

LANDMARK



SURVEY

IDENTIFICATION

Street Address: University Grounds
 Map and Parcel: 15-1
 Census Track & Block:
 Present Owner: University of Virginia
 Address:
 Present Use: Classrooms and offices
 Original Owner: University of Virginia
 Original Use: Gymnasium

BASE DATA

Historic Name: Fayerweather Hall
 Date/Period: 1893
 Style: Neoclassical Revival
 Height to Cornice:
 Height in Stories: 1 with high basement
 Present Zoning:
 Land Area (sq.ft.):
 Assessed Value (land + imp.):

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The building is constructed of brick laid in common bond. Side and back elevations are unremarkable, but the front features a monumental Corinthian portico with fluted columns which are not commonly seen on the University grounds. Detailing overall is beautifully executed: there are small Ionic pilasters in the windows of the south facade, string-courses of molded brick, and an elaborate cornice with modillion blocks, dentils, and a band of egg-and-dart molding. The brick of the basement level is laid in imitation of rusticated stonework, complete with imitation "voussoirs" above the windows.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Agitation for a gymnasium at the University began in 1876. The hotel at the south end of the East Range served as a temporary gym until construction of this building was financed by a \$30,000 gift from David B. Fayerweather of New York. At the time of its completion, this building, designed by Carpenter & Peebles of Norfolk, was considered one of the best-equipped athletic facilities in the South. Tradition holds that the University's first bathtubs were installed in the dressing-rooms here. With the completion of Memorial Gym in 1924, Fayerweather Hall was turned over to the School of Fine Arts. The building, now somewhat cramped and slightly the worse for wear, still houses offices and studios of the Art Department.

GRAPHICS

172 (L.)

172 (R.)

CONDITIONS

Average

SOURCES

Abernethy, Historical Sketch of the University of Virginia (1948)
 O'Neal, Pictorial History of the University of Virginia (1968)

Architectural And Historic



Survey

#138

Identification

STREET ADDRESS:
MAP & PARCEL: 15-1
CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK:
PRESENT ZONING:
ORIGINAL OWNER: University of Virginia
ORIGINAL USE: Gymnasium
PRESENT USE: Classrooms, Art Studio, Offices
PRESENT OWNER: University of Virginia
ADDRESS:

HISTORIC NAME: Fayerweather Hall
DATE / PERIOD: 1893
STYLE: Neo-Classical Revival
HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 1 and 2 storeys
DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA:
CONDITION: Good
SURVEYOR: _____ / Bibb
DATE OF SURVEY: 1973 / 1988
SOURCES: Patton & Doswell, U.Va; Glimpse of its Past & Present
Abernathy, Historical Sketch of U.Va.
O'Neal, Pictorial History of U.Va.

Sanborn Map Co. - 1896, 1907, 1929-57

Arch Descrip

Fayerweather Hall

A William M. Thornton, first Dean of the School of Engineering, wrote of Fayerweather Hall: "The portico is Corinthian & of strict classic proportions, with graceful fluted columns & carved capitals of solid stone, carrying on worthily the Jeffersonian scheme of architecture at the University."

The building is set on a high foundation of rusticated brick & has an elaborate water table of moulded brick. Wall construction is of brick laid in 5-course American-with-Flemish bond. ~~A moulded~~ A cornice & frieze of moulded brick serve as a stringcourse, & another band of moulded brick encircles the building at windowsill level.

The building has a medium-pitched gabled roof, covered with slate, with projecting eaves & verges & Baltimore gutters. There is a very deep entablature enriched with modillions, dentils, & egg-&-dart moulding.

a 2-storey pedimented portico, ^{with 8 fluted Corinthian columns & a decorated frieze} covers most of the facade. ~~There is~~ The pediment ^{now} has a half-round lowered fan window. There is a ^{store} balustrade with urn-shaped balusters at the sides of the portico.

but an early photograph shows relief decoration where in place of the window.

~~The facade~~ Within the portico, the facade is now stuccoed & painted brick red. In the central bay, double ~~entrance~~ doors & a ~~fan~~ rectangular fanlight are set within a paneled entrance recess, & all are framed by a simple, but massive, entablature. Panels of bass relief occupy the side bays, replacing the original double-sash windows.

Windows in the end bays of the 7-bay side elevations are arranged in a 2-storey unit: a double-sash, 12-over-12 light first storey window & a pair of 5-light 2nd storey windows, with a pedimented gable between.

The side pavilions cover the next bays, & huge square glass brick windows in the 3 center bays light the gymnasium.

↳ in the 3 bays of the rear elevation

The one-storey side pavilions projecting from the 2nd & 6th bays of the side elevations have pedimented gabled roofs. Windows are in bipartite groups, originally all 1-over-1 light, but now 7-over-7 & 6-over-6. There are fluted Ionic columns between the windows in each group.

↳ Basement windows are circular-headed double-sash.

~~The basement level originally extended along the side elevations between the wings~~ with an ~~explanade above~~ a flat-roofed 1st storey was later added later. It has a moulded brick cornice & circular windows.

↳ There is a circular-headed basement door in the southern bay of the eastern side elevation.

a basement storey, beneath:
↳ Originally, an open explanade overlooking the playing fields in Madison Bowl extended between the pavilions on the eastern side, ~~above~~ ~~basement storey~~.

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housed the School of Fine Arts.

It was at that time that the building was enlarged slightly & the facade was plastered & its windows closed.

The School of Architecture moved out in the early 1940's, but the Art Department still occupies Fayerweather Hall.

