

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTY
ELLIS LAWRENCE BUILDING INVENTORY
COUNTY: Lane

HISTORIC NAME: SIGMA NU FRATERNITY HOUSE

COMMON NAME: Sigma Nu House
OTHER NAMES: Streiver's Hall (during WWII)

RESOURCE TYPE: Building
STATUS: built & survives
LAWRENCE

CITY: Eugene Oregon
STREET: 763 E. 11th Ave.
OWNER: John Warren
PO Box 10308, Eugene OR

(JOB#) YEAR: (1662) 1923

(JOB#) YEAR: ()

(JOB#) YEAR: ()

FIRST DATE: June 1923

DESIGN BEG: June 1923

DESIGN END: Sept. 1923

CONSTR BEG: Oct. 1923

CONSTR END: May 1924

TOWNSHIP: 17S RANGE: 03W SECTION: 32
MAP#: 44123-A1-TF-024 TAX LOT: 17-03-32-24-4700

LOSS DATE:

ADDITION: Shaw's ORIGINAL USE: fraternity
BLOCK: 007 LOT: 1 QUAD: PRESENT USE: fraternity

ASSESSOR #: SITE: 0.4 acres, approx.
THEMES: 20C Architecture, Fraternal Movements, Education

DATA BELOW IS ON LAWRENCE FIRM'S DESIGN AS-BUILT:

ARCHITECT: Lawrence and Holford CHIEF DESIGNER: Ormond Bean
ENGINEERS & CONSULTANTS:

CONTRACTORS:

Stein Brothers, Eugene (General)

ARTISTS & CRAFTSMEN:

STYLE: Colonial (1910-1935)

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: rectangular (front long) +wings on two sides

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: concrete STORIES: 2.5 BASEMENT: yes

ROOF/MATERIAL: med. gable (10/12 max.) w/inset hood.dormers/Wood shingles

WALL CONSTR: nailed wood frame w/brick veneer STRUC.FRAME: nailed wood frame

PRIME WINDOW TYPE: wood multi-pane horiz. pivot w/special Palladian

EXTERIOR SURFACE MATERIAL: brick, wood shingles

DECORATIVE FEATURES/MATERIALS:

wood 2-story square columns across full front, molded entranceway w/scrolls & multi-pane sidelights; brick arches on front ground floor; wood shutters

OTHER:

wings have brick veneer on first floor with wood shingles above; most of rear facade is wood shingles; square wood columns & porch

CONDITION: fair

MOVED: not moved

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (dated):

dormers extended over inset portion, retaining profile (1977 or 8); repair fire damage to NW side (1960); inter. alt. incl. former house mother's rooms (c1980)

LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

millrace at rear, front lawn and shrubs, trees to sides

ELLIS LAWRENCE BUILDING INVENTORY

HISTORIC NAME: SIGMA NU FRATERNITY HOUSE

ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES:

the Alpha Phi Sorority by Lawrence's firm is 1/2 block to the west

SETTING:

flat mid-block on busy 11th Ave, across the street from commercial shops and hospital, one block from campus

SIGNIFICANCE OF LAWRENCE FIRM'S DESIGN:

EXTER.DETAILS/CRAFTSMANSHIP: Better than average workmanship and materials.

INTER.DETAILS/CRAFTSMANSHIP: Ordinary construction with no special features.

EXTERIOR INTEGRITY: Minor changes, but original character intact.

INTERIOR INTEGRITY: Moderate changes; some original character remains.

SITE INTEGRITY: Minor changes, but original character intact.

SETTING INTEGR: Minor changes to character and relationship of surroundings.

SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT:

Lawrence's partner Ormond Bean, who was an Oregon Sigma Nu, reported in his oral history that he designed this house. He had also remodeled their previous house at 11th & Pearl while managing Lawrence's Eugene Office from 1914 to 1918. Bean became a Portland City Commissioner in 1932, left the firm, and had an important career in Portland public service. The Sigma Nu chapter in Eugene became the first local chapter of a national fraternity in 1900. Other notable members included Clifton McArthur, a founding member of the local chapter and student body president for whom McArthur Court was named, and John Warren, a popular athletics coach. The movie ANIMAL HOUSE filmed some scenes in the basement, building a bar which has now been removed. Architecturally, this house is more formal and conventional than the four other fraternal houses by Lawrence's firm in Eugene, perhaps due to the influence of Bean, whose primary role with the firm was not design.

SOURCES/DOCUMENTS: Description (Location)

historic photo and bill for work (EF Lawrence Collection, UO Library, Special Collections) photo exhibit-quality

Oregon Cultural Resources Inventory Form, (West Univ. Survey, City of Eugene)
DAILY RECORD ABSTRACT 6/2/23 p1, 12/12/23 p1.

Bean, Ormand, Oral History Interview notes (Bean File in Univ. of Oregon Archives) The oral history tape is missing.

"plans of the house" were sealed in the cornerstone in 1923.

