity (check one): Excellent Good (Beall) Fair (other portions of Music Building) 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 (Beall)

If eligible individually, applicable criteria (check all that apply):

 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):

- | | | |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UO Planning Office files | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers |
| <input checked="" 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

Lakin, Kimberly and Michael Shellenbarger, directors. Ellis Lawrence Building Survey. Salem: State Historic Preservation Office, 1989.

Teague, Ed. University of Oregon Libraries website. The Architecture of the University of Oregon: A History, Bibliography, and Research Guide, <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/music.html>.

Campus Maps, UO Info Graphics lab, <http://geography.uoregon.edu/infographics/campusMaps/LineArtMap.pdf>.

Historical Campus Map Buildout animation, UO Info Graphics Lab,
http://geography.uoregon.edu/infographics/projects/campus_Mapping.htm#

Oregon Board of Regents meeting minutes, 07/17/1920.

Oregon Board of Regents meeting minutes, 03/24/1921.

Oregon Board of Regents meeting minutes, 01/17/1922.

Sandahl, David A. and Ricardo Castro. An Architectural History of the University of Oregon. Discussion Draft, 1973.

School of Music website, Historical Timeline, <http://music.uoregon.edu/AlumniVisitors/timeline.html>.

School of Music website, Beall Concert Hall, <http://music.uoregon.edu/About/BeallHall.htm>.

School of Music website, History of the UO School of Music, <http://music.uoregon.edu/Giving/building/>.

"S.A.T.C. Barracks Almost Completed " Oregon Emerald 10/24/1918, 1.

University of Oregon, Facilities Services, building plans and records.

"Work on music hall nears end. New structure dedication will take place during last part of November. Seating capacity 650. Reuter four manual organ valued at \$22,500 has echo chamber equipment.," *Oregon Daily Emerald*, 09/30/1924, 1.

"Work on music hall to start," *Oregon Daily Emerald*, 05/04/1924, 1.

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Sarah Helwick and Erica Steverson, 03/07/06

Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name: Music Building

PHOTOGRAPH



SITE PLAN

