

McCracken Power Plant

Herrick Archives Number 069

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Officially named "McCracken Power Plant" by Board of Trustees on May 5, 1960.

1.2 Alternate names noted:

Power Plant (No. 3)

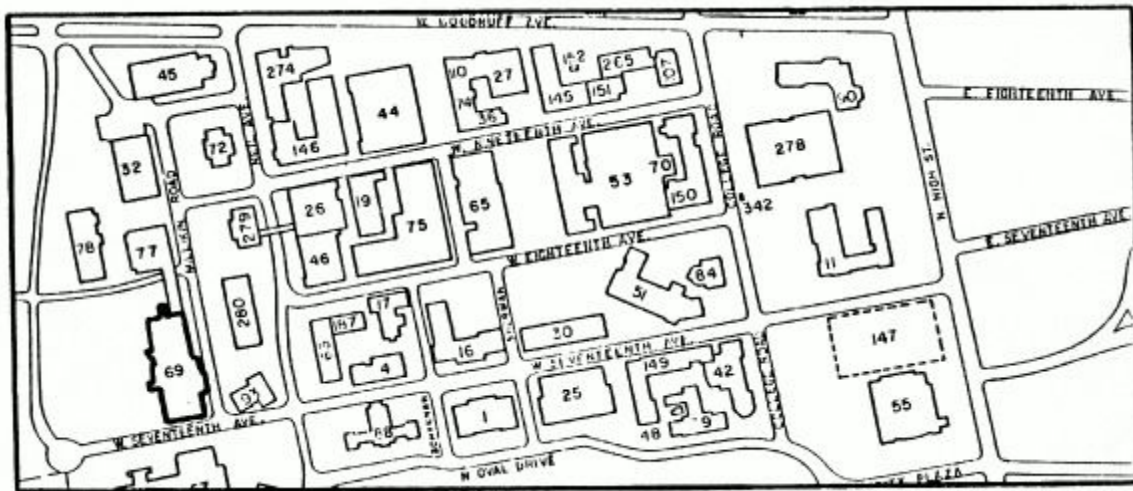
Power House (No. 3)

See Addenda Nos. 1, 2, 4

2. Location

2.1 Located at 304 W. 17th Avenue. See map below.

2.2 For greater detail, see Sheets 83 and 96 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives.



For Identification of other buildings shown, see Appendix A.

3. General Description

3.1 Type of construction:

Reinforced concrete frame with brick exterior, except third and fourth additions. Third addition is a reinforced concrete wall with no roof. Fourth addition is a reinforced concrete wall on the east side and a corrugated steel on the north wall. It has no roof.

3.2 No. of stories:

Basement and three stories except third and fourth additions.

3.3 Increments of construction:

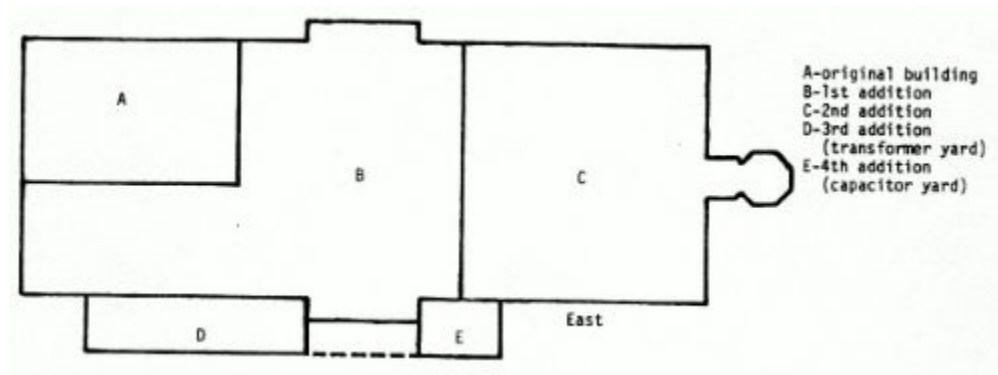
Enlarged four times. See sketch.

