

**Historic Resources Survey
City of McMinnville
Yamhill County, Oregon**

Site Information

Site Address

900 SW Baker St.

Owner at Time of Survey

Linfield College

Map/Tax Lot

R4420DD00400

Current Zoning

R-4 PD

Special Tax Assessment

No

Downtown Historic District

No

Subdivision Name

Block

Lot

Lot Size

Quadrant

SW

Site Number

23.3

Aerial Number

J-13

Resource Classification

A

Resource Number

543

Historic Significance

Historic Information

Date of Construction

1936

Early Additions/ Remodels

addition 1962

Builder/Architect

A.E. Doyle & Assoc.; Skidmore Owings & Merrill

Historic Name

Norhtup Library

Original Use

Library

Common Name

Northup Library

Present Use

College Library

Condition of Structure

Excellent

Comments (at time of Survey)

Building Type

Outbuildings

None

Building Style

Stories

1.5

Porch

Basement

Roof Style

Hip

Roof Type

Moved

Demolished

Year/Date

Permit Number(s)

10B0312; 10B0332;
10B0494

Additions/ Alterations

Site Work; ReRoof & Repl. Windows;
Tenant Improvement

Resource Information

Recorded By

Misty Henderson, Elizbeth Atly

Date

12-1983

Sources

Oregon Historical Society Photographic Collection; "Linfield's Hundred Years" Kenneth L. Holmes, ed. 1956 (Chapters by Ralph Storey and Jonas Jonasson)

Historic Resource Survey
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Yamhill County, Oregon

Statement of historical significance and description of property:

A543

The Linfield College library consists of two parallel rectangular brick wings constructed on two separate occasions, both by well-known Portland architectural firms. The northernmost wing, which faces north on Campus Drive, was designed by A.E. Doyle in 1936; the southern addition and the three-bay flat-roofed structure that extends through the space between the two wings were designed by Skidmore Owings & Merrill in 1962. The two rectangular wings terminate at both ends with gable end walls rising to form chimneys. Both wings present symmetrical facades with central entries accessed by a flight of stairs. The north entry consists of a projecting vestibule with hipped roof, a high double-leaf door, and small small flanking octagonal windows. The doors, which have 3 lights each consisting of an octagon framed within a square, are recessed in the opening and framed in cast stone with broken pediment overhead. This vestibule is one bay deep, with a full-size window on east and west sides. The entry vestibule is flanked on either side by four bays consisting of one and one-half stories (the lower a daylight basement) with segmental arched 12 over 12 double-hung sash windows above and 10-sash half windows below.

The south entrance is central but flush with the wall, accentuated as a large area of white against the red brick. Flat white panels also intersect and attenuate the windows on this newer portion of the building, including those on the extension between wings. This southern portion of the building houses three stories of stacks, which allow lower than regulation ceilings. These windows are also segmental arched, and have 12 high fixed sash over the flat white panel and 12 sash in-swing awning windows below. Five bays each side flank this entrance. Lower story windows are similar to those on north wing. All trim is white in contrast to the brick.

Brick in relief against brick defines corner quoins, giving a rusticated appearance. Vines train along the surface of the building and landscaping, as elsewhere on the Linfield campus, is designed to enhance the architecture.

The library is named for Emanuel Northup, who come to the college from New York in 1888 and served as professor, Dean, and occasionally as Acting President. Northup was also a one-time mayor of McMinnville.

The Library was built in 1936 “on land deeded by the college to the city, and then leased to the college for ninety-nine years. This legal arrangement was necessary in order to secure a \$29,250 Public Works Administration grant to help pay for the library since only cities and other public bodies were eligible to receive such grants.”

...Construction costs in excess of the Federal grant were paid for through a “City of McMinnville bond issue of approximately \$36,000. The college guaranteed sufficient income from library fees to pay interest on the bonds and to retire them within fifteen years.” -Jonas A. Jonasson in Kenneth Holmes, Linfield’s Hundred Years.

Historic Resource No. A543



Photo November 2001



Original 1983 Survey Photo