

Communications Laboratory

Herrick Archives Number 019

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Never officially named by Board of Trustees action.

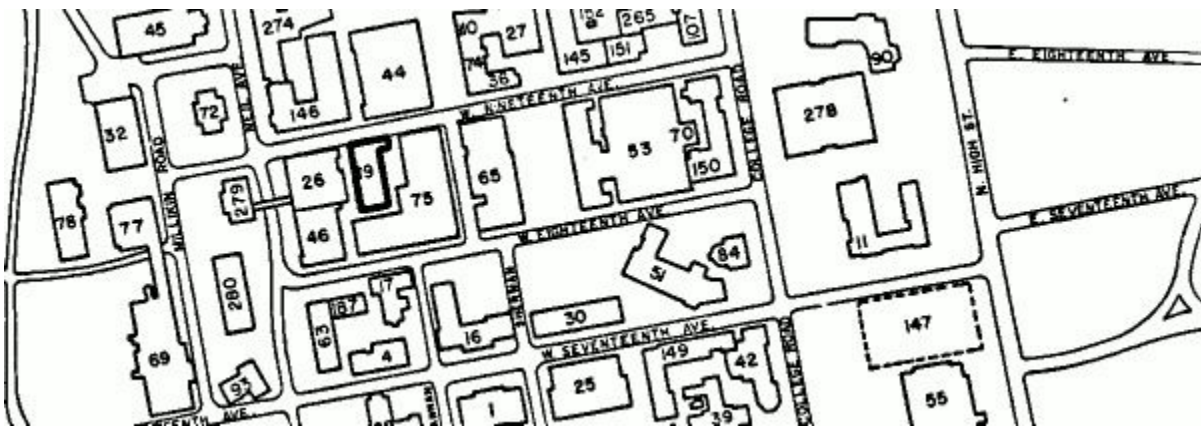
1.2 Alternate names noted:

- Aeronautics Laboratory
- Aeronautical Laboratory
- Aero Laboratory
- Agricultural Engineering Building
- Machinery Laboratory
- Machinery Hall
- Aviation Building
- Aviation Laboratories Building
- Electron Devices Laboratory
- WEAO
- WOSU
- Ohio School of the Air
- School of Military Aeronautics Lab
- School of Military Aeronautics - instruction building

2. Location

2.1 Located at 215 W. 19th Avenue. See map below.

2.2 For greater detail, see Sheets 83 and 84 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:

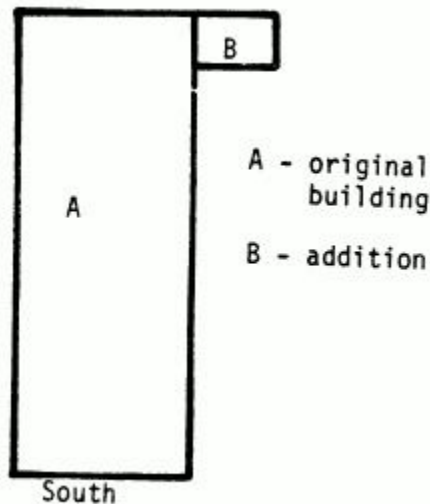
Wood frame including wood trusses for sawtooth roof. Brick exterior.

3.2 No. of stories:

Two with no basement in original; addition is one story with no basement.

3.3 Increments of construction:

Enlarged once. See sketch.



3.4 Present area of building as shown in inventory records of Division of Campus Planning:

25,696 sq. ft. gross;
19,403 sq. ft. net assignable

3.5 Volume of building:

405,000 cu. ft. (PP)

B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - ORIGINAL BUILDING

1. On July 3, 1917 the President and Secretary were instructed by the Board of Trustees to have plans prepared for facilities for the School of Military Aeronautics, including "a building for instruction" -- Building 019.
2. The Board of Trustees met with the Emergency Board on September 4, 1917 to present their request for funds. Action was deferred by the Emergency Board until September 10, 1917.
3. The Board of Trustees on September 7, 1917 directed the Secretary to appear before the Emergency Board on September 10, 1917 with a request for the "Laboratory building" (019) scaled down to \$55,000.