See Addendum No. 3

3.4 Present area of building as shown in inventory records of Division of Campus Planning, exclusive of third and fourth additions:

103,172 sq. ft. gross; 26,805 sq. ft. net assignable

See Addendum No. 3



3.5 The exterior dimensions of the third and fourth additions are as follows:

3.5.1 Third addition - 25' x 100'

3.5.2 Fourth addition - 25' x 35' 6"

3.6 Volume of building

2,266,500 cu. ft., exclusive of third and fourth additions (PP).

B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - ORIGINAL BUILDING

1. On July 24, 1917 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Joseph N. Bradford and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on September 4, 1917 (T).
3. On September 7, 1917 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts to the following contractors:

General: E. H. Latham

Radial brick chimney: H. R. Heinicke, Inc.

Boiler: Babcock and Wilcox Co.

Retort stoker: Sanford-Riley Stoker Co.

Turbine feeder: Alberger Pump Co.

Brick: Ohio Board of Administration

Water heater and meter: Harrison Safety Boiler Works

Coal tinker: Brown Hoisting Machinery Co.

Tunnel: H. P. Streett

4. It was decided on September 7, 1917, that the University would do the electrical, heating and plumbing and sewer work.
5. Since no bids were received on September 4, 1917 on breeching for boilers, blast pipe for boilers, and piping for valves, it was decided on September 7, 1917 that these branches of the work would be readvertised.
6. On October 2, 1917 the Board of Trustees rescinded the September 7, 1917 award of the stoker contract to Sanford-Riley Stoker Co. At this same meeting the Board of Trustees approved plans and specifications for breeching for boilers, coal handling machinery, and one stoker, and directed that bids be solicited.
7. Bids on these items were received on December 3, 1917 (T).
8. On January 8, 1918 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contract for breeching for boilers to Graves and Marshall Co.
9. On March 5, 1918 the Board of Trustees was informed by the Secretary that bids had been opened on February 19, 1918 for the stoker, and that the Underfeed Stoker Co. of America had been advised that the contract would be awarded to them. The award was approved by the Board of Trustees.
10. On August 4, 1919 the Board of Trustees accepted a proposal by the Jeffrey Manufacturing Co. to install a coal elevator in the new power house. Presumably this was after the new building was in operation. See next item below.
11. Completion and occupancy:
 - 11.1 The Lantern reported on September 24, 1918 that the new power house could open on November 1.
 - 11.2 Records of the University Architect indicate that the last final estimate was January 7, 1919.
 - 11.3 McCracken (3:156) reports that the boiler was "fired up the latter part of October 1918, and a picture on the following page shows the completed building and is dated "September, 1918."

C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - FIRST ADDITION

1. On September 14, 1921 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Joseph N. Bradford and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on November 18, 1921 (T).
3. On November 19, 1921 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts to the following contractors:

General: E. Elford

Coal bunker: Brown Hoisting Machinery Co.
4. The electrical work was done by University personnel.
5. On December 15, 1921 the Board of Trustees approved plans and related documents prepared by Joseph N. Bradford for the switchboard, traveling crane, electric work, and heating and plumbing, and authorized solicitation of bids. Bids on these items were received on February 8, 1922 (T).

6. On February 17, 1922 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts as follows:

Traveling Crane: Morgan Engineering Co.

Heating and plumbing: Huffman-Wolfe Co.

Bids on electrical work were rejected.

7. On February 23, 1922 the Board of Trustees voted to reconsider the February 17, 1922 award of the heating and plumbing contract.

8. On March 27, 1922 new bids on heating and plumbing and electrical work were received (T).

9. On April 4, 1925 the Board of Trustees awarded the heating and plumbing contract to the Huffman-Wolfe Co. The bids for electrical work were rejected. No further references to bids or contracts for electrical work has been found.

10. On January 11, 1923 the Board approved the purchase of boilers and other equipment from Langley Field, Virginia, and on June 22, 1923 appropriated money for installation of this equipment.

