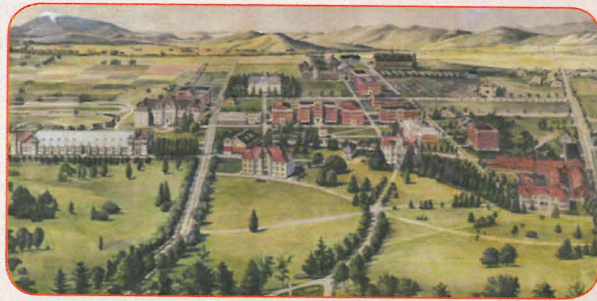
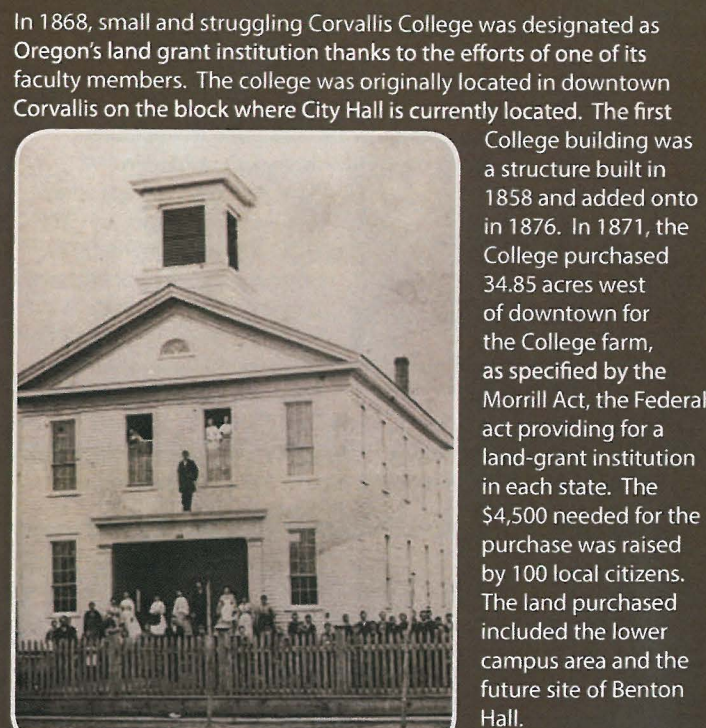


