

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

HISTORIC NAME: UNION HIGH SCHOOL, District Number 5

COMMON NAME: Wilbur School  
OTHER NAMES: Umpqua Valley Christian Fellowship  
Wilbur Elementary School

RESOURCE TYPE: Building  
STATUS: built & survives

LAWRENCE

(JOB#) YEAR: (0448) 1919

(JOB#) YEAR: ( )

(JOB#) YEAR: ( )

CITY: Wilbur Oregon

STREET: 8384 Highway 99

OWNER: Umpqua Valley Chris.Fell.  
(at property address) 97494

FIRST DATE: July 1919

DESIGN BEG:

DESIGN END: July 1919

CONSTR BEG: 1919

CONSTR END: April 1920

TOWNSHIP: 26S RANGE: 05W SECTION: 18

MAP#: 26 05 18 TAX LOT: 26-05-18-04-3024

ADDITION: ORIGINAL USE: school/high school

BLOCK: LOT: QUAD: 1/4NW,1/4NW PRESENT USE: church

ASSESSOR #: SITE: 5.0 acres, approx.

THEMES: 20C Architecture, Education, Religion

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

ARCHITECT: Lawrence and Holford  
ENGINEERS & CONSULTANTS:

CHIEF DESIGNER:

CONTRACTORS:

ARTISTS & CRAFTSMEN:

STYLE: American Renaissance

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: rectangular (front long)

FOUNDATION MATERIAL: concrete

STORIES: 1

BASEMENT: yes

ROOF/MATERIAL: essentially flat /Bitum. builtup

WALL CONSTR: hollow clay tile

STRUC.FRAME: nailed wood frame

PRIME WINDOW TYPE: wood multi-pane double-hung w/special union jack

EXTERIOR SURFACE MATERIAL: stucco, brick

DECORATIVE FEATURES/MATERIALS:

brick pilasters and gable at entrance, brick cornice and string course; stepped parapet.

OTHER:

CONDITION: good

MOVED: not moved

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (dated):

original flat roof replaced with a gable roof with three cross gables on the front side (date unknown); misc. minor interior alterations (1985-89)

LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

large flat site with no significant features

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**ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES:**

gymnasium structure to southwest (date ?); bus shed to southeast (date ?)

**SETTING:**

flat rural site located between highway 99 and interstate 5.

**SIGNIFICANCE OF LAWRENCE FIRM'S DESIGN:**

**EXTER.DETAILS/CRAFTSMANSHIP:** Ordinary construction with no special features.

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

**EXTERIOR INTEGRITY:** Moderate changes; some original character remains.

**INTERIOR INTEGRITY:** Minor changes, but original character intact.

**SITE INTEGRITY:** Minor changes, but original character intact.

**SETTING INTEGR:** Major changes to character and relationship of surroundings.

**SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT:**

Lawrence's firm prepared a report for the Wilbur school district that recommended the construction of a new school building to replace the old Wilbur (Umpqua) Academy building. Plans for a new \$35,000 building were submitted as part of this report. Shortly after, construction of a \$20,000 new building began. The new school resembles the verbal description of the building proposed by Lawrence, so it is reasonable to assume that Lawrence was the architect for the new building, though this has not been proven. The building as built did not look like Lawrence's other school buildings; perhaps financial problems forced cuts in the design. The gable roof added later may be a deferred portion of the original design. Lawrence received this commission through Eugene resident R.A. Booth, vice president of Booth Kelly Lumber Co. and chairman of the school's alumni committee. The Umpqua Academy, a significant early northwest school, was on a different site than this new building.

**SOURCES/DOCUMENTS: Description (Location)**

DAILY RECORD-ABSTRACT, Portland, 7/4/17 p1, 7/28/19 p1;

OREGONIAN, Portland, 6/6/20 p2c2.

EVENING ROSEBURG REVIEW, 12/29/19 p4c3; ROSEBURG NEWS REVIEW, 4/5/20 p3c2.  
bill for \$50, Job#448, (Lawrence Col.box 6,UO Library)

Beigh, Jim, and Joyce Bissonette interviews by M. Shellenbarger & Ross  
Sutherland, February 1989.

historic photo of entrance, 6/4/21, Douglas County Museum #2881

WILBUR H.S.-DISTRICT #5 1917-42, Douglas Co.C.of C., 1925 (UO Library)

Roseburg School District #4 appraisal site map and information

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Hall, Eli S., THEN TO NOW WITH ROSEBURG SCHOOLS 1854-1970, Metropolitan Press,  
Portland, 1970, p71,72; Douglas Co.Cultural Resource Inventory, 1982, T.Harbour