11. Beginning of work:

11.1 The Secretary reported to the Board of Trustees on January 10, 1922 that excavation was underway.

11.2 The University Architect reported to the Board of Trustees on May 26, 1922 that the excavation had been completed, that structural steel was being set, and that the 1st floor slab would be done "this week".

12. Completion and occupancy:

12.1 Accepted by Board of Trustees from general contractor on April 10, 1923. This would seem to set the completion date for completion of the building, but there were numerous later contracts for equipment as noted above.

12.2 The President in his annual report for 1924-25 (p.12) stated that the project was still incomplete, and that it would require two or three years more to complete the building and its equipment. He stated that "the main activities however, will be transferred to the new building for the Autumn Quarter of 1925."

D. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - SECOND ADDITION

1. On December 12, 1927 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Joseph N. Bradford and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.

2. Bids were received on February 9, 1928 (T).

3. On February 13, 1928 Cabinet agreed to the awards of contracts as indicated in the next item below (T 3/12/28). These awards were approved by the Board of Trustees by mail vote on February 16, 1928 (T:loc. cit.)

4. On March 12, 1928 the Board of Trustees again confirmed the Cabinet awards to the following contractors:

General: Van Gundy Beck Co.

Electrical: Harrington Electric Co.

Plumbing: H. H. Spohn Plumbing Co.

Stack: H.R. Heinicke, Inc.

Bids for the coal bunker were rejected.

4. Bids for the coal bunker were received on April 23, 1928 (T:5/14/28).
5. On May 14, 1928 the Board of Trustees approved the award of the coal bunker contract to the Fritz-Rumer-Cooke Co.
6. Completion and occupancy:
 - 6.1 The Lantern on January 25, 1929 reported that this addition would be completed by the middle of February.
 - 6.2 The final estimate was dated June 26, 1929 (A).

E. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - THIRD ADDITION

1. On March 7, 1958 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Fosdick and Hilmer and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. On June 6, 1958 the Board of Trustees ratified the award of the construction contract to Wagner-Smith Co.
3. Completion and occupancy:

The Board of Trustees on April 10, 1959 extended the time of completion of this project to July 1, 1959. Since the bulk of this contract consisted of the installation of transformers, and since the contract also included extension feeder lines to two new buildings (145 & 146), the above completion date does not apply necessarily to the concrete wall. In fact, it is probable that the wall was completed earlier, possibly even in 1958.

F. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - FOURTH ADDITION

1. On May 9, 1961 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Fosdick and Hilmer and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on May 23, 1961 (T).
3. On June 8, 1961 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts the following contractors:

General: Kautz Construction Co.

Electrical: S. & S. Electric Co.

4. Completion and occupancy:

Physical Plant records show both contracts completed February 1, 1962.

G. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:

X 7753

X 7754
X 7755
X 22782
X 22733

2. Other:

Hooper: 157
McC 3:156 (original part)
McC 4:39 (original and first addition)

H. MISCELLANEOUS

1. This building replaced Building 017 as the University Power Plant, but both buildings were in use until the first addition to Building 069 was completed.
2. In late 1968 the east walls of the third and fourth addition were connected by a corrugated metal partition. The drawing (CS 3286) is dated August 12, 1968 and was made by Walter L. Hartman. Mr. Hartman recalls that the wall was constructed shortly thereafter.
3. Originally the north wall of the fourth addition was largely a chain link fence. This was later replaced by a corrugated metal wall. The date of this replacement has not been ascertained.

John H. Herrick
March 11, 1977

ADDENDUM NO. 1

Inspection of old campus maps reveals the following additional name for this building:

Power and Heat Building

John H. Herrick
November 13, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 2

The following additional names for this building have been found on old campus maps:

Power Plant Service Dept (error)

John H. Herrick
September 21, 1981

ADDENDUM NO. 3

Campus Planning records now show the net assignable area of this building as 78,855 square feet.

