

# Deady Hall

Once housing the entire 177-student University, Deady Hall is the oldest building on campus and has the most traditions associated with its history

**WHO'S DEADY?**



**JUDGE MATTHEW DEADY**

- **WHAT HE DID:** President of the Board of Regents
- **HIS CONNECTION TO THE UO:** Helped get funding from the Legislature to found the University in 1876.
- **DIED:** 1893

**STAIRCASES:**

Both west and east towers once housed circular staircases, and one was set aside for women and the other for men. Supposedly the administration felt it impolite for men to see the bare ankles of the women students as they ascended to class.

**WINDOWS:**

Eugene school-children contributed money to fill the original empty window frames with glass.

■ **FIREWOOD:**

Each classroom had an iron stove. During the fall, great piles of firewood were stacked until they covered the ground floor windows. (below) With the help of students and faculty, Janitor Dudley, would lug the wood up the stairs each day.

**THE 'HELLO WALK':**

Tradition had it that when walking between Villard and Fenton, all students would greet each other. If you were a freshman and failed to do so, often an upperclassman could dunk you in the Millrace or in the nearby fountain between Deady and Fenton Halls. In the 1950s, the tradition was moved to the sidewalk between the EMU and 13th Street.

**FIRST FLOOR:** Originally housed faculty offices. When the University was founded there were only four teachers.

**BASEMENT:** Janitor Dudley had living quarters here, and some spaces were made into dormitory rooms. Offices fill most of these small rooms now.

**TOWERS:**

At each end of Deady are 74-foot towers that once contained circular staircases and are the dominant feature of the building.

**ROOF:**

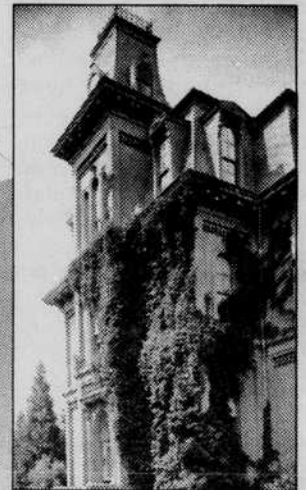
A mansard roof, the shape is typical of its period and originates in France. It was originally covered with cedar shingles, which are slowly being replaced in an effort to reduce leaking and deterioration.

**THIRD FLOOR:**

Originally housed a chapel.

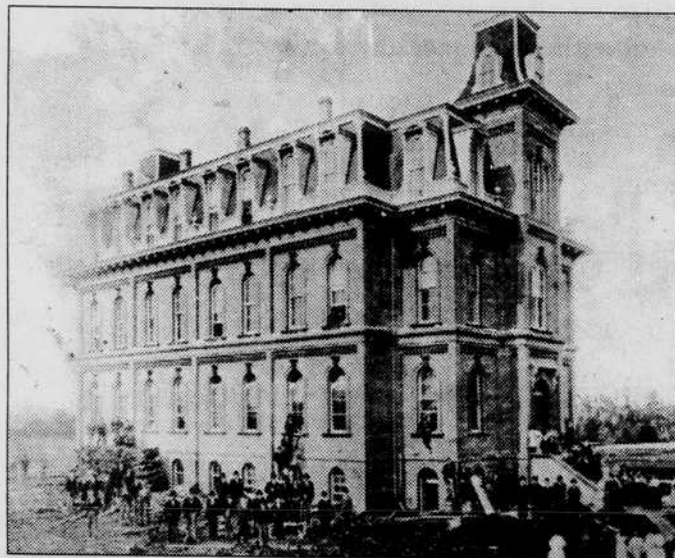
**SECOND FLOOR:**

Originally housed classrooms.



▲ **IVY:**

Because ivy will slowly rip the mortar from joints and weaken the bricks, the ivy and other vines are being removed. The "Ivy League" does not help buildings stand up.