He was further directed in event of favorable action by the Emergency Board, to request the Governor to waive the requirement for formal bidding.

The President and Secretary were instructed to enter into contracts for construction at once, in event of a favorable response by the Governor.

4. At the October 2, 1917 Board of Trustees meeting, it was reported that the Governor had approved the waiving of formal advertising, that plans and specifications had been completed, and that bids had been received on September 24, 1917 and October 1, 1917.

The Board of Trustees then approved the final plans, specifications, and estimates of cost and awarded construction contracts to the following contractors:

General: E.H. Latham
Heating and plumbing: Huffman-Conklin Co.
Electrical: O.L. Bowers

5. The plans for this building have not been found, but the specifications indicate that Joseph N. Bradford was the Architect (A).

6. The work by contractors was done under purchase orders issued on October 11, 1917 (A).

7. Beginning of work:

7.1 Started work in mid-October 1917 (L 3/25/18).

7.2 Started work on 2nd floor in mid-November, 1917 (L 11/15/17)

8. Completion and occupancy:

Began use for classes on March 25, 1818 (L 3/25/18), but final estimates were issued in April and May (A).

C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - ADDITION

1. On April 25, 1938 the Cabinet directed the University Architect (Howard Dwight Smith) to prepare sketches for an addition to be built out of the appropriation for the Ohio School of the Air. These sketches were presented to Cabinet on May 2, 1938. Cabinet approved them and directed the Architect to proceed with final plans.

2. On June 2, 1938 the Cabinet approved the final documents as presented by the University Architect (Joseph N. Bradford), and instructed the Purchasing Agent to secure bids.

3. On June 22, 1938 Cabinet reviewed the bids presented by the University Architect and on his recommendation awarded the contract to the Trapp-Carroll Co. at a cost of \$3885.

4. Heating and plumbing work was done by University personnel (A).

5. The date of completion has not been determined, but it was probably September 1938, since the Architect's record show a charge for his drafting and supervision for May through September, 1938.

D. COST

1. Contracts let on October 2, 1917 totaled \$37,900 (A).

2. Listed at \$39,849.01 as of June 30, 1918 and at \$41,325.61 a year later (B).

3. Subsequent remodelings and additions have brought the total to \$114,562.97 as of June 30, 1975 (B).

E. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:

X 1574

X 7891

X 7892

2. Other

McC: 3:139

Hooper: 132

F. MISCELLANEOUS

Used as a mess hall in 1918-19 (L 10/2/18). Had capacity to feed 800 Student Army Training Corps members (T 10/1/18).

Following World War I, the University radio station (then WEAO) occupied the north end of the building. Regular broadcasting began in 1922 (Hooper:98). The addition was built to expand the radio space. The antenna towers and a small broadcasting shack (H 416) were across the street in the space now occupied by Buildings 146 and 274.

John H. Herrick
November 1, 1976

ADDENDUM NO. 1

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

Agricultural Engineering Laboratory Motors and Tractors Building
Aviation Lab
WOSU - Radio
Communication Lab

John H. Herrick
November 13, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 2

Campus Planning records now show the net assignable area of this building as 19,460 square feet.

John H. Herrick
February 7, 1985

ADDENDUM NO. 3 - Communication Lab Demolition

On October 5, 1990 The Board of Trustees approved the plan to demolish the Communications Lab at 215 W. 19th Ave. In June of 1992, the lab was demolished. The funds from this project also provided for site restoration.

Total Project Cost: \$ 309,372.00

Funded By: House Bill 808, University Funds

Contracts were awarded on July 10, 1992 as follows:

General: Williamson Builders, Plain City, Ohio \$ 188,377.00

Electric: Now Electric, Columbus, Ohio. \$ 58,880.00

Other: Asbat Services

Project was completed in December of 1992.