

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

RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Current building name: Huestis Hall
Historic building name: Science III
Building address: 1425 East 13th Ave.
Ranking: Non-Contributing

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Architectural style classification: Brutalist
Building plan (footprint shape): Rectangle
Number of stories: 3
Foundation material(s): Poured Concrete
Primary exterior wall material: Poured Concrete
Secondary exterior wall material: Brick
Roof configuration/type: Flat
Primary roof material: Adhered elastic sheet roofing
Primary window type: Fixed
Primary window material: Metal
Decorative features and materials: Exposed concrete structural frame
Landscape features: Streisinger Courtyard lies to the east; decorative brick paving between Huestis & Willamette Halls known as "Science Walk"
Associated resources: 13th Ave. Axis to the south, Science Green to the west, Streisinger Hall attached to the north
Comments: Huestis Hall is organized as a simple rectangle with a flat roof. The building's most prominent visual feature is the expressed poured concrete frame. The fixed, metal windows are set back from and shaded by the structural frame. Nonstructural brick is in keeping with neighboring buildings and emphasizes the smoothness of the concrete.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

Date of construction: 1973
Architect: Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill
Builder/Contractor: W. S. Hardie & Sons
Moved? (yes/no): No Date of move(s): N/A
Description/dates of major additions/alterations: There have been periodic updates to the interior of Huestis. The most significant alteration was to the north side when Streisinger Hall was connected in 1989. Also, associated landscaping, including the "Science Walk," Science Green, and Streisinger Courtyard were installed at this time. (See Continuation Sheet 1 for details on the remodels.)

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS & SIGNIFICANCE

Original use(s) or function(s): Science Classrooms and Laboratories

Current use(s) or function(s): Science Classrooms and Laboratories

Area(s) of significance: Education, Architecture

Period of significance: 1973

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary):

The construction of Science III in 1973 demonstrates the continued importance of science on the University of Oregon campus. Growth and increased specialization within the science disciplines meant that the departments were rapidly outgrowing the laboratory and classroom spaces in Science I and II. The firm of Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill(SOM) continued the work begun with Science II to create a community of scientists equipped with the latest in technology. The SOM design for Science III sought to maximize the ability of the science departments to grow and utilize modern equipment. As with Science II, the structural frame is located at the perimeter of the building to maximize interior laboratory spaces. To allow for future growth, the reinforced concrete frame has capacity for vertical expansion of two levels. In Science III, brick provides greater harmony with campus buildings than in the earlier science buildings. The brick is clearly veneer and expressed concrete frame is in keeping with the Brutalist design principles. In 1986, the University renamed Science III in honor of Ralph Huestis' contributions as professor of biology from 1924 to 1962. In 1989, Huestis Hall was connected to the new science complex by way of doors to Streisinger Hall. The science departments have used Huestis continuously since its construction. Currently Huestis Hall houses the Institute of Neuroscience.

The building has proven its adaptability in that despite frequent internal updates its essential character remains. The connection to Streisinger Hall is modest and does not mask the original Brutalist character. Huestis Hall is well maintained, is in good condition, and has good integrity. It continues to demonstrate the importance of science on the campus. Huestis Hall is not yet eligible for the National Register as it is not yet 50 years old. Although it was designed by prominent architects (Eugene has few examples of their work) it is not a notable example of their work or of the Brutalist style. At present, it is ranked as a non-contributing resource due to its lack of overall significance compared with other UO buildings.

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 ☐ 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: ☒ 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> University archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UO Planning Office files | <input 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*Building Proposals*

Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. *Preliminary Presentation University of Oregon Science III Building*. Institutional Planning Research Box 1 of 1. Folder Third Science Addition. Huestis. Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1967.

Huestis Hall Building Plans. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene.

Guides

Teague, Edward. *The Architecture of the University of Oregon A History, Bibliography, & Research Guide*. Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, 2004-2005.

Letters

Mohr, Fred J. to Ray Martin, Skidmore Owings, and Merrill. 12 August 1966. Institutional Planning Research Box 1 of 1. Folder Third Science Addition Huestis. Special Collections, University of Oregon, Eugene.