# Oregon State UNIVERSITY

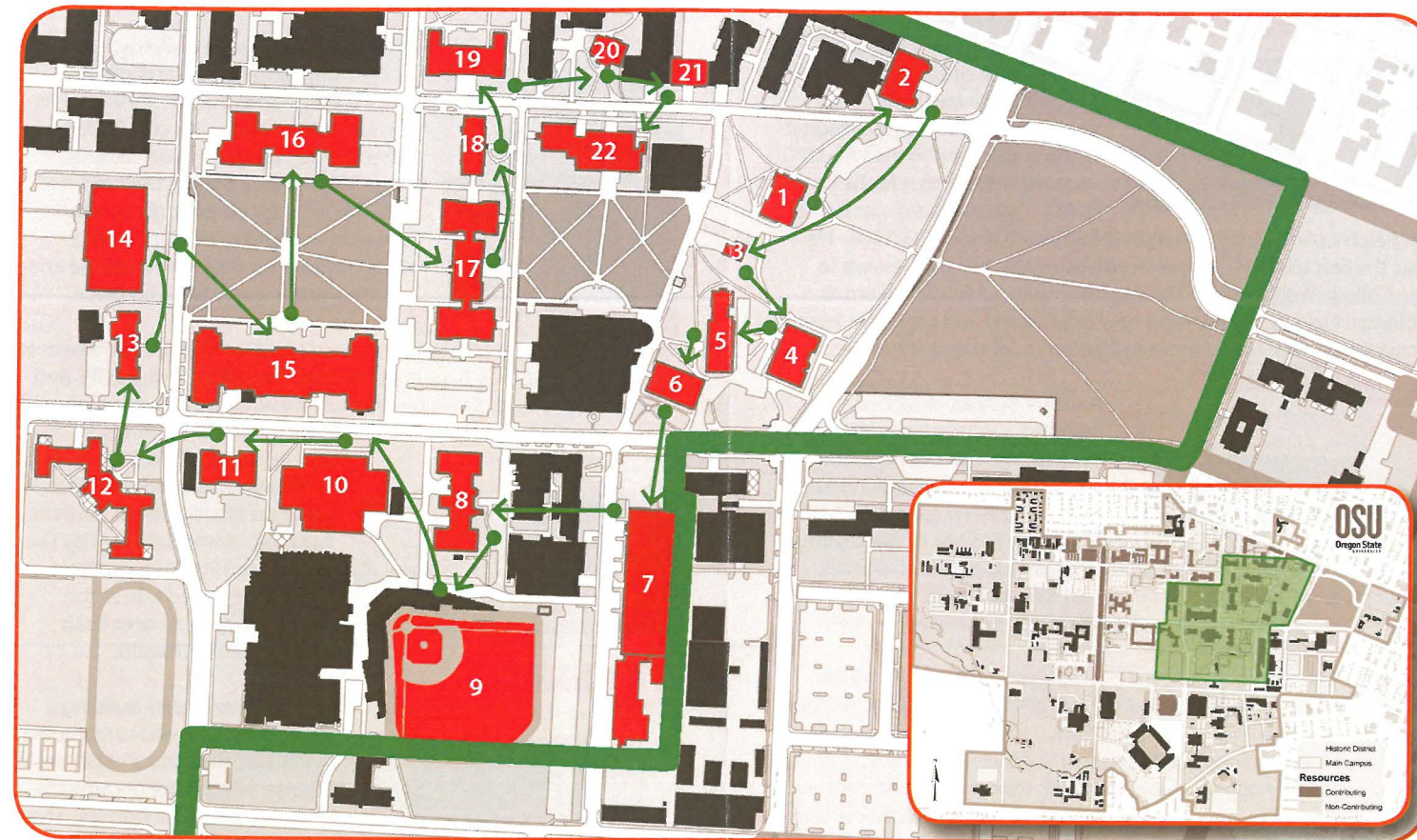
## Historic District Walking Tour



Welcome to the beautiful and historic campus of Oregon State University, a designated Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places.



In 1868, small and struggling Corvallis College was designated as Oregon's land grant institution thanks to the efforts of one of its faculty members. The college was originally located in downtown Corvallis on the block where City Hall is currently located. The first College building was a structure built in 1858 and added onto in 1876. In 1871, the College purchased 34.85 acres west of downtown for the College farm, as specified by the Morrill Act, the Federal act providing for a land-grant institution in each state. The \$4,500 needed for the purchase was raised by 100 local citizens. The land purchased included the lower campus area and the future site of Benton Hall.



### 1 Benton Hall

First called the College or Administration Building, this building has been known as Benton Hall since 1947. Dedicated in 1888, this building was funded by Benton County citizens at a cost of \$5,000. It is a wood frame building with a brick exterior; the brick was cemented over in 1899. The original entrance was a large stairway up to the 2nd floor, which was removed in 1899. Prior to 1988, the clock faces were simply painted on the tower.



### 2 Kearney (Apperson) Hall

Originally Mechanical Hall, this building was constructed in 1899-1900 to replace the first Mechanical Hall which burned in 1898. The new building, dedicated in 1900, was designed by Portland architect Edgar H. Lazarus. Its facade is of Oregon granite and sandstone. The third floor was added in 1920. That year the building was renamed for John T. Apperson and has been used by the College of Engineering since. It was renamed Kearney Hall in 2008 in recognition of the donors underwriting its renovation.



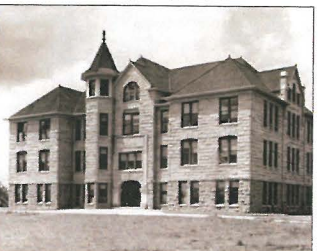
### 3 Women's Center

The Station Building, known today as the Women's Center, was constructed in 1892 for the Agricultural Experiment Station. The basement once contained a chemistry lab. The structure combines Queen Anne and Gothic Revival influences. Apart from an addition constructed in 1920, it looks much as it did over 100 years ago.



### 4 Education Hall

Education Hall was built in 1902 as Agriculture Hall. It was designed by Charles H. Burggraf of Albany, who also designed Waldo Hall. The Oregon gray granite on the lower facade was quarried in the Cascades. In 1909, the building was known as Science Hall. In the late 1910s and early 1920s, Linus Pauling (a 1922 OAC graduate and two-time Nobel Prize winner) attended and headed classes in the building. It was remodeled in 1939-40 and renamed Education Hall.



### 5 Pharmacy Building

Designed by Portland architect John V. Bennes, this building was constructed in 1924 and has been used exclusively by the College of Pharmacy since that time. When built, the 2nd floor included a model drug store, which was described in a pharmacy trade magazine of the time as providing "a laboratory for instruction in store arrangement, showcase and window decorating and practical salesmanship of drugs and druggists' sundries." An addition to the building was constructed in 1966.



