

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

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: University Health & Counseling Center

Historic building name: New Infirmary, Student Health Service Building, University Health Center

Building address: 1590 East 13th Ave.

Ranking: Non-Contributing

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Modern

Building plan (footprint shape): "H"- shaped

Number of stories: Two

Foundation material(s): Concrete

Primary exterior wall material: Reinforced brick (first floor)

Secondary exterior wall material: Pre-cast concrete panels (second floor)

Roof configuration/type: Low-sloped hipped roof with partial parapet

Primary roof material: Metal standing seam

Primary window type: Vertical casement windows

Primary window material: Metal frame

Decorative features and materials: Brick with pre-cast concrete arched lintels at doors and windows on first floor

Landscape features: Foundation plantings and sidewalks

Associated resources: 13th Ave. Axis

Comments: The University Health and Counseling Center is currently undergoing complete interior remodeling on both the first and second floors, the basement, and is receiving over 10,000 square feet with 2 new additions.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1966

Architect: Balzhiser, Seder & Rhodes, Eugene, OR

Builder/Contractor:

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

Description/dates of major additions/alterations: Various interior remodels since construction in 1966. Currently (2005-2006) undergoing major interior remodeling and addition of 10,770 square feet including a new one story addition at the southeast wing and a new two story addition on the north side; BOORA architectural firm, Portland, OR. Fortis Construction, Inc., Portland, OR.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): Infirmary/Health center/hospital Current use(s) or function(s): Health & Counseling center

Area(s) of significance: Education / Health, Architecture

Period of significance: 1966

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

Construction began on the new Infirmary in 1965 and was completed in early 1966 at a cost of around \$1.0 million. This unassuming building was designed in the modern style by Balzhiser, Seder & Rhodes, a local architectural firm that has done a good deal of work on the UO campus. Originally "H"-shaped and of approximately 38,000 square feet, the Health Center has two floors and a basement. It has a concrete foundation and is built of reinforced brick walls on the first floor and pre-cast concrete panels on the second. There are concrete arched lintels over the doors and the metal-framed casement windows. It has a standing-seam metal roof.

The ground floor arches appear to endorse the historical architecture on campus, yet the Health Center remains true to its modern form. Its architecture is non-descript.

This building was designed to house the Infirmary and has continued to do so. When it was first completed the second floor was designed as an in-patient unit with hospital beds. Recently, the medical emphasis has been changed to that of outpatient services. Over time, the Center's piecemeal alterations have separated related services into random areas of the building. It has undergone multiple interior remodels over the past forty years – room by room, almost yearly since its completion.

Currently, the Health Center is undergoing a student fee-funded \$10 million expansion and interior renovation, designed by BOORA architectural firm (which is also doing the additions to the School of Music). The remodel will unify all clinical services on the first floor. A two-story entrance addition with elevator will be added on the north side towards East 13th Avenue and a single-story addition will be constructed on the east side towards Agate Street. The new construction will add 10,770 square feet of usable space. The design will mimic the current building in massing, rooflines, materials and both window type and placement.

In addition to its 3 primary care clinics, there is a counseling and testing center, an allergy clinic, a pharmacy, a dental office, an X-ray lab, physical therapy services and a health education office. The Health Center employs eight primary care physicians, five nurse-practitioners, one psychiatrist and assorted support staff. Approximately 60,000 students use the center's various services each year.

The University Health and Counseling Center is not yet 50 years old. It has only fair integrity due to the additions currently being constructed along with the high degree of interior space remodeling over the last forty years. It is ranked as a non-contributing resource due to its very low significance and fair integrity.

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 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):

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <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: <u>see below</u> |

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

UO Planning Office and Facilities Services Files:
Construction set of building plans dated 1965
University Health Center building file

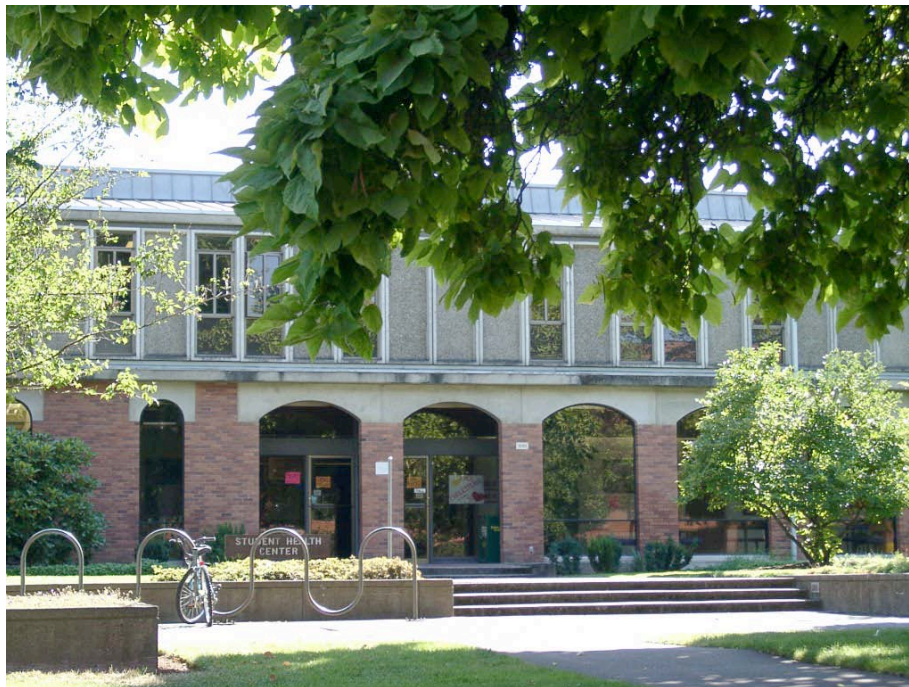
Newspapers

"New Infirmary", Oregon Daily Emerald, Friday February 26, 1965.

"UO Student Health Center Remodel to Begin," The Register Guard, Tuesday August 9, 2005.

Handout

Shellenbarger, Michael. *University of Oregon Architecture: A Personal Tour*. Historic Preservation Department, 1986.

**RECORDING INFORMATION**

Researched: Kathryn Burk, Melissa Stoller, January 29, 2006

Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name: University Health and Counseling Center

PHOTOGRAPH**SITE PLAN**