

Thompson Memorial Library

Herrick Archives Number 050

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Officially named "William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library" by Board of Trustees on February 9, 1948.

1.2 Alternate names noted:

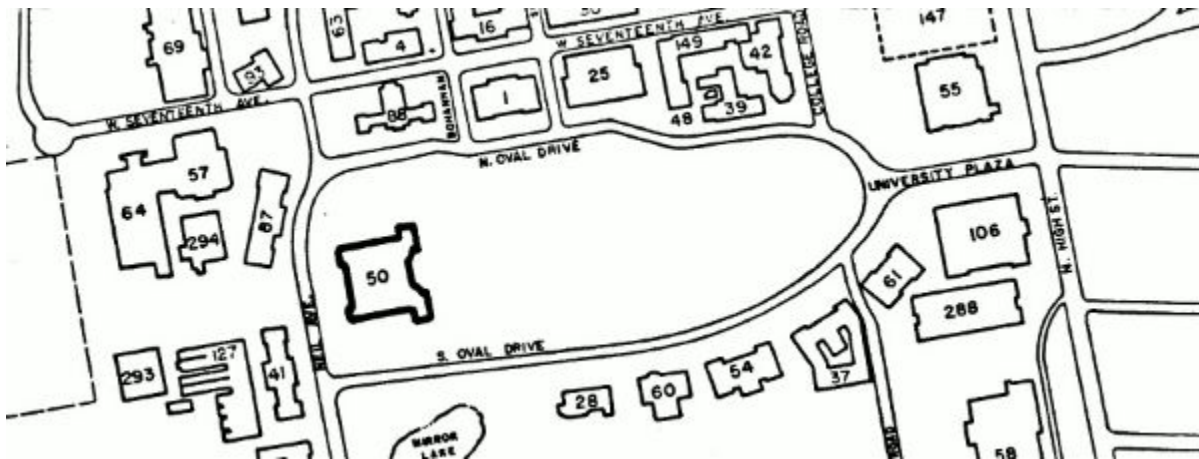
Library, Main Library

See Addendum No. 3

2. Location

2.1 Located at 1858 Neil Avenue Mail. (Earlier 1858 Neil Avenue). See map below.

2.2 For greater detail, see Sheets 96 and 97 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 and steel frame with limestone exterior

3.2 Number of stories:

Three stories in original section

3.3 Increments of construction:

Enlarged twice. See sketch

Basement and three stories in original building in low portions north and south of main tower, and an addition now under construction. Basement and one story in lower section at northeast

and southeast corners. Central tower has basement and 7 floors (13 levels with stack mezzanines).

3.4 Present area of building as shown in inventory records of Division of campus Planning, exclusive of addition now under construction:

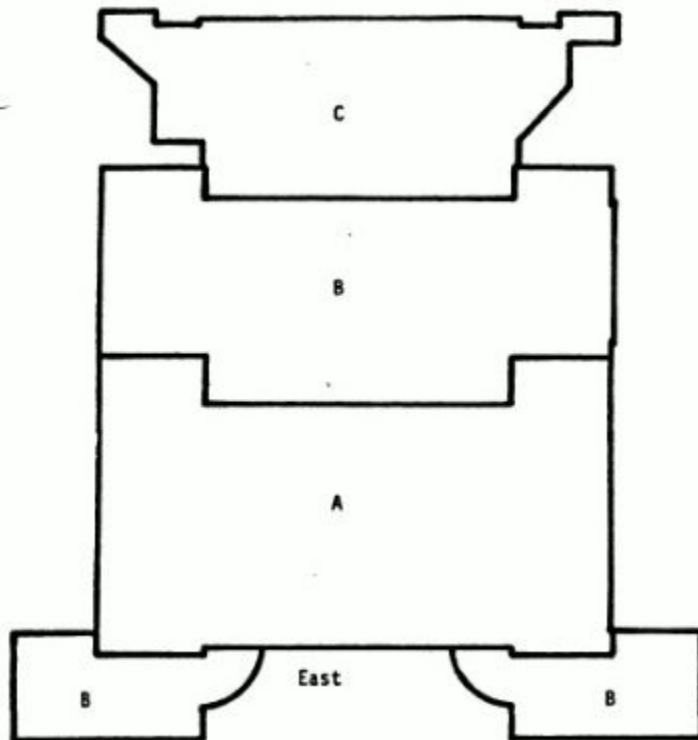
235,858 sq. ft. gross;

181,356 sq. ft. net assignable

3.5 Volume of building, exclusive of portion now under construction:

2,882,000 cu. ft. (PP).

