

Renovating historic hall

It could be argued that Oregon State University's Apperson Hall is the birthplace of CH2M. It is where co-founders Holly Cornell, Jim Howland and Burke Hayes often crossed paths with the flamboyant, eraser-throwing professor Fred Merryfield, the "M" in CH2M.

Apperson is where Howland, who was sitting in a nearby café and was told he was late for a test, raced up the stairs and into the classroom after running five blocks—and passed the test. It's where Hayes, under the tutelage of Professor Eugene Starr, graded his fellow students' papers—and his own. Scads of CH2M HILL employees have cracked books there, including nearly all the firm's first-generation engineers.

The 100-year-old building is set for renovation, and the CH2M HILL Foundation is matching employee contributions up to a total of \$500,000. To date, approximately \$225,000 has been pledged by employees, retirees and friends. Contributions can be paid during a five-year period and still qualify for the matching contribution.

If the goal is met, the 100-seat auditorium on the first floor will be named to honor the many Oregon Staters who have worked for CH2M HILL, "one of OSU's greatest success stories," according to the university.

The building has remained virtually unchanged for more than 30 years and clearly needs an upgrade. The total renovation is expected to cost \$10 million and will house the civil engineering and construction engineering management departments. More than \$7.3 million has been raised so far, and when \$9,150,000 is reached, \$850,000 will be provided through a challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation, resulting in the university meeting its \$10 million goal.

"It is a very exciting time," said Sharon Magnuson, who is with the OSU Foundation. "We are honored that both



Built in 1900, Apperson Hall has undergone several renovations, including the addition of a third floor in 1920. Currently, the CH2M HILL Foundation is matching employee contributions up to a total of \$500,000 to help fund renovation of the hall's auditorium as part of an overall facility upgrade.

Burke Hayes and Jim Howland as well as a number of retirees have made terrific gifts to support this effort."

This Web site provides more information about the Apperson Hall renovation: <http://enr.oregonstate.edu/top25/apperson>. For more information or to have OSU Foundations representatives visit CH2M HILL offices in the U.S., contact: Sharon Magnuson, 503-553-3404, Sharon.Magnuson@oregonstate.edu 