Ohio Historic Preservation Office



567 E. Hudson St. Columbus, OH 43211 614/298-2000

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number BUT-0252 9-01 4. Present Name(s) 1. No. BUT-02529-01 **Culler Hall** 5. Historic or Other Name(s) 2. County Culler Hall Butler 2. County 6. Specific Address or Location 35. Plan Shape 19a. Design Sources Butler U-shaped 620 East Spring Street 20. Contractor or Builder 36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: Frank Messer & Sons 17. Original/Most significant construct 21. Building Type or Plan 6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number Other Building Type 17b 22. Original Use, if apparent College/University 7. City or Village 37. Window Type(s) Present or Historic Name(s) Oxford 12 over 12 Culler Hall 23. Present Use Other 9. U.T.M. Reference 38. Building Dimensions College/University Oxford Quadrangle Name: 16 694952 4375352 39. Endangered? NO Easting Northing Zone 24. Ownership Public By What? 25. Owner's Name & Address, if known 10. Classification: Building Miami University NO 11. On National Register? 40. Chimney Placement Oxford, Ohio 45056 Off center within roof surface 26. Property Acreage 13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? NO 41. Distance from & Frontage on Road 15. Other Designation (NR or Local) 27. Other Surveys 51. Condition of Property: 28. No. of Stories Excellent Two story 16. Thematic Associations: 52. Historic Outbuildings & Dependencies University 29. Basement? Yes Structure Type 30. Foundation Material Reinforced concrete 17. Date(s) or Period 17b. Alteration Date(s) 31. Wall Construction 1961 **Reinforced concrete** Date 18. Style Class and Design 32. Roof Type **Neo-Classical Revival** Element Associated Activity Hip Roof Material 18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s) Asphalt shingle 33. No. of Bays 14 Side Bays 9 53. Affiliated Inventory Numbers: Historic (OHI) 19. Architect or Engineer 34. Exterior Wall Material(s) Cellarius and Hilmer Flemish bond Archaeological (OAI) 42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary) 6. Specific Address or Location 620 East Spring Street Culler Hall is a three-story U-shaped building designed with elements of a Neo-Classical style. At the center of the U is the main entrance pavilion, with a three-story glass entrance feature with simple limestone surround. It features a stone cornice with block modillions. Wings extend to either side and then turn to the east to form the U-shape. The stone cornice and frieze continue on all sides, but without modillions. There are modest round dormer vents at the roof. Windows are regularly spaced on all floors, with 8/8, 12/12, or 15/15 sash and brick jack arches. The north and south sides of the building have first floor entry doors with classical stone surrounds and a transom detail that is seen on many of Cellarius and Hilmer's Miami buildings. The telescope observatory is a small domed structure located at the southwest corner of the building's roof, not readily visible from the ground. 43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary) Culler Hall was built in 1959-61 as a classroom and laboratory building for physics, mathematics and aeronautics. About 2.75 acres of the lower campus woods were cleared for its construction. The building is named for Joseph Albertus Culler, professor of physics at the university from 1903-1926. The establishment of physics as a separate department at Miami was initiated with his appointment in 1903. The building contains a Foucault pendulum, which was installed about 1965. A rooftop astronomical observatory was added to the building in 1998 at the time of a roof renovation. 44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52) The building is located in the area originally referred to as lower campus. Bishop Woods is located to the north, other academic buildings are to the east and west, and Spring Street fronts on the south. The courtyard created by the U-shaped plan is grassy with several mature trees.

45. Sources of Information

Flintermann, Peter, Miami Buildings Past and Present; MU Physical Facilities, building information, 2005; The Miami Student, 'Culler Pendulum's Path Unchanged,' Feb. 3, 1970; Miami Reporter, 'Astronomical Observatory tops Culler Hall,' Feb. 26, 1998.

46. Prepared By: **Judy** 49. PIR Reviewer:

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. County Butler	5. Historic or Other Name(s) Culler Hall		
Site Plan with North Arrow	54. Farmstead Plan :		
	Field	Door Selection: Single centered Door Position: Flush	
Beta Bett	UNIVE	Orientation: Multiple facade orientation	
		Symmetry: Bilateral symmetry	
	2//2		

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:





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42. Further Description of Important Interior	and Exterior Features (Con't)	
43. History and Significance (Con't)		
44. Description of Environment and Outbuild	ings (Con't)	
45. Sources (Con't)		