Welcome!

Gerlinger Lounge 100 Year Anniversary Celebration

2nd Floor, Room 201
The Gerlinger Lounge (originally called Alumni Hall) in Gerlinger Hall is the most intact historic interior on campus, retaining much of the original historic fabric. The Lounge, along with the building, is nationally recognized for its historic significance and still retains its historic Georgian details, such as French doors, Georgian columns and pilasters, and shield and scroll motifs.

In 1992 Gerlinger was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

As stewards of the University and in compliance with the State Historic Preservation Office’s policies, it is important to continue to retain as much of the historic fabric as possible.
Past Versus Present

Gerlinger Lounge 1930s

Gerlinger Lounge 2021
In 2016, a renovation of the Lounge revealed additional interior architectural details that weren’t previously known, such as a glaze finish highlighting the relief along the ceiling trim, the consistency of furniture arrangements over time, and walls that were made to look like aged, Caen stone by being painted with buttermilk to give an aged appearance to the plaster. This renovation was made possible through the support of the Friends of Gerlinger Hall UO Foundation account. Funding was used for the general refurbishment of Gerlinger Lounge.

1. Chairs - These oak arm chairs are slightly different but highly carved. The blue damask fabric seat cushions are not original.
   
   **Significance:** Medium
   **Integrity:** Good

1a. Table - It was an American tradition to elongate Jacobean elements of furniture, as evident in this wooden 1920’s adaption of the Jacobean table. This is especially evident in this table through its bulbous legs and overall proportions.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Excellent

2. Cabinet - This is a Gothic style cabinet made from dark stained oak. The front door of the cabinet is highly carved and the top of the cabinet is flat and corniced.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Excellent

3. Table - This 6-legged wooden table is part of the revival furniture that was popular in reaction to Victorian styling. This piece illustrates the reproduction of a Renaissance piece. Notice the artificial induced aging on the stretcher.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Excellent

4. South Fireplace - The painting over the south fireplace depicts a pasture like landscape with several women frolicking in a meadow. The painting titled “Monterey Evening” by Alfred Schroff, created in 1921, is loosely rendered and the color pallet is limited to pastel colors.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Excellent

4a. Bench - A wrought iron bench with a leather seat. A memorandum from 1977 was written indicating plans to reupholster the bench, but it is uncertain weather it was reupholstered or not.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Good

4b. Silent Butler - Brass with black turned wood handle.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Good

4c. Kettle and Trivet - Kettle, copper, with handle and lid. Used to hold hot kettles.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Good

5. Sofa/Bench - This oak sofa is of a modern design that is attempting a 17th century English form. The seat of the sofa was estimated for reupholster in 1977. The fabric was at one time a red vinyl and has either faded or been replaced with a beige leather.
   
   **Significance:** High
   **Integrity:** Good
6. Cabinet and Punch Bowl - This heavily carved oak cabinet is patterned after an almost identical German Renaissance piece. The linen fold side panels show the beginnings of the Renaissance style. The ceramic punch bowl on top of the cabinet is a Staffordshire design and German-made. 
   **Significance:** High/Medium  
   **Integrity:** Excellent

7. Irene Gerlinger Painting - This painting depicts a portrait of Irene Hazard Gerlinger. It was painted by Sally Haley.  
   **Significance:** Medium  
   **Integrity:** Excellent

8. Table - The wooden draw-top table shows the influences of the 17th century style on 20th century American furniture. The four legs of the table are connected by an H-stretcher near their bulbous feet. Near the top of the legs is a stack of three bulb forms.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Excellent

9. Sofas - Total of four over stuffed sofas. The sofas were reupholstered in 2002. Their original material was a blue fabric and was replaced with another blue colored fabric.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Good

9a. Table - Total of two wooden sofa tables with four stretches connecting all four legs on each table. They have a deep skirt supporting the table top.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Excellent

9b. Lamp - This table lamp, Chinese, hand painted in yellow and blue with oriental designs. Original lamp shades were octagonal in shape and tapered from the bottom to the top. The shades have been replaced with a round drum shape with a slight taper.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Good

10. Chairs - A revival arm chair made in the style of Louis XIII from wood with upholstered seat and back. The chair arms are distinctively curved. At one time it had yellow brocade fabric and was reupholstered in 2010 with a white damask fabric with floral designs.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Good

11. Grand Piano - A black grand piano that has an associated bench. The location of the original piano bench is unknown. The existing bench is presumed to be not original to historic photographs.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Good

12. Tapestry - This tapestry is presumed to depict a scene that is English in style and subject, depicting two figures with two flags, a lion, and a unicorn. Originally it had blue tones but has become quite faded over time.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Good

13. Table - This wooden table is characterized by a repetitive carved motif of stretched arches around the skirt. The four legs are connected by stretchers near the square feet. Like the feet, the top of the legs where they meet the skirt are square, while the middle of the legs have turned forms.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Excellent

