

Stadium

Herrick Archives Number 082

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Never officially named by Board of Trustees

See Addendum No. 2

1.2 Alternate names noted:

1.2.1 The Stadium was referred to in Board of Trustees minutes during planning and construction both as the "Stadium" and the "Ohio Stadium." The construction contract was between the "Ohio Stadium Building Committee" and the contractor.

1.2.2 Dormitories later developed under the west side of the Stadium, or parts of the dormitory space, have carried various names, including:

- Stadium Dormitory
- Scholarship Dormitory
- Stadium Scholarship Dormitories
- Stadium Scholarship House
- Tower Dorm
- Tower Club
- Buckeye Club
- Ohio Club
- Olentangy Club
- Scioto Club
- Stadium Club

1.2.3 Research space later constructed under the east side of the Stadium is referred to as the Stadium Research Space of the Personnel Research Board.

See Addenda Nos. 3, 5, 6

2. Location

2.1 Located at 404 W. 17th Avenue. See map below.

2.2 Addresses used for the dormitories include 1960, 1978, 1992, 2012, 2028, 2046, and 2054 Stadium Dorm Road (later Cannon Drive).

The research space on the east side carries the 404 W. 17th Avenue address with letter suffixes.

See Addenda Nos. 1, 4

561,262 sq. ft. gross;
169,803 sq. ft. net assignable

See Addendum No. 7

3.4.2 The volume is 1,741,320 cu ft. (PP)

3.4.3 More meaningful measures of size may be the following, quoted from a football program:

Area covered -- 10 Acres
Circumferences -- 1/3 mile
Height - 98' 8"

B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - ORIGINAL BUILDING

1. On May 25, 1921 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Howard Dwight Smith, architect, and Clyde T. Morris, engineer. These documents had been prepared under the direction of a special Ohio Stadium Building Committee created by the Board of Trustees on November 15, 1920.
2. The Ohio Stadium Building Committee executed a contract on July 20, 1921 whereby the E.H. Latham Co. would construct the Stadium (A). This contract had been approved by the Board of Trustees on July 7, 1921.
3. Beginning of work:
Ground breaking was on August 3, 1921, although work had been in progress for some time (M13:5--Oct. 1921).
4. Completion and occupancy:
 - 4.1 The Stadium was dedicated on October 21, 1922, although two games had already been played there (M64:3--October 1922).
 - 4.2 A panoramic picture taken at the dedication on October 21, 1922 hangs in the corridor at the Alumni House (Building 284). It shows that the towers at the north end were not yet complete. The Monthly (loc. cit.) states that the dome at the north end was completed in November 1922.
 - 4.3 An October 1, 1922 photograph in the Monthly (14:9) shows that the southeast tower was not finished at that date. A month later (M:14:3-4--November 1922) pictures reveal a completed southeast tower.
 - 4.4 The Monthly in May 1923 (14:7) states that the contractor had started putting on the finishing touches.

C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - PRESS BOXES

1. There were originally two press boxes, one on each side of the field. They were at the top of the C deck and were centered on the 50 yard line. Each was 58 feet long (rear edge) and 16 feet from front to back, exclusive of roof overhang. There was a walkway behind each press box, between the rear wall of the press box and the parapet wall of the Stadium.

These two boxes are well shown in Photographs X2906 and X2909.

2. The original press boxes were part of the original Stadium construction (see Part B above), and were completed during the 1922 football season.

3. These two original press boxes were still in place in the spring of 1929 (see Photograph X1008), but had been removed by football season that autumn.
4. In 1929 the original two press boxes were replaced by one larger press box on the west side at the top of the C Deck and centered on the 50 yard line. This is well shown in Photograph X2908 (1929).

This 1929 press box was approximately 142'6" long (front edge) and approximately 13' from front to rear. There was a passageway between the rear wall of the press box and the parapet wall of the Stadium.

Photograph X16350 (1936) shows a frame platform, presumably for cameras, on top of the 1929 press box. No records of construction of this platform have been found.

