

# Villard Hall renovation almost complete

■ Students in the historical preservation department received hands-on experience by working on Villard

By Hank Hager  
Oregon Daily Emerald

After nearly 12 years of renovation, Villard Hall will soon be ready to have the University see it in all its former glory. Workers will start to remove the scaffolding soon, and students should notice changes when they return from spring break, said George Bleekman, a carpenter for Facilities Services.

Named after railroad magnate Henry Villard, the hall was built in 1886 and is the second-oldest building on campus.

Bleekman said the renovation work began in 1989 and was necessary because the building was beginning to deteriorate.

"The building was essentially failing," he said.

Max Brown, a political science graduate teaching fellow, said he's noticed the third-floor classrooms have been modernized, and he said the bathrooms now look like they were built in the 1990s instead of the 1890s.

Bleekman said students in the historic preservation program replaced shingles and deteriorated wood, replicated ornamental carvings and repaired broken

metal detailing.

Philip Waugh, graduate student of historic preservation, said students worked on Villard to learn renovation techniques.

"The way it was set up was very conducive to learning," he said. "This has been a tremendous tool. [Bleekman] made it a really painless process."

Waugh said he hopes his experience on Villard Hall will enable him to return to his home in Minnesota and continue to work on renovating older buildings.

Theatre Development Director Joseph Gilg, whose office is on the second floor of Villard Hall, said he is impressed with the way the building looks. He said workers improved the building without creating too much noise.

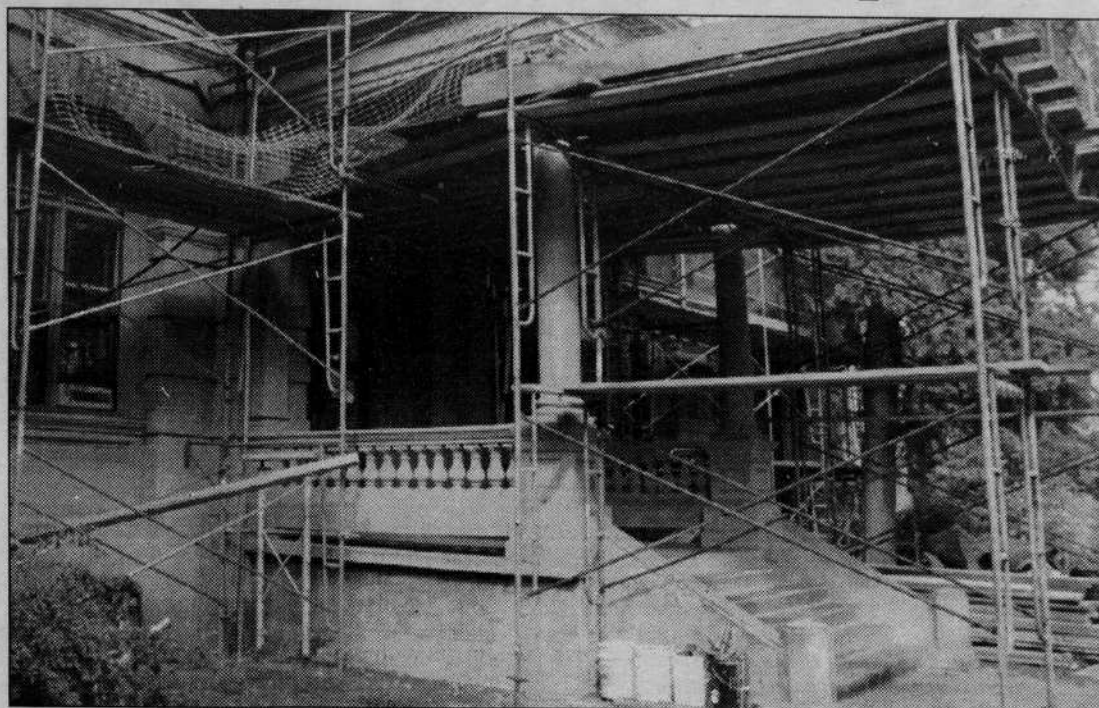
"From time to time there were noise problems," he said. "But it hasn't been bad."

Bleekman said the building is one of only 11 historical landmarks in the state of Oregon, and because of this, workers were required by law to maintain the historic integrity of the building.

Waugh said he never felt tempted to add his own touch or improve the existing structure of the building.

"I didn't want to make my mark, because I don't want to change anything," he said.