13a. Chairs - These matching chairs are made of wood with upholstered seats and splats. The back is composed of wooden spiral stiles, an upholstered spat with carved wooden frame, and is topped by a carved crest that features two lions.  
   **Significance:** High  
   **Integrity:** Good
### Self-Guided Room Tour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14. Cabinet</td>
<td>This is an antique cabinet with a writing desk made from walnut with a burl veneer. English in origin, its design shows the Dutch influence of William and Mary. Above the desk is the cabinet with two wooden framed glass doors for the display of its contents.</td>
<td>Significance: Medium Integrity: Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. North Fireplace</td>
<td>The painting over the north fireplace depicts a mountainous landscape with several women frolicking in a meadow. The painting is untitled and was painted by Alfred Schroff in 1921.</td>
<td>Significance: High Integrity: Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Chest</td>
<td>A chest made of oak. It is English in origin with Jacobean and Cromwellian characteristics. Its front features hand-carved fleurs-de-lis in three diamond shaped panels. These panels are crested with scrolled leaves.</td>
<td>Significance: High Integrity: Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Chair</td>
<td>This mahogany arm chair was made by McCleelad Mfg. Co. of Los Angeles, California to be a simplified twentieth century version of a Charles I style chair. The simplification of the chair was due to production techniques.</td>
<td>Significance: Medium Integrity: Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Grandfather Clock</td>
<td>This grandfather clock is made of carved oak which depicts monkeys and animal-like faces. The clock's pendulum is behind a wooden door. The hood features two turned columns on each side of a scroll pediment with urn finials. The face is arched and made of brass. It is engraved with a landscape scene with a gold sun over the “12” There is a small plaque above this scene with an engraved name that reads “Sam/Dorchester”</td>
<td>Significance: High Integrity: Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Mirror</td>
<td>This large rectangular wall mirror is distinguishable by its gold colored frame with column and scroll details, including an elaborate crest at the top of the frame.</td>
<td>Significance: Low Integrity: Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Sofa/Bench</td>
<td>This wood sofa/bench is patterned after Gothic church furniture. The two shortest ends of the bench are enclosed by a solid panel pierced with three openings that resemble lancet windows and are topped by a flower finial. A carved column is on the from edges of these ends.</td>
<td>Significance: High Integrity: Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Side Table</td>
<td>This is a solid sided fold-over lead table made of dark stained oak. It is a direct copy of a documented older piece. The form is commonly called an Elizabethan Folding Table. This one features six legs connected by carved rectangular stretchers.</td>
<td>Significance: High Integrity: Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Desk/Secretaire</td>
<td>This English desk/secretaire is veneered with burled walnut. The top of the desk is slanted with a key hold which opens to a writing surface.</td>
<td>Significance: Medium Integrity: Excellent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Key Definitions of Historic Rankings

- **Significance:** The meaning or value ascribed to a structure, landscape, object or site based on the National Register criteria for evaluation.
  - **High:** Considerable contribution to the history of the campus and its growth.
  - **Medium:** Noteworthy contribution to the history of the campus and its growth.
  - **Low:** Discernible contribution to the history of the campus and its growth.

- **Integrity:** The authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical education characteristics that existed during the property's historic or prehistoric period.
  - **Excellent:** Retains a very high percentage of original fabric, and the original design intent is apparent.
  - **Good:** Retains a significant percentage of original fabric, with discernible design intent.
  - **Fair:** Original fabric is present but diminished.
Irene Strang Hazard Gerlinger (December 3rd, 1876 - April 5th, 1960) was the first woman on the University of Oregon Board of Regents from 1914-1929. She was a passionate fundraiser and supporter of the University. Gerlinger was shocked to learn that graduates of the University of Oregon were ineligible to join the American Association of University Women because of the lack of a women’s building on campus, so she set out to construct one herself. To collect the necessary funds, in 1915 she launched a campaign that involved selling bricks for 25 cents. Gerlinger - an advocate for women’s physical education - was highly involved in the design and decoration of the Women’s Memorial Hall. The building was renamed Gerlinger Hall in 1929, she referred to it as “a monument to noble womanhood”.

Pioneer Axis (Women’s Quad)
The Pioneer Axis (historically called the Women’s Quad) is the landscape area located between Gerlinger and Johnson Hall. Designed by Ellis Lawrence, the Pioneer axis was intended to be the center of female student activities on campus. During the Inception Era (1876-1913) female students living in the adjacent Mary Spiller Hall used the open space for both passive and active recreation, taking advantage of the tennis courts. In the Lawrence/Cuthbert Era (1914-1946), the addition of two women dormitories (Hendricks and Susan Campbell Hall) and a women’s physical education building (Gerlinger Hall) resulted in a formal “Women’s Quadrangle”. This space held symbolic meaning to the women of campus, who annually placed flowers around the Pioneer Mother (which was recently removed in 2020).

