

Structure/Site Information Form

IDENTIFICATION 1

Utah State University (Off US 89)
Street Address: Logan, Cache County, Utah

26
APR 9 1986
UTM: 12 432760 4621110
Quad: Logan, Utah
T. 12 N R. 1 E S. 35

Name of Structure: Women's Residence Hall

Present Owner: Utah State University
Logan, Utah 84322

Owner Address:

Year Built (Tax Record): _____ Effective Age: _____ Tax #: _____
Legal Description Kind of Building:

This building is located along the southern edge of the Utah State University campus on a 150'x225' parcel of land centered around the building. The building is located approximately 300 feet S of the Rural Arts Building and approximately 300 feet N and 650 feet E of the Home Economics/Commons Building. There are no other buildings besides the Women's Residence Hall on the property described above.
Less than one acre.

STATUS/USE 2

Original Owner: Utah State University Construction Date: 1936-37 Demolition Date: _____

Original Use: Education/Residential Present Use: Education

Building Condition: Integrity: Preliminary Evaluation: Final Register Status:

- | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant | <input type="checkbox"/> Not of the | <input type="checkbox"/> National Landmark | <input type="checkbox"/> District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributory | Historic Period | <input type="checkbox"/> National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Resource |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Alterations | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Contributory | | <input type="checkbox"/> State Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Thematic |

DOCUMENTATION 3

Photography: Date of Slides: 1983, 1985 Slide No.: _____ Date of Photographs: 1983, 1985 Photo No.: _____
Views: Front Side Rear Other Views: Front Side Rear Other

Research Sources:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of Title | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> U of U Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plat Records/Map | <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utah State Historical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> BYU Library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tax Card & Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> Biographical Encyclopedias | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Interviews | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USU Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary Index | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Church Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> SLC Library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Permit | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County & City Histories | <input type="checkbox"/> LDS Genealogical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Bibliographical References (books, articles, records, interviews, old photographs and maps, etc.):

- Cache-American (Logan, Utah), 1936-37
- Fifth Report of the Utah State Building Commission for the Biennium from July 1, 1936 to June 30, 1938, n.p., 1938.
- Logan Herald Journal, 1937-38.

Architect/Builder: Joseph Don Carlos Young jr. & Ramm Hansen/Frank Campion

Building Materials: masonry

Building Type/Style: PWA Moderne

Description of physical appearance & significant architectural features:

(Include additions, alterations, ancillary structures, and landscaping if applicable)

The Women's Residence Hall at Utah State University, built in 1936-37, is a good example of the PWA Moderne architectural style in Utah. The building is constructed of yellow brick in the shape of an open "V" and in the middle, where the 2-story wings intersect, there is a large 3-story block containing the main entrance. Facing out onto an open courtyard, this centrally-located section dominates the building and becomes the focal point of the design.

In keeping with the spirit of the classically-oriented PWA Moderne style, the general appearance of the building is crisply geometric--the corners are sharp, the roof is flat, and the windows are broken up into long, narrow panels. There is a band of dark brown concrete coping and a stylized geometric railing along the edge of the roof that serve to emphasize the horizontal massing of the building. Within this basic structure, however, the accent is on verticality. The window panels appear as brown strips of color against the neutral yellow surface. Metal spandrels are found beneath the windows and the bricks above each window panel are laid vertically in order to visually continue the upward movement of the panels. The central entrance block is distinguished by a slightly stepped parapet and round decorative medallions above the upper story brick mullions. The corners of this section are corbeled and the upper windows have half-octagonal heads. The building remains in good original condition. (Continued on next page.)

Statement of Historical Significance:

Construction Date: 1936-37

Built in 1936-37, the Women's Residence Hall at Utah State University is part of the Public Works Buildings Thematic Resource nomination and is significant because it helps document the impact of New Deal programs in Utah, which was one of the states that the Great Depression of the 1930s most severely affected. In 1933 Utah had an unemployment rate of 36 percent, the fourth highest in the country, and for the period 1932-1940 Utah's unemployment rate averaged 25 percent. Because the depression hit Utah so hard, federal programs were extensive in the state. Overall, per capita federal spending in Utah during the 1930s was 9th among the 48 states, and the percentage of workers on federal work projects was far above the national average. Building programs were of great importance. During the 1930s virtually every public building constructed in Utah, including county courthouses, city halls, fire stations, national guard armories, public school buildings, and a variety of others, were built under federal programs by one of several agencies, including the Civil Works Administration (CWA), the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), the National Youth Administration (NYA), the Works Progress Administration (WPA), or the Public Works Administration (PWA), and almost without exception none of the buildings would have been built when they were without the assistance of the federal government.

The Women's Residence Hall at Utah State University is one of 232 buildings constructed in Utah during the 1930s and early 1940s under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and other New Deal programs. Of those 232 buildings, 133 are still standing and retain their integrity. Of the 232 buildings, 19 were constructed on college and university campuses; 13 of them remain. In Cache County a total of 18 buildings were constructed, 13 of which remain and are well preserved. Of the 18 originally built, 5 were built on the campus of the Utah State Agricultural College, now Utah State University; all of those still remain.

Women's Residence Hall at Utah State University
Description continued:

Total number of contributing buildings: 1
Total number of noncontributing buildings: 0

History continued:

This building was constructed between 1936 and 1937 as a PWA project at a cost of \$134,940.98. The architects were Young & Hansen, and the contractor was Frank Campion. The three-story dormitory was intended to provide accommodations for 105 women students, and it was "Built in such a manner that sunshine is available in every girl's room..."¹ It originally included no kitchen or dining facilities, since the newly constructed Home Economics/Commons Building was "not far distant."²

The Salt Lake City-based architectural firm of Young & Hansen was well known in Utah for over forty years. Joseph Don Carlos Young jr. and Ramm Hansen formed the partnership in 1916 and continued working together through the 1950s. Included among their works are the old Federal Reserve Bank and Deseret Gym buildings in Salt Lake City (both demolished), the LDS chapel in Washington, D.C., and the remodeling of numerous LDS chapels throughout the country between 1935 and 1953.

¹Logan Herald Journal, January 13, 1938, p. 1.

²Fifth Report of the Utah State Building Commission for the Biennium from July 1, 1936, to June 30, 1938 (n.p., 1938), p. 9.