### 6 Valley Gymnastics Center

The evolution of this architecturally unique building has come full circle. Built in 1898 as the college gymnasium and armory, it was the first of two campus buildings designed by Portland architect Edgar M. Lazarus. It served as the college armory until 1910, the men's and women's gym from 1899 to 1914, the women's gym from 1914-1926, and the Mitchell Playhouse from 1951-1990. The building was condemned in 1990 and restored in 1992 with a donation from OSU alumni Wayne and Gladys Valley. It now serves as the training facility for OSU's nationally ranked gymnastics team.



### 7 Mc Alexander Fieldhouse & Heating Plant

Designed by Bennes, the building was constructed in 1909-1910 as the Armory, with the rear portion of the building serving as the college heating plant. The building was named for Ulysses Grant McAlexander, commandant of OAC cadets from 1907-1911 and 1915-1917. Today it houses the Army and Air Force ROTC offices, the large interior space is used by Recreational Sports, and the heating plant is a rifle range.



### 8 Waldo Hall

Designed by Charles H. Burggraff, Waldo Hall was completed in 1907 as a women's dormitory. It originally contained 115 rooms and housed up to 300 women. When it first opened, room and board was \$3.50 a week. The building included domestic science labs and classrooms. Named in honor of Dr. Clara Humason Waldo, an OAC regent from 1905 to 1919, Waldo Hall was used as a dorm until 1965.



## Early Campus Planning

Oregon State's first campus planning efforts began soon after William Jasper Kerr became College Presidency in 1907. In 1909, OAC contracted with John C. Olmsted (son of New York City's Central Park designer Frederick Law Olmsted) to create a comprehensive, long-range campus plan.



Olmsted presented his written plan to President Kerr in October 1909 after visiting campus in June. He recommended a comprehensive tree plan, that buildings should be of a simple classical design,

and that enrollment be limited to 2,500 students until a separate institution could be built to house growing demand. In January 1926, A.D. Taylor, a landscape architect from Cleveland, Ohio, presented a revision of the 1909 Olmsted campus plan. His recommendations for the expanded 100-acre central campus included the development of east or "lower" campus as a park area, development of quads, relocation of barns beyond 35th Street, and development of 30th St. as a boulevard and western edge of campus. He also recommended landscape plantings to emphasize building entrances, screen certain areas, and create or enhance vistas. He advised grouped plantings and the establishment of an arboretum.

## John V. Bennes

Born in Illinois and raised in Chicago, John V. Bennes was an admirer and contemporary of Frank Lloyd Wright. He came to Oregon in 1900. After six years in Baker City, he moved to Portland. There, he was an exponent of Prairie Style architecture for residences. However, his designs ran the gamut and included numerous commercial buildings in styles ranging from Art Deco to Zigzag Moderne. Between 1907 and 1941 Bennes designed at least 36 buildings on the Oregon State main campus. He also designed additions and renovations to several buildings. Bennes' unity of design at OAC was characterized as "exceptional" by A.D. Taylor in his 1926 report. One of the first



buildings at OAC designed by Bennes was a dairy barn. It was the first of six barns designed by Bennes for the College. He also designed administration buildings at Western, Eastern and Southern Oregon Universities. Other Bennes buildings in Corvallis include the First Presbyterian Church, two sorority houses, the Bexell House on 30th St., and the Masonic Building in downtown. At least twenty-two Bennes designed buildings are currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## 9 Goss Stadium at Coleman Field



OSU has played baseball on the same site since 1907, when it began organized collegiate baseball. It is the oldest collegiate baseball diamond in the PAC-10 and one of the oldest in the United States. Coleman Field was named

for Ralph Coleman, OSU head baseball coach from 1923-1966. He was the first coach in Oregon State History to take the Beavers to the College World Series. The site was renamed Goss Stadium at Coleman Field in 1998 when a new grandstand and press box were constructed with funds donated by alumni John and Eline Goss.

## 10 Langton Hall



Another Bennes-designed building, Langton Hall was built in 1915 as the Men's Gymnasium. A 33 yard pool was added in 1920. It is one of the few collegiate pools in

the nation of that size. The bronze sculpture in front of the building is "The Runner", (1920). It is among the earliest pieces of artwork installed on campus. The building was used for men's basketball games and commencement until Gill Coliseum opened in 1949.

## 11 Moreland Hall

This Bennes-designed building was built in 1917 as the Forestry Building, and was used by the College of Forestry until the College moved to Peavy Hall in the early 1970s. The departments of English and Psychology have occupied the building since that time. In 1973 the building was named for W. W. Moreland, a 19th century



faculty member and clerk of the State Legislature. Remnants of Forestry's original arboretum are located behind the building.

