

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED DEC 19 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Newell Hall

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

Stadium Rd.

STREET & NUMBER See Continuation Sheet

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN  
Gainesville

VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Florida

12

Alachua

001

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund

STREET & NUMBER Elliot Building

CITY, TOWN Tallahassee

VICINITY OF

STATE Florida 32304

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund

STREET & NUMBER Elliot Building

CITY, TOWN Tallahassee

STATE Florida 32304

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Newell Hall exemplifies the collegiate Gothic style. Its exterior fabric is brick masonry, accented by terra cotta window sills, crenellated parapet along roofline, terra cotta first floor belt and arch over the main entry. Windows are six over six sash with six light transoms. The structure is three and one-half stories high; its hip roof is accented by dormers on the north and south and by pavillions oriented north-south on both the east and west ends. The arched entry, centered in the east facade, is accented by a gable.

The building structural system consists of load bearing masonry and wood framework. Newell Hall was reconstructed in 1943-44. Installation of an elevator caused the south roof to be pierced by elevator machinery surround. A green house annex was constructed on the west side and connected to Newell Hall by an arcade at that time.

See Continuation Sheet

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William A. Edwards

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Newell Hall is historically significant as the embodiment of the contributions of university-based practical and theoretical agricultural research to the economic development of Florida and the nation.

The Morrill Act of 1862, together with subsequent federal legislation, resulted in the establishment of an Agricultural Experiment Station on the campus of Florida Agricultural College, Lake City, in 1888. The purpose of the Station was to conduct scientific experiments and observations in order to disseminate new knowledge about Florida crops and soils. The potential of certain types of agriculture, especially citriculture, was becoming evident, and the role of the Agricultural Experiment Station was to stimulate further developments in agriculture, in order to allow Florida's farmers to take advantage of the national market. This market was becoming available to the state's farmers for the first time with the completion of railroad links between peninsular Florida and the growing urban centers to the north.

When the University of Florida was formed in 1906, the Agricultural Experiment Station moved to the new campus at Gainesville. It was originally located in Thomas Hall on the southern end of campus.<sup>1</sup> Construction of a new building, now known as Newell Hall, began in 1909; it was completed the following year.<sup>2</sup> The three and one-half story structure was an indication of the growth in importance of the Station and its prominence as a cornerstone of the new university; it was designed to serve as a classroom building, and this wedding of classroom instruction to outside practical experience in Florida was formalized by the new Station's completion.

The Agricultural Experiment Station was renamed on May 12, 1944, in honor of Wilmon Newell. His career as Director of the Station, 1921-43; Dean of Agriculture, 1928-31; Provost for Agriculture, 1938-43; and Director of the Agriculture Extension Service serves as a personal illustration of the close ties between academic and practical agriculture signified by the building named in his honor.<sup>3</sup>

(See Continuation Sheet for footnotes)

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Arnett, William Tobias. "A Study of the Campus Planning Problem at the University of Florida." M.A. Thesis, University of Florida, 1932.

Bowman, Brian Paul. "Historic Buildings Survey, University of Florida Campus." Unpublished report, University of Florida Office (Continued)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than One, Building Only

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	7	3	69	8	90	32	18	04	6	0
ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING				

B 

ZONE			EASTING			NORTHING					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Building Only.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John A. Scafidi, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Florida Division of Archives, History & Rec. Mgt.

DATE

November 1, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Department of State, The Capitol

TELEPHONE

(904) 487-2333

CITY OR TOWN

Tallahassee

STATE

Florida 32304

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*[Handwritten Signature]* *12/8/78*

TITLE

DATE

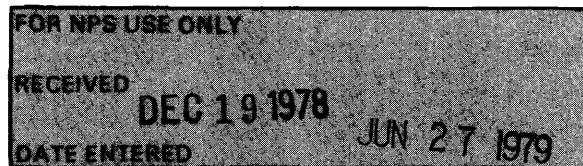
FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	DATE <i>8-27-79</i>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <i>Bill Iborach</i>	DATE <i>June 26, 1979</i>
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



Newell Hall  
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Located on the University of Florida campus, Gainesville, Florida, on the north side of Stadium Road, west of Rolfs Hall, north of the Hub, east of Bryant Hall, and south of the Arts and Sciences Building.

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<sup>1</sup>University Record, May 1908, III: 2, p. 9; Florida Agricultural Experiment Station Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1907 (St. Augustine, 1907), opposite p. xiv.

<sup>2</sup>University Record, May 1912, VII:2, pp. 182-183.

<sup>3</sup>Agricultural Experiment Station Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1944, pp. 5, 8.

See Continuation Sheet

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of Planning and Analysis, passim.

Florida Agricultural Experiment Station Annual Reports. Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1907 and June 30, 1944.

Gainesville Daily Sun, August 8, 1909, September 15, 1909; September 24, 1909.

Proctor, Samuel. "The University of Florida: Its Early Years, 1853-1906." Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Florida, 1958.

"Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Preservation of Significant Buildings and On-Campus Sites, May 24, 1977." Report directed to University of Florida's Executive Vice President, Dr. Harold P. Hanson.

University Record, May 1910, v. 2.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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As at other state universities, expressions of the collegiate gothic style of architecture on the University of Florida campus probably constitute a logical response to a felt need for a sense of dignity and timelessness. The founding of the completely new campus in 1905, the necessity for designing and constructing many new buildings in rapid succession, together with constraints imposed by dependence on legislative sources for the major portions of university funds, made for utilitarian expressions of the style. Thus, the architecture of early University of Florida buildings descends in general rather than specific fashion from earlier collegiate gothic designs.

The buildings are of substantial masonry construction, accented by the familiar stone arches and terra cotta trim; gables are steep, particularly for an area which is free of weather which would make steep roof pitches desirable. These elements of the prevailing style of college and university construction were utilized freely to achieve a specific purpose at the new Gainesville campus, to create the impression of age and substance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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The University of Florida traces its roots to 1853; however, that early date is significant for the foundation of the East Florida Seminary, only one of several components consolidated in the Buckman Act of 1905. That Act identified and addressed the need for a comprehensive system of higher education for Florida by creating three new institutions from the colleges, seminaries, and institutes which had hitherto received state monies. The new institutions included schools designated for women, blacks, and men. The last became the University of Florida.

After lengthy discussion, the Board of Control, set up under the Buckman Act to superintend higher education, decided to locate the men's institution at Gainesville, home of the East Florida Seminary. Since the Seminary buildings were in rather poor condition, the Board decided to establish a new campus for the University rather than renovate the older Seminary structures. A comprehensive plan for the new campus was designed by William A. Edwards of the South Carolina architectural firm of Edwards and Walter. Edwards later designed most of the campus buildings erected before the Second World War.

Edwards' campus gradually grew to include specialized and multiple-purpose structures devoted to both academic and vocational courses of instruction in the liberal arts, education, agriculture, the sciences, law, and other fields. The University of Florida was the state's earliest concrete symbol of a commitment to comprehensive education for men, and the institution retained that position until 1947, when Florida State College for Women, successor to the Buckman Act's Florida Female College, was designated a co-educational institution, Florida State University.