Waugh said he hopes no one will notice many new changes to



Laura Smit Emerald

After nearly 12 years of renovation, Villard Hall will soon be ready to show its former face. The restoration, which included everything from the grounds up to the tower roofs, was a good opportunity for historical preservation students to get hands-on experience.

the building.

He said it is important to him to have "the ability to step back from the project and have people say they think it looks good."

Brown said he's glad the building received the renovation.

"As far as I'm concerned, it looks much better aesthetically,"

he said. "I have also noticed the facade is much more clean."

Gilg said because the building renovation work has been going on for more than 10 years, he has never seen Villard without scaffolding. But despite this, what he has seen is improved.

"Certainly, I think it looks much

better," he said.

Bleekman said while the process was long, it was never out of reach for the students to accomplish.

"There was definitely nothing we couldn't handle," he said. "It was just a real-time consuming deal."

## News brief

### Bomb Scare in Library

Department of Public Safety officers ordered the evacuation of the Knight Library Sunday at 11:44 p.m. after spotting a bag

feared to be a bomb.

Officers contacted the owner of the bag, inspected the contents and reopened the library after about 10 minutes.

The tattered green satchel — containing a few notebooks, some art supplies and half a loaf of

bread — belonged to a Eugene resident who had briefly left it behind.

After the evacuation, DPS officers on the scene joked that they were hesitant to disturb the dozens of students in the library who were cramming for Dead Week.

"In this particular place, a public area, where it's hard to control people going in and out, it was best to evacuate the building," DPS Associate Director Tom Hicks said Tuesday afternoon. "This satchel just all of a sudden appeared that didn't look like something a stu-

dent would have. It looked like an army satchel."

Hicks said a handful of campus buildings have been evacuated for bomb scares in the past few years, but in his years on campus, a real bomb has never been found.

## CRIME WATCH

### Disorderly conduct

Tuesday, March 6, 1:05 a.m.: Officers responded to a report of a person lying on an EMU restroom floor.

Tuesday, March 6, 3:10 a.m.: A DPS officer observed three people chasing vehicles on Moss Street.

Wednesday, March 7, 5:42 p.m.: Officers received a report of a suspicious male going through trash bins outside Walton Complex.

Wednesday, March 7, 10:30 p.m.: A DPS officer observed a person walking near Johnson Hall with an open alcohol container.

Friday, March 9, 10:03 p.m.: A caller reported a person was on the roof of Robbins Hall.

Saturday, March 10, 2:47 a.m.: A caller reported a fire extinguisher was missing and there was damage to the Adams Hall lounge.

### Theft

Monday, March 5, 11:53 a.m.: Officers received a report of a person attempting to steal a bike in front of Straub Hall.

Wednesday, March 7, 7:34 p.m.: A student reported a stolen wallet from the Knight Law Library.

Wednesday, March 7, 11:01 p.m.: A student reported a backpack was stolen from Lawrence Hall.

Thursday, March 8, 2:22 p.m.: A University staff member reported cash was stolen from a Knight Library cash box.

Sunday, March 11, 1:08 p.m.: A University staff member reported a subject trying doors and looking into vehicles in a McArthur Court parking lot.

Sunday, March 11, 3:39: A bike was stolen from outside Dunn Hall.

### Harassment/Physical violence

Monday, March 5, 10:33 p.m.: Officers responded to a fight reported near the EMU Breezeway.

Thursday, March 8, 11:45 p.m.: Officers received a report of telephone harassment.

Friday, March 9, 10:46: Officers received a report of an assault in the Earl Complex.

### Drugs/Alcohol

Monday, March 5, 11:17 p.m.: Drug paraphernalia was confiscated from a student in Parsons Residence Hall.

Thursday, March 8, 5:42 p.m.: A caller reported a neighbor was smoking marijuana in the University Inn.

Saturday, March 9, 12:27 a.m.: Officers were called to Hamilton East complex after receiving a report of minors in possession of alcohol.

Friday, March 9, 10:09 p.m.: Officers received a report of people smoking marijuana in Dunn Hall.

### Other

Monday, March 5, 5:09 p.m.: Officers received a report of a vehicle and bicycle accident at the intersection of Franklin Boulevard and Onyx Street.

Sunday, March 11, 4:41 p.m.: Officers responded to a vehicle fire on 15th Street near Hayward Field.

Sunday, March 11, 11:44 p.m.: The Knight Library was evacuated after DPS officers spotted a suspicious abandoned bag, feared to be a bomb.

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