**SLIDE NO.:**

**SHPO INVENTORY NO.:**

**RESEARCH BY:** MS, RS

**RECORDED BY:** M. Shellenbarger

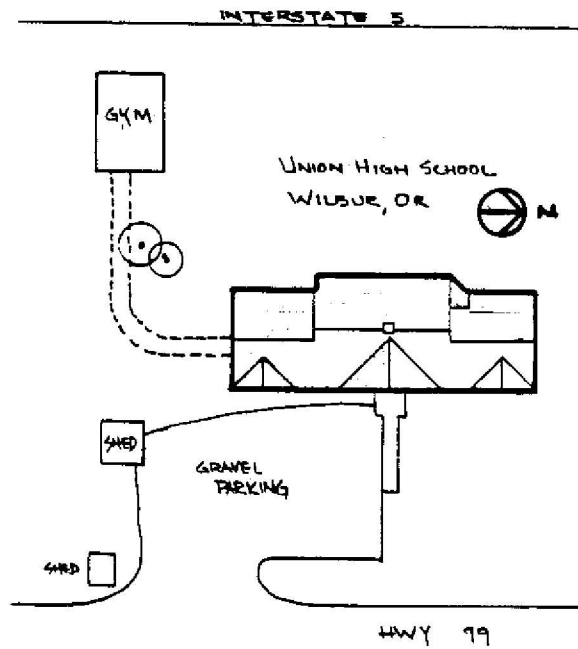
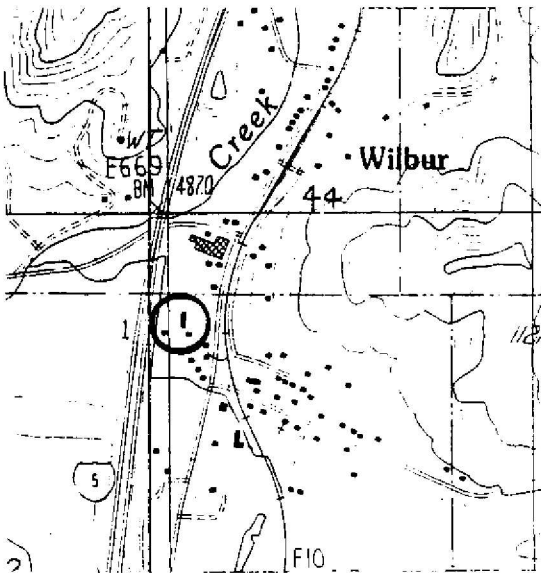
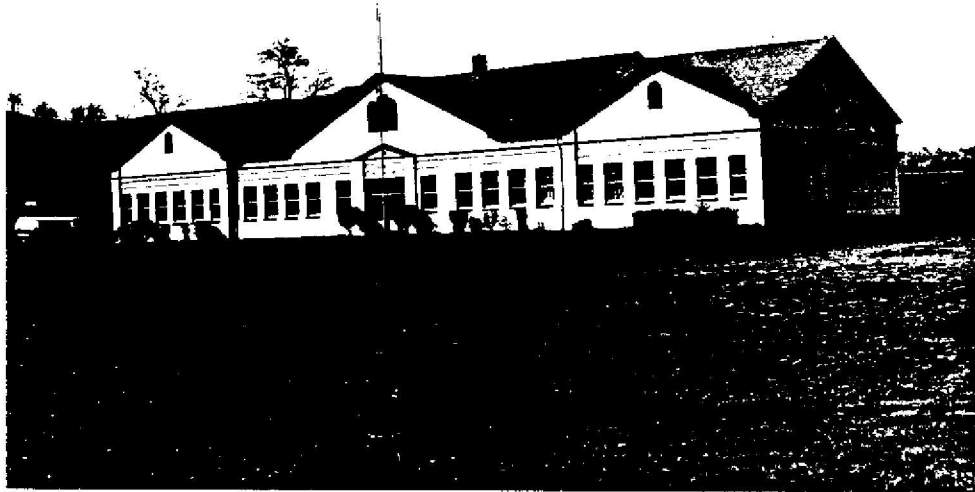
**DATE:** 03/03/89

**DATE:** 03/03/89

ELLIS LAWRENCE BUILDING SURVEY  
HISTORIC NAME: UNION HIGH SCHOOL, District Number 5

RECENT PHOTO  
NEGATIVE #s:  
MS5-31

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



HISTORIC PHOTO/OTHER GRAPHIC SOURCE:

OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTY  
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EVALUATION

HISTORIC NAME: UNION HIGH SCHOOL, District Number 5

<u>INTEGRITY OF:</u>	<u>NUMERICAL</u>
1. EXTERIOR: Moderate changes; some original character remains.	3
2. INTERIOR: Minor changes, but original character intact.	7
3. SITE: Minor changes, but original character intact.	7
4. SETTING: Major changes to character and relationship of surroundings.	0
<b>INTEGRITY TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>

<u>DISTINCTION OF:</u>	
1. EXTERIOR DETAILS & CRAFTSMANSHIP: Ordinary construction with no special features.	0
2. INTERIOR DETAILS & CRAFTSMANSHIP: Ordinary construction with no special features.	0
3. STYLE: (American Renaissance) It has few features associated with its identified style. Compared to Lawrence's other surviving Oregon buildings, this style is unique in its city/town or rural area.	0 5
4. ORIGINAL USE: (school/high school) Compared to Lawrence's other surviving Oregon buildings, this use is unique in its city/town or rural area; one of few in Oregon	7
5. ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: Compared to Lawrence's other surviving Oregon buildings, this design is below average quality and significance. Is it part of an ensemble of surviving buildings by Lawrence? No other Lawrence buildings are nearby. Are structural or technical aspects of the design significant? Of little significance.	0 0 0
6. LAWRENCE'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE DESIGN PROCESS: Another designer was probably the chief designer.	2
<b>DISTINCTION TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>

<u>EDUCATIVE OR ASSOCIATIVE VALUE:</u>	
1. HISTORIC EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES: Some association with historic events or activities.	2
2. HISTORIC PERSONS: Some association with significant historic person(s).	2
3. SYMBOLIC ASSOCIATION WITH AN IDEAL, INSTITUTION, OR POLITICAL ENTITY: Major symbolic association with local ideal or institution.	5
<b>EDUCATIVE OR ASSOCIATIVE TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>

**GRAND TOTAL** 40

**RANK:** COMPATIBLE

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