The University Architect's files include a May 7, 1937 drawing by Howard Dwight Smith showing the addition at each end of the 1929 press box of a 16 foot long camera booth. The Athletic Board minutes for June 2, 1938 include in the 1938-39 budget an item of \$1500 for "press box improvements," but this apparently was not used to construct the booths designed by Smith in 1937, since these booths do not show in a 1940 photograph (X8871). They do, however, appear in a 1947 photograph (X22801).

It is possible that the 1938-39 appropriation of \$1500 was used for an improved camera platform on top of the 1929 press box. This new platform, with six camera positions, shows in Photograph X8871 (1940).

5. The 1929 press box was scheduled for demolition on the Monday after the Homecoming game on November 12, 1949 (M4:29--November 15, 1949). It apparently was demolished on schedule, or shortly thereafter, because contracts for the new (present) press box were signed on November 17, 1949 (A).
6. Plans for the present press box were prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and were approved by the Board of Trustees on June 10, 1949.
7. Bids for the present press box were received on September 29, 1949 (T).
8. The Board of Trustees on October 18, 1949 awarded contracts for the present press box to the following contractors:

General: George Sheaf and Co.
Heating: Sauer Co., Inc.
Plumbing: Huffman-Wolfe Co.
Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co.

Work on the above four contracts was substantially completed by August 15, 1950 (A).

9. The 1950 press box was 180' long (back edge) and almost 25 feet from front to back, except that the radio booths (about 19' long at each end) were only about 15' from front to back. The 1950 construction included three enclosed levels, plus a camera platform on top, and extended to the parapet wall of the Stadium.
10. Photograph X22803 shows a good view of the 1950 press box before glazing was done.
11. The top floor of the 1950 press box was extended approximately 19' at each end in 1965. Plans prepared by W.E. Linch were approved by the Board of Trustees on March 11, 1965. Bids received on May 26, 1965 were rejected (A), and new bids were received on June 3, 1965 (T). The Board of Trustees on June 10, 1965 approved award of the construction contract to E.J. Will and Co. Work on this contract was completed in time for the 1965 football season (Photograph 82940-67).

D. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - PRESS BOX ELEVATOR

1. Location -- on the west side between Gates 17 and 19. See sketch.

2. On April 17, 1964 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by William E. Linch and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. However, bids had already been taken. See next item

3. Bids were received on April 7, 1964 (T).

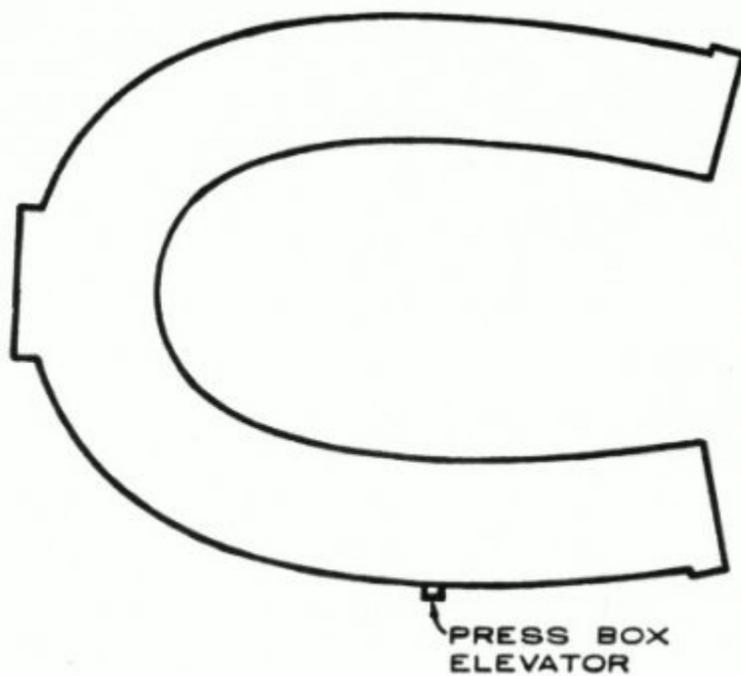
4. On April 17, 1964 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contracts to the following contractors:

General: Pendteton Construction Co.

