Ohio Historic Preservation Office



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

OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number BUT-0253 0-01 4. Present Name(s) 1. No. BUT-02530-01 Harrison Hall 5. Historic or Other Name(s) 2. County Harrison Hall Butler 2. County 6. Specific Address or Location 35. Plan Shape 19a. Design Sources Butler Rectangular 349 East High 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 Harrison Hall 12 over 12 23. Present Use 9. U.T.M. Reference 38. Building Dimensions College/University Quadrangle Name: Oxford 16 694619 4375495 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 Paired interior ridge 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 Three 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 <u>1960</u> **Reinforced concrete** Date 18. Style Class and Design 32. Roof Type Georgian Revival High Associated Activity Truncated hip Roof Material 18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s) Asphalt shingle 33. No. of Bays 15 Side Bays 3 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 349 East High Street Harrison Hall is an example of a Georgian Revival style academic building. Its appearance and form echo the iconic profile and massing of its predecessor, Old Main. The building is three stories, with a central hipped-roof projecting pavilion flanked by twin four-story towers and three-story wings. The towers have octagonal cupolas with copper roofs and finial, arched openings, and a square base with panels and block modillions. A wide stone frieze and block modillions are located in the center pavilion on both its north and south sides. At the north facade is a stone entrance portico with four fluted Doric columns and the name Harrison Hall inscribed in the frieze. The south side of the pavilion has smooth limestone facing at the ground story and center three bays, with pedimented entry doors to either side in the flanking wings. The wings are simply detailed. A stone beltcourse is on all sides between the first and second floors. 43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary) Located near the highest point on the Miami campus, Harrison Hall was built on the site of 'Old Main,' Miami's revered early academic building which was condemned and razed in 1958. Old Main had been renamed Harrison Hall in 1931 to honor Benjamin Harrison, class of 1852, 23rd president of the United States. The new Harrison Hall, designed on the same site by Cincinnati architects Cellarius and Hilmer, was dedicated in 1959, Miami's Sesquicentennial year. The building houses the Departments of Political Science and Anthropology. Two national fraternities were founded at this site (in the former building). They are Beta Theta Pi, founded in 1839, and Phi Kappa Tau, founded in 1906. In Harrison Hall today are a plaques and tablets marking the founding of these fraternities 44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52) Harrison Hall is located near the highest point of the Miami campus, fronting on the 'Old Main' or 'University' quadrangle. It faces the quad to the south and also borders on the green space of the upper campus common to its north. Slant Walk cuts an angle from a spot at the southwest corner of this building to the corner of High Street and Campus Avenue to the northwest. 45. Sources of Information Gordon, Stephen C., History of Harrison Hall; Flintermann, Peter, Miami Buildings Past and Present, 1966; MU Physical Facilities, building

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

information, 2005.

^{1. No.} BUT-02530-01	4. Present Name(s) Harrison Hall		-01
2. County Butler	5. Historic or Other Name(s) Harrison Hall		0-01
8. Site Plan with North Arrow	54. Farmstead Plan :		
	Freid	Door Selection: Single centered	
NN		Door Position: Flush	
Bett Tower	UNIVE	Orientation: Lateral axis	
	17/	Symmetry: Bilateral symmetry	

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:





1. No. BUT-02530-01	4. Present Name(s) Harrison Hall	BUT-0 0-01
2. County Butler	5. Historic or Other Name(s) Harrison Hall	0253
42. Further Description of Important Interior	and Exterior Features (Con't)	
43. History and Significance (Con't)		-
11 Description of Environment and Outbuild	lines (Cost)	-
44. Description of Environment and Outbuild		
45. Sources (Con't)		1
		I