See Addenda Nos. 1, 4



- A - Original building
- B - First addition (3 parts)
- C - Second addition

B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION – ORIGINAL BUILDING

1. On June 30, 1910, the architectural firm of Allen and Collins of Boston was selected by an architectural competition to design the building.
2. On October 31, 1910, the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Allen and Collins and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
3. Bids were received on December 7, 1910 (T).
4. On December 7, 1910 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts to the following contractors:

General: D.W. McGrath
Electrical: McKeever Electric Co.
Heating and ventilating: New York Blower Co.
Plumbing: Fitzpatrick and Hoepfner
Ornamental stone: D.W. McGrath
Marble piers: D.W. McGrath

5. Beginning of work:

Ground was broken on the Thursday before Christmas (December 23) in 1910. (McC2:204)

6. Completion and occupancy:

6.1 The building was accepted by the Board of Trustees on December 18, 1912.

6.2 Books were moved from Orton Hall Library to the new building during the Christmas vacation in 1912, and the new library opened for service on January 6, 1913 (L January 8, 1913).

C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION – FIRST ADDITION

1. On September 7, 1948 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Howard Dwight Smith and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.

2. Bids were received on December 9, 1948 (A).

3. On December 13, 1948 the Board of Trustees awarded contracts to the following contractors:

General: Mellon - Stuart Co.
Electrical: Gustav Hirsch Organization, Inc.
Heating: Huffman - Wolfe Co.
Plumbing: Huffman - Wolfe Co.

4. Completion and occupancy:

4.1 The work of the contractors was substantially completed on the following dates:
general, June 15, 1951; plumbing, August 15, 1951; heating, September 1, 1951; and electrical,
September 1, 1951. (A)

4.2 The addition was dedicated on June 2, 1951 (R 50-51:6)

D. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION – SECOND ADDITION

1. On January 10, 1975 the Board of Trustees approved the plans and related documents prepared by Lorenz, Williams, Lively and Likens and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.

2. Bids were received on March 17, 1975 (T).

3. On April 4, 1975 the Board of Trustees ratified the award of contracts to the following contractors:

General: Frank Messer and Sons
Electrical: Electric Power Equipment
Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning: J.A. Croson Plumbing and Heating
Plumbing: J.A. Croson Plumbing and Heating

Library equipment: Estey Corp.
Fire protection: Capital Fire Protection

4. Completion and occupancy:

As of January 5, 1977 the University Architect's office reported that the first floor was already occupied and the remainder would be put into use as completed during the first half of 1977.

See Addendum No. 1

E. COST

1. As of June 30, 1913, listed at \$297,325.23; as of June 30, 1952, at \$2,833,201.15; and as of June 30, 1971, at \$3,447,220.08. (B) The contracts awarded on April 4, 1975 total \$3,302,148. (T)

2. The book value of this building has increased frequently as a result of additional stack construction and other internal changes between periods of major construction.

F. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives:

Original building:

X7779
X7780

With tower:

X7781

Current addition (under construction):

X22643
X22652
X22712
X22736
X22737
X22770

2. Other

L: October 16, 1912
R 48-9:8
McC2:266

G. MISCELLANEOUS

1. The first library was in University Hall (088). It was then moved to Orton Hall (060) and finally to Building 050.

2. The Main reading room on the second floor of the original building was divided horizontally under contracts awarded by the Board of Trustees on July 8, 1965, supplemented by work done under force account.

John H. Herrick

January 5, 1977

ADDENDUM NO. 1

As of now, minor work is continuing inside the addition, but from the outside the addition appears to be completed. Practically all of the new space is now in use.

The gross area of the entire building is now 275,858 sq. ft.; the next assignable area, 206,092 sq. ft.

See Addendum No. 4

John H. Herrick
August 5, 1977**ADDENDUM NO. 2**

According to Mr. Larry X. Besant, Assistant Director of University Libraries, the addition was ready for normal use by the opening quarter in September, 1977. However, there remained many small items to be completed by the contractors.

John H. Herrick
December 14, 1977**ADDENDUM NO. 3**

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

University Library

John H. Herrick
November 21, 1979**ADDENDUM NO. 4**

Campus planning records now show the following areas for this building:

303,973 sq. ft. gross
210,495 sq. ft. assignableJohn H. Herrick
February 7, 1985