Electrical: McCarty Brothers Electric Co.

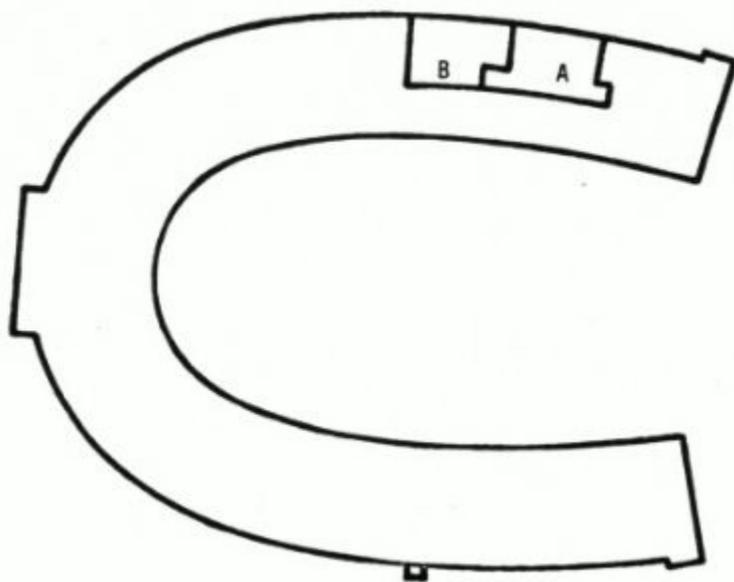
5. Completion and occupancy:

The Office of Campus Planning was advised by the University Architect on October 26, 1964 that the project had been substantially completed and was ready for occupancy (P).



E. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - RESEARCH SPACE

1. Location -- under the east side of the Stadium extending from Gate 26 to a point just north of Gate 14, and elevated one story above grade. See sketch.



A - first project

B - second project

2. This space was constructed in two projects (bays) as indicated on the sketch. Contracts for the first bay were let in three phases, designated I, II, and III. The development of the second bay is referred to as Phase IV, although it was done in two parts

3. On February 16, 1962 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Phase I prepared by W.E. Linch and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. This phase included structural framework, walls, floors, windows, and roof

4. Bids for Phase I were received on April 10, 1962 (T).

5. On May 18, 1962 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contracts for Phase I to the following contractors:

General: Leopald Construction Co.

Electrical: Jess Howard Electric Co.

Plumbing: Griff M. Lewis, Inc.

6. The Board of Trustees on October 12, 1962 granted an extension of time for completion of all Phase I contracts to October 11, 1962.

7. On April 12, 1963 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Phase II prepared by W.E. Linch and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. This phase included interior development of the first floor for the Personnel Research Board.

8. Bids on Phase II were received on June 12, 1963 (T).

9. On July 12, 1963 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contracts for Phase II to the following contractors:

General: E.J. Will and Co.

Electrical: Pence Electric Co.

Heating and ventilating: Limbach Co.

Plumbing: Bruner Corp.

10. The University Architect advised the Office of Campus Planning on March 4, 1964 that the work on Phase II was substantially completed and the space ready for occupancy. (P)

11. On March 11, 1965 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Phase III prepared by W.E. Linch and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. This phase included interior development of the second floor for Aviation Psychology.

12. Bids on Phase III were received on April 15, 1965 (T).

13. On May 13, 1965 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contracts for Phase III to the following contractors:

General: Pendleton Construction Co.

Electrical: Pence Electric Co.

Heating and ventilating: Kuempel Co.

Plumbing: Bruner Corp.

14. The Office of the University Architect reported to the Office of Campus Planning on November 5, 1965 that the Phase III project was substantially completed and ready for occupancy (P).

15. On April 13, 1967 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Phase IV prepared by Hollie W. Shupe and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. A portion of the interior development was not included at this time.