Gerlinger Hall
Gerlinger Hall (originally called Woman’s Memorial Hall) is significant to the UO campus because of its craftsmanship in the Georgian architectural style. Significance is also found in the building’s association with important university figures, Irene Gerlinger, the first woman Regent and avid fundraiser and advocate for UO who also began a long campaign for the building in 1915, and Ellis Lawrence, the first dean of the architecture school and university architect. Lawrence and William Holford were the architects for the building, and Gerlinger was deeply involved in the design and decoration of the building. Currently, Gerlinger Hall is identified as a primary resource based on its level of integrity and significance. Gerlinger Hall originally housed the Department of Physical Training for Women, the Department of Household Arts, the Infirmary, and various women’s organizations.
Distinguishing Features

East Lobby and East Stair

The East Lobby is significant to Gerlinger Hall because of the craftsmanship in its construction and design, and its association with other key spaces (East Stair, Alumni Lounge). The east wing of Gerlinger was intended to support “the social life of the University family”. Ellis Lawrence specified terrazzo and marble stone flooring. The ceiling moldings and more expensive materials reinforce the intended use of the East Lobby as the formal entrance to Gerlinger. Although alterations have been made to the lobby lighting over the years, the East Lobby contains an original pendant fixture that is intended to direct circulation, emphasize features and textures, alter colors and serve as a feature itself. The East Stair displays a high level of craftsmanship and detail that is significant to the character of the space. The East Stair is intended to serve as the formal entry into the Alumni Lounge and does so with detailed plaster cornice around the ceiling, the memorial plaque, and the wooden stair rail and newel. Additionally, the East Stair continues to house the original floor lamps that illuminate the memorial plaque and the original chandelier that illuminates the stairwell.

The Alumni Lounge was historically intended to be “the principal room” and “the social center of the University...and a meeting place for faculty, alumni, townspeople, and students”. Much of the original historic fabric has been retained and it continues to be the most intact historic interior on campus. The symmetric and decorative ceiling reflect the Georgian/Colonial Revival style that is characteristic of Gerlinger Hall as a whole. The design of the ceiling also helps define the spatial definition and use of the room. The detailing is another distinguishing feature of the room defined by the wall finishes, wood and plaster cornices, wood carvings around the fireplace, oak floors, window seats and the wooden windows. The Alumni Lounge has also retained much of its original furniture and furniture layout. The furniture and its layout is significant because they have informed how the space is used, how people circulate through it, and reinforces the aesthetic intentions of an English manor.
Women’s Quadrangle Timeline

1913
Pioneer Axis (later renamed Women’s Quad) site being bounded by Kincaid field to the west, and the Collier House and Mary Spiller Hall of the East

1918
Construction Completed on Hendricks Hall

1921
Construction completed on Gerlinger and Susan Campbell Hall.

1929
Woman’s Memorial Hall Renamed Gerlinger Hall after Irene Gerlinger

1932
Pioneer Mother statue placed within the Women’s Quadrangle

1951
Removal of Mary Spiller Hall

1969
Gerlinger Hall Women’s Physical Education Addition

2015
Gerlinger Exterior Renovation Project

2016
Gerlinger Lounge Renovation

2020
Removal of the Pioneer Mother statue

2015
Gerlinger Exterior Renovation Project

2016
Gerlinger Lounge Renovation

2020
Removal of the Pioneer Mother statue

Campus Planning
Gerlinger Lounge 100th Anniversary
October 2021
Located on the south side of the building, the Gerlinger Sun Porch is one of the best designed spaces in Gerlinger. The room is used as a circulation space as well as a lounge space. The large windows that look onto the south lawn were designed to cast sunlight onto the wood floors that illuminate the hallway throughout the entire day. Little has been done to alter the space since it was built in 1921, and little should be done, considering the lighting and thermal quality, materiality, and overall comfort the space provides to the university community.

Due to temperature fluctuations, the wall and ceiling finishes have deteriorated over time. The sun porch is part of a 2020 interior renovation project with construction tentatively scheduled for Winter Break 2021.
Janet Woodruff (1902-1998) guided women’s athletics from 1929 to 1967. During her 38 years at Oregon, Woodruff was a leading women’s physical education instructor and coach, helping to expand the athletic offerings for women. As a professor she played an influential role in molding female physical education students for their careers as educators and coaches. Woodruff’s primary responsibilities at UO were to coordinate the service course programs, such as swimming and badminton. She was the head of the Teacher Preparation Program for Women during the 1930s and 1940s. She was also the director of the Service Course Program for Women throughout her career. A field hockey player herself, Woodruff stepped in as the head coach of the women’s field hockey team during her first year on campus and held the post until her retirement in 1967.

In 1991, the gymnasium in Gerlinger Hall was named the Janet G. Woodruff Gymnasium in recognition of her contributions. The south wall of the gymnasium is covered in mirrors, and is primarily use for aerobic exercise, martial arts, and social dance. There is a small stage area on the west entrance of the room, and the balcony area above the gymnasium is on the south side.