University of Oregon Facilities Services Project Manuals

University of Oregon Facilities Services. *Specification of University of Oregon Science Building Third Addition*. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene.

Project Manual Site Development Science Building Third Addition and Administrative Services Building. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1975.

Project Manual Basement Completion Biology Research Services. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1985

Project Manual University of Oregon Science III Conservation Measures Bonneville Power Administration. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1986.

Project Manual University of Oregon Science III Energy Conservation Measure No 4 USDOE?ICP Heat Recovery Piping Loop. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1986.

Project Manual Huestis Hall Reroofing Project. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1986.

Project Manual Aquarium Suite Huestis Hall. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1988.

Project Manual Huestis Hall Exterior Repair. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1996.

Project Manual Zebrafish Lab Renovation Huestis Hall. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene, 1997.

Project Manual DOE Lab Phase 2. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 1998.

Project Manual Building III Research Greenhouse Steam Heat Project. Facilities Services, University of Oregon, Eugene. 2001.

RECORDING INFORMATION

Researched: Jennifer L. Flathman, Erin Pochert, 01-02-2006

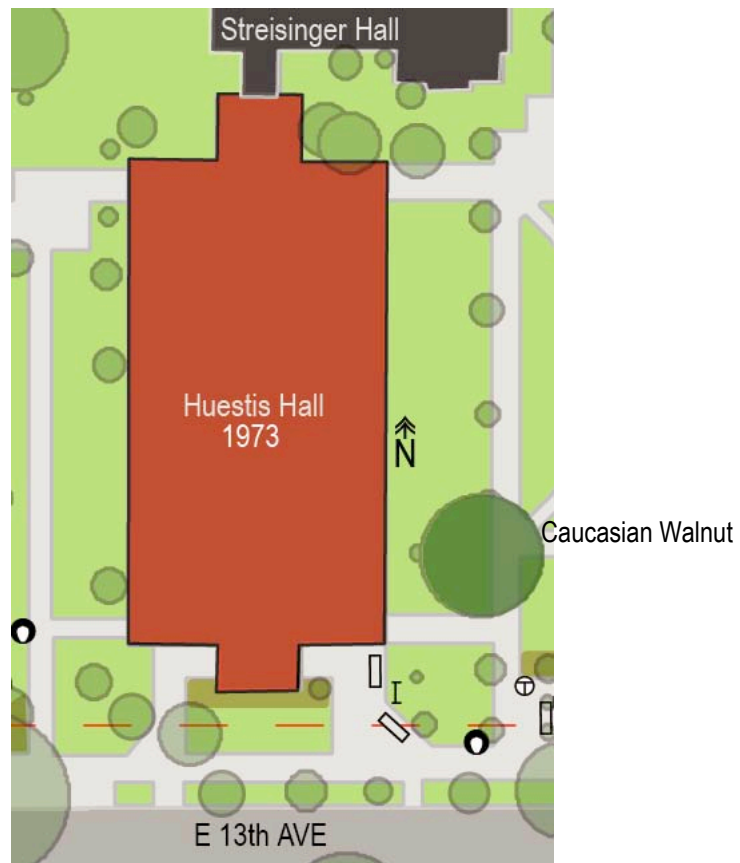
Recorded: Susan Johnson and University Planning Office, Summer 2006

Photo number or name: Huestiscropped.jpg

PHOTOGRAPH



SITE PLAN



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Spring 2006

Continuation Sheet 1

Section Architectural History Page 1

1975 Landscaping including walks, parking, drainage, and bike shelters
1986 Installation of energy efficient luminaries and lighting control devices
1986 Installation of heat recovery system
1986 Reroof with adhered elastic sheet roofing system
1988 Construction of aquarium suite in basement
1989 Connection with Streisinger Hall
1996 Exterior masonry and concrete cleaning, restoration, and painting
1997 Renovation to basement Zebrafish lab
1998 Remodeling of Department of Energy Lab
2001 New steam lines and heaters installed in greenhouse
2005 Bike storage cage on west side
2006 Future plans for new entrance at northeast corner to connect to underground ONAMI expansion