16. Bids on Phase IV were received on June 7 and June 16, 1967 (T).

17. On July 13, 1967 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contracts for Phase IV to the following contractors:

General: Wagenbrenner Construction Co.

Electrical: States Electric Co.

Heating, ventilating and air conditioning: Keumpel Co.

Plumbing: Huffman-Wolfe Co.

18. The University Architect on August 29, 1968 reported that this part of Phase IV was completed and ready for occupancy (P).

19. On July 9, 1976 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for the remainder of Phase IV prepared by John W. Spencer and Associates and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. This project completed the interior development of Phase IV.

20. Bids on the completion of Phase IV were received on July 14, 1976 (T).

21. On October 1, 1976 the Board of Trustees approved the award of contracts on completing Phase IV to the following contractors:

General: Edward Ross Construction Co.

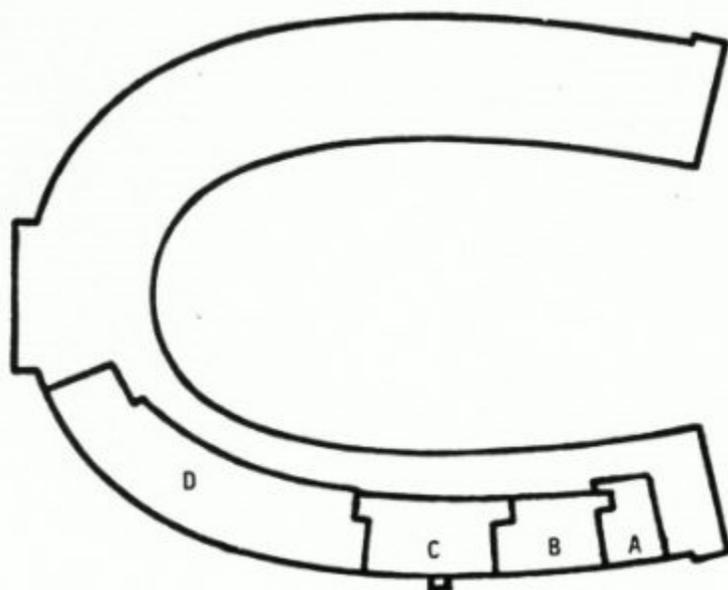
Electrical: Btume & Co.

Heating, ventilating and air conditioning: Kirk Williams, Inc.

22. As of this writing (April 20, 1977). this project is almost completed. (A).

F. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - DORMITORY SPACE

1. Location -- west side of Stadium, extending from the Southwest tower to the Northwest tower, and elevated one story above ground level. See sketch.



A-D: Additions (expansion) to the original Tower Club dormitory in the southwest tower.

2. The use of the Stadium for housing began with the opening of the Tower Club in the southwest tower in fall of 1933 with a capacity of 78 men. (H). All new construction for additional dormitory space is designated in the University Architect's records as expansions to the Tower Club, i.e. Expansion A, Expansion B, etc.

3. The outlines in the sketch above show the present first floor levels. These areas were not all achieved in the original construction, but no attempt is made here to detail the minor inward expansions made after the initial construction.

Areas of the upper floors were smaller than the area of the first floor, because of restrictions imposed by the slope of the Stadium seating above.

4. On March 12, 1934 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Expansion A prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.

5. Bids for Expansion A were received on April 4, 1934 (T).

6. On April 6, 1934 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts for Expansion A to the following contractors:

General: Trapp-Carroll Co.
 Electrical: L.R. Kennedy
 Heating and ventilating: Huffman-Wolfe Co.
 All plumbing bids were rejected.

7. New bids on plumbing were received on April 23, 1934 (T).

8. On May 14, 1934 the Board of Trustees awarded the plumbing contract for Expansion A to the Eastern Plumbing Co.

9. The locker contract for Expansion A was awarded by Cabinet on September 5, 1934 to Lyon Metal Products, Inc. (T October 8. 1934).

