

PHASE TWO
HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CAMPUS

APRIL, 1973
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ANALYSIS
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

BRYAN PAUL BOWMAN
4 AS
STUDENT ASSISTANT

HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CAMPUS

Name: Newell Hall (University of Florida Building #13)

Experimental Station Building (Name used until reconstructed in 1943-44
and named in honor of W. Newell)

Erection: Work began in September of 1909

Work completed during the summer of 1910

Architect: William A. Edwards of the firm of Edwards & Walter of Atlanta, Georgia

Contractor: J. J. Cain of Atlanta, Georgia

Significance: The Experiment Station building was built according to the original campus plan of 1905. The Federal Department of Agriculture experiment station system was very important to the agricultural interests of the State of Florida and to the University's Agricultural College which relied heavily on the Station's projects and Federal money.

Historical Data:

Cornerstone:

(Wooden plaque in east entrance)
Building erected 1909
W. A. Edwards, Architect
J. J. Cain, Contractor
Building reconstructed 1943-44 and named in honor of
Provost Wilmon Newell D. Sc. (1878-1943)
Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station 1921-43
Rudolf Weaver, Architect
(Lists of members of State Board of Control and Education)

Planning and Construction:

1907 State legislature appropriated money for the building for the Experiment Station. The money, however, was not available until 1909. (UR, May, 1910, pp. 143-44)

August 6-7, 1909 meeting of the State Board of Control in Jacksonville. Work ordered on two new buildings (Newell Hall and Flint Hall #8). Contractor J. J. Cain of Atlanta, Georgia was awarded the job. (GS, August 8, 1909, p. 1)

September 24, 1909, ground was being broken for the Experiment Station building

S. C. Read Supervisor for J. J. Cain, Contractor, on the job.

Buildings to be completed by April, 1910. (GS, September 24, 1909, p. 3)

University catalogue of 1909-10: ". . . building is now approaching completion . . ." (UR, May, 1910, p. 143-44)

University catalogue of 1910-11: ". . . completed during the summer of 1910 and occupied during August. (UR, May, 1911, p. 164)

Financing:

1907 legislature appropriated \$40,000 for this building the funds were not available until 1909. (UR, May 1910, pp. 143-44)

Five percent of the Experiment Station's annual Federal income of \$30,000 was available for building purposes. (UR, May, 1911, p. 163)

\$160,000 was appropriated for use in new University buildings should the money become available. (GS, August 8, 1909, p. 1)

\$7,500 was spent on equipment for the building. (S, 1913)

Original Plans and Completed Structure:

". . . the Experimental building for the Florida Experimental Station . . . will be . . . three stories with a basement . . . 128 feet by 62 feet. . . ." (GS, August 8, 1909, p. 1)

". . . 108 feet by 64 feet . . ." (GS, September 24, 1909, p. 3)

". . . Experiment Station Building . . . brick and concrete . . . three stories and finished basement . . . 120 feet by 60 feet . . . offices and laboratories of the Agricultural Experiment Station." (UR, May, 1910, p. 23)

Edwards worked out his plans with the personnel who would be occupying the building.

See copies of the original plans for details of the original building.

Illustrations and Plans Available:

- Artists Rendering, Edwards & Walter Architects,
Atlanta, Georgia (S, 1910, p. 20)
- Photo, Laboratory (S, 1911, p. 79)
- Photo, exterior (S, 1911, p. 79)
- Photo, Exhibit Room (S, 1911, p. 119)
- Photo, library (S, 1911, p. 120)
- Microfilm copy of original plans (Plants and Grounds, copy
included)
- Basic floor plans (Sanborn Map series)
- Original plans (tracing) (Vault office of Plants
and Grounds)