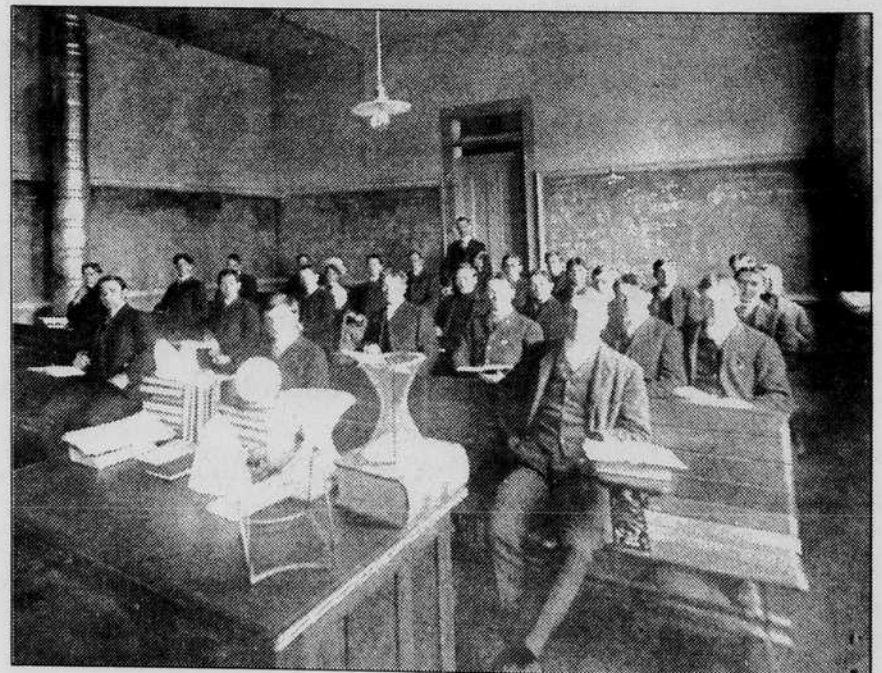


**WHERE EVERYBODY KNOWS YOUR NAME...**

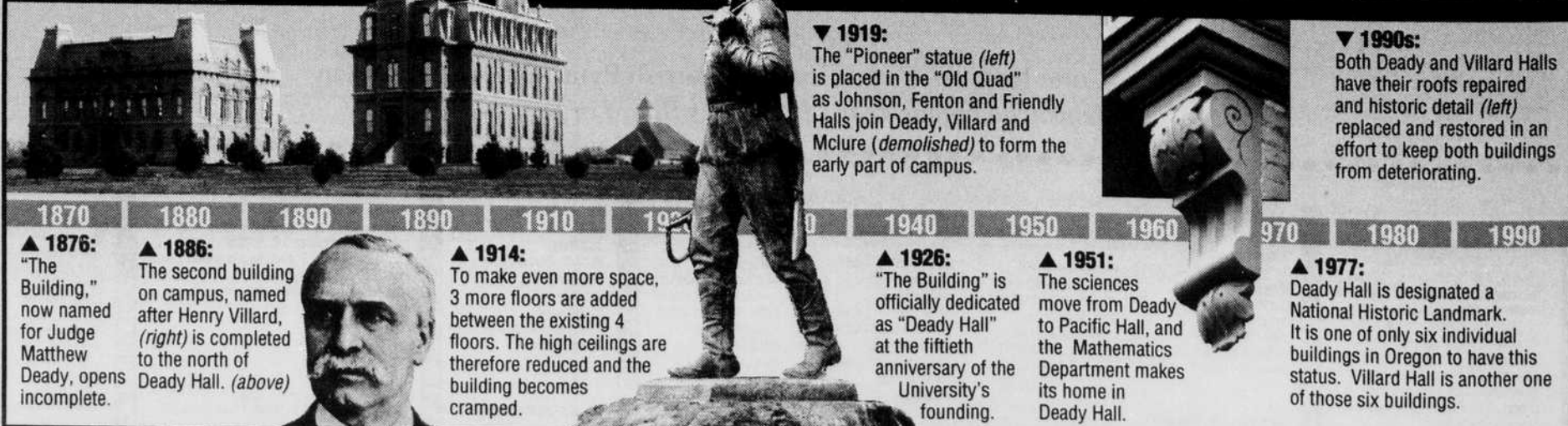
The entire campus community gathers outside of the newly finished Deady Hall in 1876. The first graduating class numbered five students in 1878, while the early faculty consisted of four teachers.

**WHERE'S MY CALCULATOR?**

As in a math class today, these calculus students sit in Deady Hall. However, this class was taught exactly 100 years ago, before calculators and computers. The wood stove in the corner is also a reminder that each student had to bring firewood from home, which usually was miles away.



**A DEADY HALL TIMELINE**



1870 1880 1890 1890 1910 1926 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990

- ▲ **1876:** "The Building," now named for Judge Matthew Deady, opens incomplete.
- ▲ **1886:** The second building on campus, named after Henry Villard, (right) is completed to the north of Deady Hall. (above)
- ▲ **1914:** To make even more space, 3 more floors are added between the existing 4 floors. The high ceilings are therefore reduced and the building becomes cramped.
- ▼ **1919:** The "Pioneer" statue (left) is placed in the "Old Quad" as Johnson, Fenton and Friendly Halls join Deady, Villard and McClure (demolished) to form the early part of campus.
- ▲ **1926:** "The Building" is officially dedicated as "Deady Hall" at the fiftieth anniversary of the University's founding.
- ▲ **1951:** The sciences move from Deady to Pacific Hall, and the Mathematics Department makes its home in Deady Hall.
- ▼ **1990s:** Both Deady and Villard Halls have their roofs repaired and historic detail (left) replaced and restored in an effort to keep both buildings from deteriorating.
- ▲ **1977:** Deady Hall is designated a National Historic Landmark. It is one of only six individual buildings in Oregon to have this status. Villard Hall is another one of those six buildings.