10. The new space added by Expansion A was put into use at the opening of the 1934-35 school year, with a capacity of 106 men (H).
11. On August 7, 1936 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Expansion B prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and directed the Secretary to advise the Works Progress Administration that the University was ready to provide \$33,415 for materials whenever the WPA was ready to proceed with the project.
12. This project was completed by the Works Progress Administration, according to very sketchy notes in the University files.
13. The space was occupied on January 1, 1938, and had a capacity of 120 men (H).
14. On April 11, 1938 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Expansion C prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and directed the Secretary to notify the Works Progress Administration of this action.
15. Sketchy records in the Office of the University Architect indicate that this project was built by the WPA.
16. The project was occupied in October 1939 by 120 men (R38-39:26).
17. On November 15, 1945 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents for Expansion D prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
18. Bids for Expansion D were received on February 18, 1946 (T). All bids were rejected and new bids were received on March 14, 1946 (T).
19. On March 25, 1946 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts to the following contractors:

General: Haig M. Boyajohn and Associates
 Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co.
 Heating and ventilating: Sauer Co., Inc.
 Plumbing: Sauer Co., Inc.

20. The project was completed during the 1947-48 school year (R47-48:4).

A financial statement for the Stadium Dormitories for 1947-48, dated September 14, 1948 and filed in the University Archives, indicates that this new space was ready for use by October 1947, but that uncertainties regarding completion of equipment contracts precluded use of the spaces during the autumn quarter.

G. COST

1. Records in the University Architect's office indicate an initial cost of \$1,300,000.
2. The Stadium first appears in the Business Office reports in 1929-30, at which time it is listed at \$1,780,695.74 (B).
3. As of June 30, 1975 the following cumulative costs were listed (B):

Stadium (includes Research space)	3,521,746.68
Stadium Scholarship Dorms	1,482,767.19
Total	\$5,004,513.87

4. Unpublished figures for June 30, 1976 total \$5,012,509.48.

H. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:

- Completed structure --X 22755
- West side --X 22804
- East side, showing research space -- X 22793
- Press boxes --see Part C above
- Press box elevator (under construction) --X 22805

I. MISCELLANEOUS

1. A two-story addition to the locker rooms in the southeast tower was constructed in 1928.
2. Plans for garages adjacent to the southeast tower were prepared in 1938 and the 1938-39 budget of the Athletic Department provided \$1500 for a "garage." However, no records of construction have been found.
3. In 1947 a third-story football movie projection room was constructed over the locker rooms and garage adjacent to the southeast tower.
4. The west side of the Stadium was enclosed at the ground level in 1948-49.
5. An elevator was installed in the northwest tower in 1949.
6. The dormitories on the west side were originally arranged with large open-barracks type of sleeping rooms. Between 1959 and 1961 these were remodeled to provide smaller rooms comparable to those in other dormitories.
7. A portion of the dormitories, at the extreme north end, was remodeled in 1960-61 for a band rehearsal room and related facilities. This replaced the facilities formerly in Rehearsal Hall (Building 072).
8. A summer theater operated under the east side of the Stadium for 19 years - 1950-1971.
9. Artificial turf was installed in the Stadium in 1971.
10. Floodlights were installed in 1972 to permit night use of the field for intramural sports
11. The Stadium was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1974.

John H. Herrick
April 28, 1977

ADDENDUM NO. 1

The space remodeled for band use is at 2054 Cannon Drive (formerly Stadium Dorm Drive)

John H. Herrick
May 13, 1977

ADDENDUM NO. 2

Part A of this report states that the Stadium was never officially named by the Board of Trustees. However, this point is debatable.

The Athletic Board on April 25, 1921 adopted a resolution governing construction of the Stadium, and this resolution included this phrase, "to be known as the Ohio Stadium." Thus the building was named by the Athletic Board.

On April 28, 1921 this resolution was presented to the Board of Trustees. The text of the resolution appears in the Board of Trustees minutes, followed by a paragraph reading, "Upon motion, the report was received, accepted, and ordered made a part of the record of this meeting."