Building and Permits Records, City of Eugene

SANBORN MAPS OF EUGENE, 1925, sheet 49e (UO Map Library)

PUBLICATIONS:

OREGON EMERALD 11/24/23 p1, 11/25/23, 1/5/24 p4, 2/29/24 p4; OREGONAs, 1924+
PACIFIC BUILDER & ENGINEER, 7/4/14 p30, 6/15/23 p10, 10/6/23 p12 & 13

SLIDE NO.:

RESEARCH BY: Russell/Shellen. **DATE:** 07/16/88

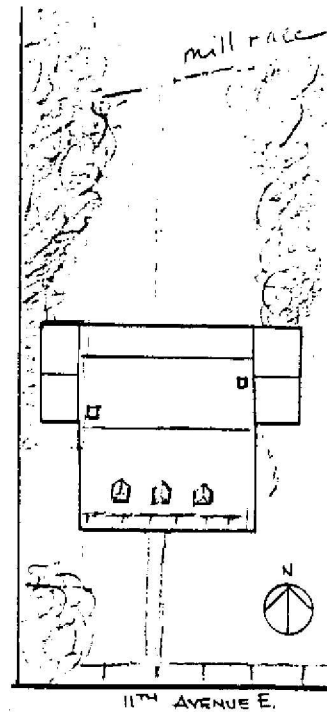
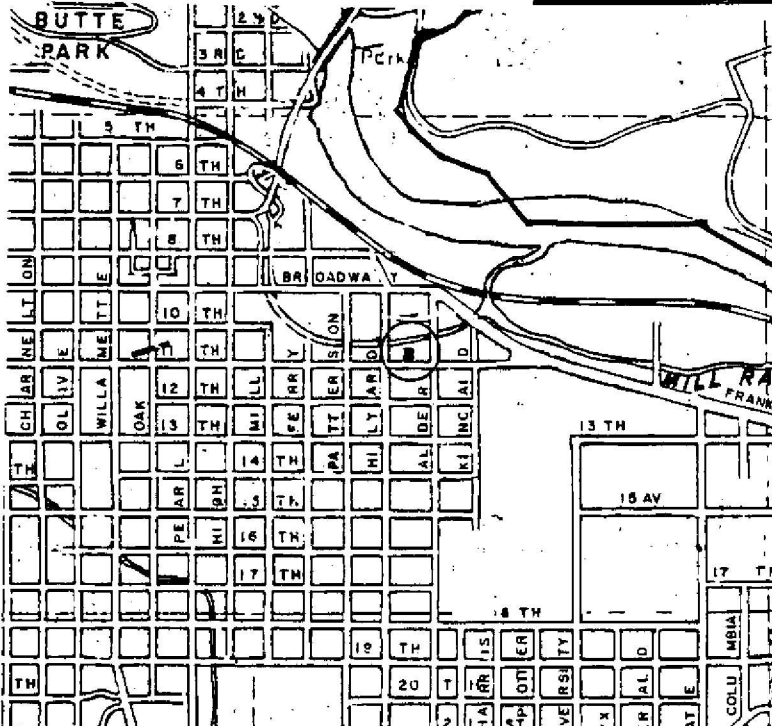
SHPO INVENTORY NO.:

RECORDED BY: M. Shellenbarger **DATE:** 08/02/88

ELLIS LAWRENCE BUILDING SURVEY
 HISTORIC NAME: SIGMA NU FRATERNITY HOUSE

RECENT PHOTO
 NEGATIVE #s:
 MS1-0A

*First # above
 is upper-right
 photo; second #
 is just below.
 If no # above,
 see sources at
 bottom of page.*



HISTORIC PHOTO/OTHER GRAPHIC SOURCE: Lawrence Col. photos, UO Library

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EVALUATION

HISTORIC NAME: SIGMA NU FRATERNITY HOUSE

<u>INTEGRITY OF:</u>	<u>NUMERICAL</u>
1. EXTERIOR: Minor changes, but original character intact.	7
2. INTERIOR: Moderate changes; some original character remains.	3
3. SITE: Minor changes, but original character intact.	7
4. SETTING: Minor changes to character and relationship of surroundings.	3

INTEGRITY TOTAL 20

<u>DISTINCTION OF:</u>	
1. EXTERIOR DETAILS & CRAFTSMANSHIP: Better than average workmanship and materials.	3
2. INTERIOR DETAILS & CRAFTSMANSHIP: Ordinary construction with no special features.	0
3. STYLE: (Colonial (1910-1935)) It has distinctive features of its identified style. Compared to Lawrence's other surviving Oregon buildings, this style is one of several (6 or more) in its city/town or rural area.	2
4. ORIGINAL USE: (fraternity) Compared to Lawrence's other surviving Oregon buildings, this use is one of few (5 or less) in its city/town or rural area.	0
5. ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: Compared to Lawrence's other surviving Oregon buildings, this design is average quality and significance. Is it part of an ensemble of surviving buildings by Lawrence? Lawrence building(s) nearby; but arrangement is not ordered. Are structural or technical aspects of the design significant? Of little significance.	2
6. LAWRENCE'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE DESIGN PROCESS: Another designer is known to have been chief designer.	5
	0

DISTINCTION TOTAL 14

<u>EDUCATIVE OR ASSOCIATIVE VALUE:</u>	
1. HISTORIC EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES: Some association with historic events or activities.	2
2. HISTORIC PERSONS: Strong assoc. with person(s) of local historic significance.	5
3. SYMBOLIC ASSOCIATION WITH AN IDEAL, INSTITUTION, OR POLITICAL ENTITY: Some significant symbolic association.	2

EDUCATIVE OR ASSOCIATIVE TOTAL 9

GRAND TOTAL 43

RANK: SECONDARY

NOTE: Only the built, surviving buildings in Oregon were evaluated.