

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Sixteen of the seventeen items comprising this Multiple Resources Nomination are structures; one item, Founders' Rock, is a natural feature of the campus. The manmade structures are located on the central campus of the University of California (see appended maps). By their location, orientation toward major and minor axes, and Neo-Classic architectural style, they define the formal, turn-of-the-century concept of the University. Although a few of the structures have received exterior and interior alterations, their general architectural integrity is high.

The items are divided into the following categories and described in sequence on the continuation pages.

a. Individual Buildings or Structures

- 1) Hearst Greek Theatre, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1903
- 2) North Gate Hall, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1906
- 3) Hearst Memorial Mining Building, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1907
- 4) Sather Gate and Bridge, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1910
- 5) Hearst Gymnasium for Women, Bernard Maybeck and Julia Morgan, Architects; 1927

b. Buildings or Groups of Buildings and Their Landscaped Settings

- 1) Faculty Club
  - a) (Men's) Faculty Club and Faculty Glade, Bernard Maybeck, Architect; 1902
- 2) Campanile Way and Esplanade
  - a) Sather Tower (Campanile) and the Esplanade, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1914
  - b) South Hall, David Farquharson, Architect; 1873
  - c) Wheeler Hall, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1917
  - d) Durant Hall (formerly Boalt Hall) including its library, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1911

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- e) Doe Memorial Library, John Galen Howard, Architect;  
1911/1917
  
- f) California Hall, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1905
  
- 3) Agriculture Complex and University House
  - a) Wellman Hall, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1912
  - b) Hilgard Hall, John Galen Howard, Architect; 1918
  - c) Giannini Hall, William C. Hays, Architect; 1930
  - d) University House, Albert Pissis, Architect; 1911
  
- 4) Founders' Rock

Senior Men's Hall and the Naval Architecture Building are on the National Register of Historic Places.

In respect to significant archeological sites on the Berkeley campus, Faculty Glade and the undisturbed land bordering Strawberry Creek stretching down to the western edge of the campus offer potentially rich archeological sites. However, most of the central campus area has been so disturbed by regrading and excavation for construction that it is unlikely that any significant sites remain.

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Condition: Excellent; Altered; Original Site

### CALIFORNIA HALL:

Architect John Galen Howard described California Hall as follows: "In style the building is a free study of modified classic forms without recourse to the much over-used and, in fact, much abused columnar orders. An attempt has been made to realize in this building a type of architecture characteristic to Central California."

To achieve a regional expression, Howard had the 200' x 70' steel-framed block sheathed in the local Raymond granite and roofed with red tile. The east and principal west-facing facades are nearly identical. The rusticated and fenestrated basement is stopped by a boldly scaled bolection molding. On the walls above, the smooth granite is laid in alternate broad and narrow courses. The entablature begins with a frieze of rosette pateras followed by a dentil course. The soffit of the molded cornice has mutules alternating with inset rosettes. The tiled hip roof culminates in a long, raised skylight with an elaborate copper frame and acroteria along the ridge.

The east and west facades have a central entrance bay with 5 bays to either side, whose width reflects the 15' x 25' room module. The main floor windows have flat molded hoods on angled brackets detailed like mutules. Bound foliate forms fill the frieze panels above the casement windows. The central bay has three small 2nd floor windows over a monumentally scaled entrance. An elaborate molded frame surrounds the doorway, which is set in a deep reveal inscribed with a variety of ornament. Above, "California Hall" is inscribed in a panel. The whole is surmounted by a flat, molded hood supported by brackets similar to those on the window hoods. The soffit has modillions resembling over-scaled dentils. The double doors of golden oak have glass set in a diagonal lattice frame of metal.

The north and south facades are three bays wide and are detailed like the east and west facades. Each has an entrance with windows to either side.

The building is set on a plinth which is bermed on the west side with a flight of steps descending to a gravel path leading to a circle with a flag-pole. The landscaping on the west side is more or less as Howard planned it. As the campus circulation has evolved, the east entrance receives more traffic than the west which was intended as the main entrance. The interior has been completely remodeled. The exterior retains its architectural character.

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Period: 1900-present  
Areas of Significance: Architecture; Education  
Specific Dates: 1903-1905  
Builder/Architect: John Galen Howard

### CALIFORNIA HALL:

California Hall was one of the first buildings to be erected following the adoption of the new campus plan for the University as a result of the Hearst Competition. The building has served continuously since its opening as the administrative center of the campus. Its relationship to the other buildings designed by John Galen Howard in this original campus core is also of prime importance.

Although the interior has lost its original character, the exterior is unaltered and exemplifies the disciplined richness initially envisioned for campus buildings.

In Howard's opinion, the architectural expression of California Hall had great significance because it symbolized the California version of the Classic ideal in a building of central importance to the University.

California Hall was constructed to be permanent, fireproof, and flexible. "It has been built to be permanent and it will be permanent as the Parthenon has been permanent, and will be used by generations of students hundreds of years hence." At the same time, it was constructed so that its interior arrangements could be readily altered if necessary. The rooms are divided by partitions of metal studding, wire lath, and fireproof plaster. The exterior of the building was faced with Raymond granite, as were the other major buildings designed by Howard before the First World War. Howard specified equally fine materials for the interior such as solid oak and mahogany furnishings and marble wainscoting for the lobby. A cork carpet was specified for the floors to increase walking comfort and diminish noise.

Classrooms on the main floor were intended for use by the History, Political Economy, and Commerce Departments. A large lecture hall seating 500 was located at the north end of the main floor. An entrance behind the speaker's podium made it possible to use the tiny stage for plays. This lecture hall was removed during the last major renovation of the building.

Administrative offices occupied the second floor. The wide, skylit corridor was inspired "by the plan of the atrium of an ancient Roman house".

In 1906, the attic that had originally been intended as storage space was fitted with steel bookshelves to become the home of The Bancroft Library, previously located in San Francisco. The interior has been drastically altered.

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name University of California Multiple Resource Area  
State California

Nomination	Type of Review	Decision
1. California Hall	Substantive Review	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
2. Doe Memorial Library	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
3. Durant Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
4. Faculty Club	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
5. Founders' Rock	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
6. Giannini Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
7. Hearst Greek Theatre	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
8. Hearst Gymnasium for Women	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
9. Hearst Memorial Mining Building	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
10. Hilgard Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
11. North Gate Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
12. Sather Gate and Bridge	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
13. Sather Tower	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
14. South Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
15. University House	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
16. Wellman Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
17. Wheeler Hall	<del>Substantive Review</del>	<u>William H. Brackham 3.25.82</u>
18.	-	_____
19.	-	_____
20.	-	_____
21.	-	_____
22.	-	_____
23.	-	_____
24.	-	_____