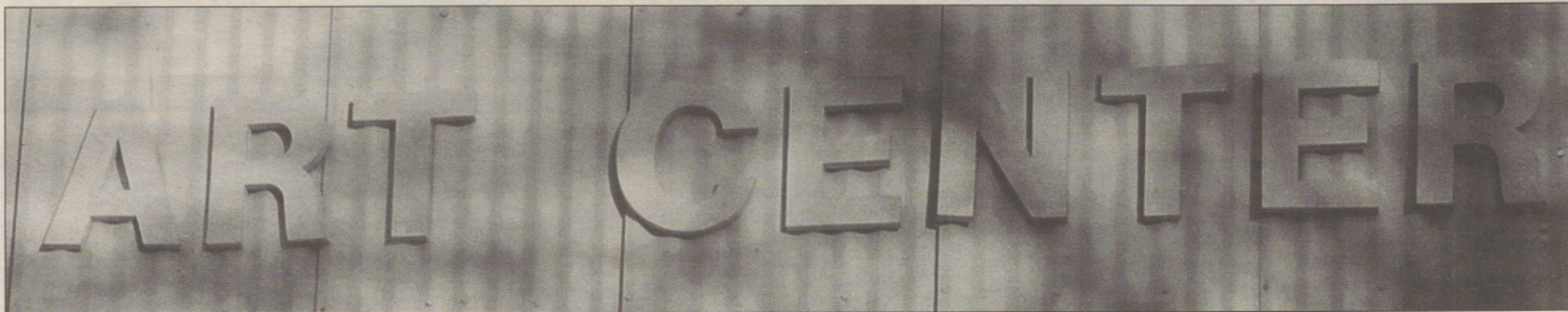


A closer focus on an old piece of CCC



Erin Carey The Clackamas Print

Erin Carey
News Editor

Many people who have attend Clackamas Community College might never lay eyes on the campus' previous art building, and if you have, you might even consider it a bit on the ominous side. It is quite the trip to get out there, past the track and the shiny new art building, hidden away in unattended brush and out of the eye-sight of most, save for the stray runner or cyclist.

The building had been an old berry processing plant for Smucker's jam, before it was used by CCC — hence the name. The Smucker's Building used to house various art classes, and was

used until 2001 when the new art center was built.

Asking people on campus, many may give a strange look, completed with, "I never knew there was an old art building." With its broken and badly patched windows, oddly placed doors that seem to lead out to nowhere, decrepit art on peeling painted green-blue walls and a spray-painted image of a hornet protecting one of the sides of the building, it is one of CCC's older structures.

A look through a foggy and often broken window, all it seems to be used for is storage for the lost and never used again.

Although the Smucker's Building isn't labeled on the campus' map, it has "Art Center" painted on one of its walls. The

inside seems not to have fared any better than its outside — strewn around are chairs and tables, where formerly it was probably much like the new building.

The new art center is alive with pieces from students past and present decorating the walls and shiny new accessories for the students' use. It's much closer to the hustle and bustle of the main campus, as the older building takes at least five minutes just to walk there.

The doors of the old building no longer have "AC 101," the 'ones' peeled off, leaving a shadow of their former presence. It's marked as building 29, which seems to be its only official marking anymore.

The doors are locked and bolted and a few of the windows are

even barred.

The building still has a few pieces of art, one in particular is made of exhaust pipes and a muffler, a cheerful face decorating the rusted piece. There's large-scale works from Michi Kosuge, Lee Kelly and Richard Pickering.

The Oregon Encyclopedia online states that Roy Mikalson permanently founded Clackamas Community College in 1966 with 165 acres. It intended to cover Clackamas community, with the exception of Lake Oswego which was covered by Portland Community College, along with Sandy, Damascus and Boring which were served by Mt. Hood Community College.

Looking past the creepy demeanor of this antiquated building, it commands respect.

The Smucker's Building served many students, the worn brick posts sporting names of past students on faded name pieces with pride. The broken windows give evidence that time and vandals have diminished it.

The Smucker's Building stands on the outreaches of the campus, proving that there's a lot to learn about a campus that's nearing its 50th anniversary. It's important to know the history as a community and to preserve the integrity of the campus for years to come.



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The Smucker's Building now stands alone at the far reaches of the campus. It was Clackamas Community College's main art resource up until 2001 when a new bond was passed to build a new art center closer to the main campus. It was a dwelling that enabled art students the creative space they needed while having some distance from the hustle and bustle of the other buildings. The building was formerly owned by Smucker's to process its fruit for jam.



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