At the present time, plans are being drawn for installation of a coal-fired boiler. This will involve new construction outside the present building as follows:

1. Construction of a coal storage building approximately 70' x 102' at a location which will require the demolition of Buildings 350 & 351.

2. Construction of a spray dry absorber tank 12' in diameter and a pollution control building approximately 29' x 53' north of the existing stack.
3. Construction of a 17' x 32' addition on the west side of Building 069 for an emergency generator room.

John H. Herrick
February 7, 1985

ADDENDUM NO. 4

The construction indicated in Addendum No. 3 is now in progress. Final drawings indicate external dimensions as follows:

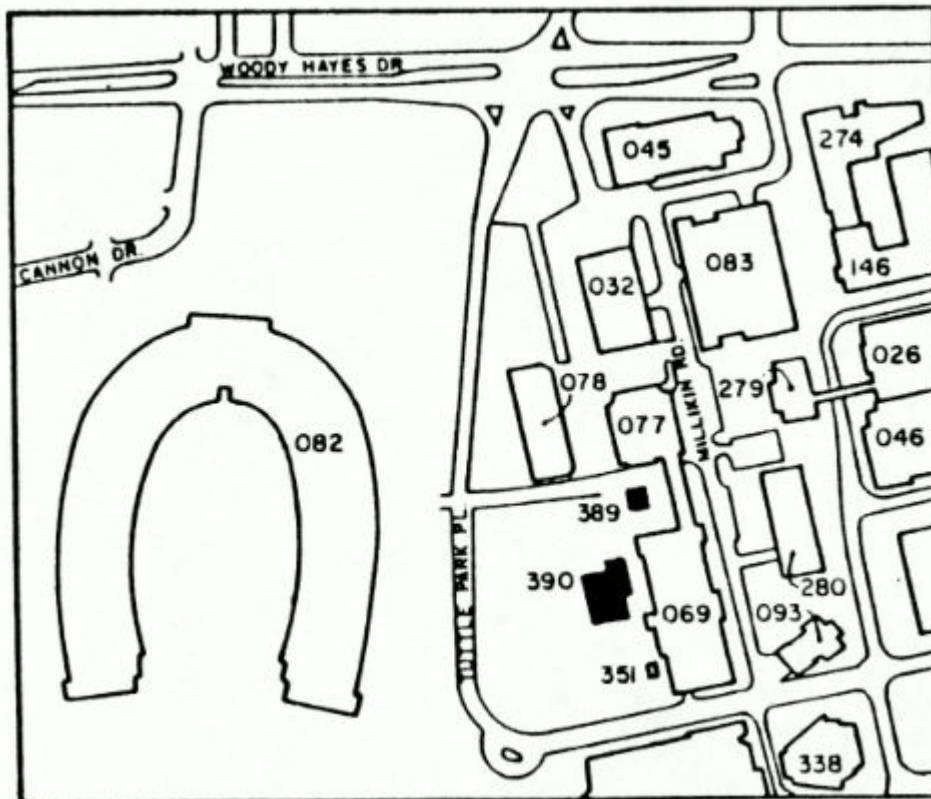
Coal Storage - 70' x 105' plus small projection northeast corner.

Pollution Control - 301 x 54-10"

Generator Room - 17' x 32'

Campus Planning has assigned numbers 389 and 390, respectively, to the Pollution Control Building and the Coal Storage Building.

Locations of these several units are shown on the following sketch:



Fosdick & Hilmer was designated as Architect/Engineer for the project by the Board of Trustees on May 5, 1983.

Bids for the new construction were received on 5/29/85, and contracts were awarded as follows: (A)

General - Vesta Construction

Plumbing - R.H. Reeb

Power Piping - Sauer Mechanical

Electric - Electric Power Equipment

The new boiler was put into operation on December 2, 1986 and the two related buildings (Bldgs. 389 & 390) were also ready for beneficial occupancy at that date.

This building is now carried in Campus Planning records as William C. McCracken Power Plant. The official name, however, remains "McCracken Power Plant."

See separate reports on Buildings 389 and 390.

John H. Herrick
December 19, 1986