Thus the Board of Trustees acquiesced in the naming of the building by the Athletic Board. Some might argue that this acceptance of the report constituted an official naming of the building by the Board of Trustees.

John H. Herrick
December 20, 1977

ADDENDUM NO. 3

The October 1955 issue of Playboy on page 3 carries a letter signed by "The Boys in River Dorm, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio." Since there were no other dormitories along the river in 1955, this must refer to the dormitories in the Stadium.

John H. Herrick
August 25, 1978

ADDENDUM NO. 4

The Stadium is shown on Sheets 82 and 95 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives.

John H. Herrick
October 25, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 5

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

OSU Stadium

John H. Herrick
November 13, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 6

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

Ohio State Stadium
Stadium Scholarship Dormitory

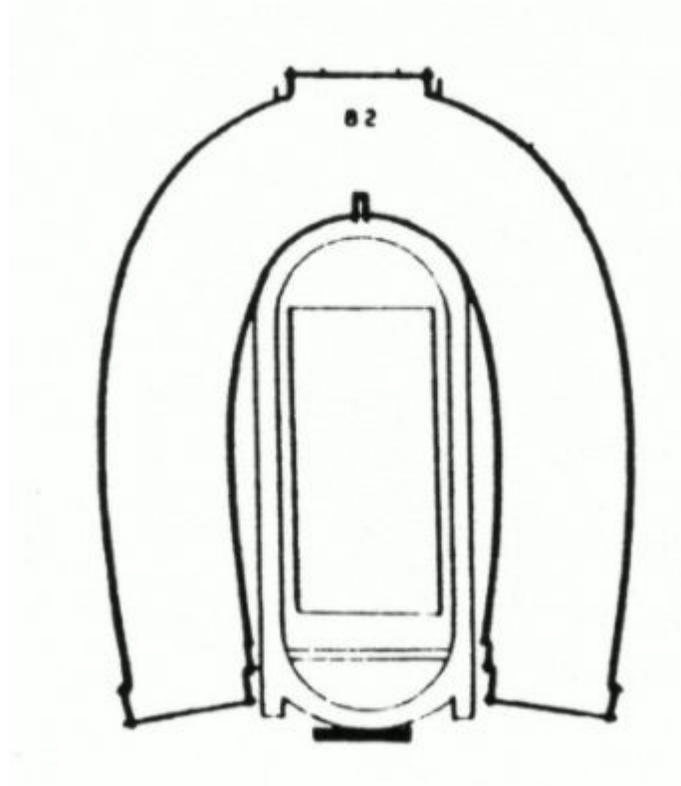
John H. Herrick
September 21, 1981

ADDENDUM NO. 7

Campus Planning records now show the net assignable area of the Stadium as 165,746 square feet.

In 1984 an electronic scoreboard system was installed. It was designed and erected by the White May Sign Co. of Chicago. Work started in June and was sufficiently completed for use at the first football game on September 8.

The main scoreboard is a freestanding structure at the south end of the Stadium. See sketch below. The structure is 16 feet wide, 106 feet long, and 106 feet 10 inches tall. It has a steel frame and is covered with metal panels painted to match the concrete of the Stadium.



This structure is shown in Photographs X 30116 & X 30122 in Photo Archives.

In addition to the main scoreboard, there are four small boards located on the B deck.

John H. Herrick
January 24, 1985

ADDENDUM NO. 8

In the summer of 1985 the central portion of the E deck (roof) of the press box was enclosed by walls on the west side & the ends and covered by a roof. In the summer of 1986 windows are being installed on the east side of the enclosure, and the interior of the enclosed space is being subdivided and finished. also in 1986, the press elevator is being extended and connected to the newly enclosed space.

These improvements were designed by Wandel & Schnell.

All construction is of steel frame with a metal skin.

Photographs of the new construction are on file in Photo Archives as X 30209 and X 30210.

John H. Herrick
August 29, 1986