## 12 Weatherford Hall

John Bennes and partner Harry Herzog designed this beautiful building, built in 1928 in just six months. Originally the Men's Dormitory, it was a complex of five halls linked together. This building accommodated up to 344 men. Initially, only the center tower portion was named Weatherford Hall, for James K. Weatherford, an alumnus and OAC regent from 1885-1929. Taylor's campus plan called for construction of three more buildings at each corner of the the Weatherford quad. After sitting empty, awaiting renovation for some time, Weatherford Hall reopened in Fall of 2004 as the home of the Austin Entrepreneurship Program.



## 13 Fairbanks Hall

Built in 1892 as a dormitory for men, it was originally known as Cauthorn Hall after state Senator and OAC regent Thomas Cauthorn. It was designed by architect W.D. Pugh in an "eclectic" architectural style. The dorm could accommodate over 100 students, and included water, steam heat, electric lights, dining room and kitchen. In 1964 the building was renamed Fairbanks Hall.



## 14 Women's Building



This Italian Renaissance building was designed by John Bennes and partner Harry Herzog. Constructed in 1926 as the women's gymnasium, it is considered one of the grandest structures on campus. It was also the only Bennes building on campus designed through an open competition. The building includes a 30'x70' swimming pool, and a lounge and assembly room with a large fireplace.

## 15 Memorial Union

The Memorial Union was built in 1927-28 as a monument to those who gave their lives in defense of the nation during WWI, and as a center for student life on campus. It was constructed entirely with private donations and gifts, at a cost of around \$750,000. Oregon State students endorsed a \$ 3.00 per term student fee to fund the building. It was designed by Lee Thomas, a 1907 OAC graduate, and is considered one of the finest examples of neoclassic architecture in Oregon.



## 16 Milam Hall



One of Bennes' early buildings, Milam's first unit was constructed in 1914 for the School of Domestic Science, which later became the School of Home Economics. The center addition to the building was built in 1920, and the west wing was added in 1952. In 1976

the building was renamed for Ava Milam, Dean of Home Economics from 1917-1950.

## 17 Strand Agriculture Hall

The first, northern unit of this building was designed by Bennes and partners, and constructed in 1909 as the Agronomy Building. The second and third units were built in 1911 and 1913. In the 1910s-1920s, greenhouses sat on the building's south side, where the Memorial Union parking lot is today. In 1984 the building was renamed for August L. Strand, OSU president from 1942 to 1961.



## 18 Gilkey Hall

Alpha Hall built 1889, originally occupied this site. The Dairy Building, another Bennes' design, replaced it in 1912. When Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Bernard Malamud was on the Oregon State faculty in the 1940s and 1950s, he taught English in this building. It was renamed for Gordon Gilkey in 2001. Gilkey was Dean of the School of Humanities, which later became the College of Liberal Arts. The College has used this building for decades.



## 19 Bexell Hall



John Bennes designed this building, which was constructed in 1922 as the Commerce Building. Since that time, it has housed the College of Business and its predecessors, such as the School of Commerce. It also housed the president's offices

from 1923 to 1972. In 1966 it was named for John A. Bexell, founder and head of OAC School of Commerce from 1908 to 1931.

## 20 Shepard Hall

Shepard Hall was constructed in 1908 as the YMCA/YWCA and as a space for student activities. It was not an official campus building until 1940, when it was purchased by the College. It was designed by Portland architect E.B. McNaughton and named for Claiborne L. Shepard, OAC's YMCA general secretary in 1905-06. Its basement included a swimming pool, and was used by female students until the Women's Building pool opened in 1926.



## 21 Batcheller Hall



This building is another example of an early Bennes design. It was constructed in 1913 and originally housed the School of Mines. It was later named for James H. Batcheller, head of the School of Mines from 1919 to 1942. The College of Engineering uses the building today.

## 22 Kidder Hall

Yet another Bennes building, Kidder was constructed in 1918 as the College library. Bennes also designed the building's west wing, added in 1941. Plans called for an east wing that was never built. In 1954 the library was renamed Kerr Library, in memory of William Jasper Kerr, OAC president from 1907 to 1932. After a new library building was built in 1963, the old library building was renamed Kidder Hall for Ida Kidder, OAC librarian from 1908-1920. Kidder Hall was the home of the University Archives from 1963 to 1972, and today it houses the College of Science Dean's office, Mathematics and Statistics, and Media Services.



OSU Walking Tour Mobile Application:  
<http://tour.library.oregonstate.edu/>

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