** RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION **

Current building name: Columbia Hall  
Historic building name: Geology Building  
Building address: 1215 East 13th Avenue  
Ranking: Tertiary

** ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION **

Architectural style classification: Academic Vernacular  
Building plan (footprint shape): irregular  
Number of stories: 2  
Foundation material(s): concrete  
Primary exterior wall material: brick  
Secondary exterior wall material: mosaic ceramic tile  
Roof configuration/type: flat  
Primary roof material: BUR  
Primary window type: two parallel casements over horizontal hopper  
Primary window material: metal  
Decorative features and materials: belt course, basalt sculpture at south loggia; Also, see Comments  
Landscape features: perimeter plantings, Science Walk with decorative brick design at northeast corner; Also, see Comments  
Associated resources: Pacific Hall and Science Walk at northeast corner, 13th Ave Axis, and University Street Axis  
Comments: Additional decorative features include the granite wall of south lobby, two brick posts at the south loggia and mosaic tile along north facade. Additional landscape features include six brick and concrete planter boxes and gridded concrete pattern of patio space along the south and west sides of the building. There are metal pipe railings along the light wells on the east and south sides.

** ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY **

Date of construction: 1960  
Architect: Lawrence, Tucker and Wallmann Architects  
Builder/Contractor: Cooper and Rose and Associates; J. Donald Kroeker and Associates; Grant Kelley and Associates; L.H. Morris Electric Company; and Vik Construction Company  
Moved? (yes/no): no Date of move(s): N/A  
**HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE**

Original use(s) or function(s): Classrooms/Offices  
Current use(s) or function(s): Classrooms/Offices  
Area(s) of significance: Education, Architecture  
Period of significance: 1960  

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

This building was built in 1960 as an extension of the growing science division on campus. Early reports show it to house the geology program, which had split from the geography program in 1958. While the creative writing program is currently housed in this building, interior exhibits and classroom configurations confirm its continued use by the geology department. This building also houses the largest lecture hall on the University of Oregon campus in the western portion. The building plans refer to it as the south wing, or first addition of “Science One” which is the former name of Pacific Hall. Laboratory facilities were installed in all of the classrooms to accommodate use by the science departments. The former men’s gymnasium occupied the site. Campus myth claims that the mosaic tiles from the swimming pool that was demolished were incorporated into the design on the north facade but there is no documentary evidence to confirm this rumor. The east facade and a portion of the south facade include basement level light wells, with simple, pipe metal safety railings. The south lobby’s southern facade is a granite slab with glass doors on the east and west ends. The south loggia includes two brick posts and a basalt rock sculpture, by Steve Gillman, attached to the interior wall. Shrubbery is planted along the south, east and north facades. Trees are planted in planter boxes along the west side. It is three stories, including basement level, of classrooms and offices in the eastern portion. There is a belt course between the first and second floors along the eastern portion. All of the windows are metal vertical paired casements over a horizontal hopper. While mainly a freestanding brick building, it is connected to Pacific via a second story bridge on the north side. Decorative brick work is incorporated into the perimeter Science Walk sidewalk along the northeast corner. This is part of the “science walk” installed in 1982. The building is sited at the corner of University Street and 13th Avenue.

This building is less than fifty years old and has limited significance. However, this building should be further researched and re-evaluated once it reaches 50 years old. Given its excellent integrity but low significance relative to other campus buildings, it is ranked as a tertiary resource.

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**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 X 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: _ X Intact but lacks distinction or _ Altered/loss of integrity or _ X Not 50 years old
DOCUMENTATION

Indicate resources consulted when researching this building (check all that apply):

- X University archives
- X University Planning Office files
- X Newspapers
- X Sanborn maps
- _ Building permits
- _ SHPO files
- _ State Archives
- _ State Library
- _ State Historic Society
- _ Local Historic Society
- _ Personal interviews
- _ Historic photographs
- _ Biographical encyclopedias
- _ Obituary indexes
- _ Personal interviews
- _ Other __ See below

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Architecture at the University of Oregon http://libweb.uoregon.edu/guides/architecture/oregon/

*Daily Emerald.* “Science Addition work started; total cost to be over 2 million.” 5/17/1960, 1.


*Oregana.* Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 1975


University of Oregon 125th Anniversary http://anniversary.uoregon.edu/tour/collier.html


RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Kathleen Mertz, Elise Mendonca, Winter 2006
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006
Photo number or name: