

# New unique art village opens on campus

Art students at Mt. Hood Community College will enjoy a new working and learning environment this fall, with the completion of an Art Village.

Constructed in a natural setting, the village invites nature's best . . . serenity, seclusion and creative inspiration, according to Nancy Conrath, assistant dean of academic affairs.

The village skirts a wooded area just east of the college encompassing about one-half acre.

In harmony with this woodland setting, Mrs. Conrath and a village advisory committee designed a cluster of small, single, one-story buildings.

"We are very pleased with the single studio concept," notes Mrs. Conrath. "This specifies and consolidates the arts at the same time."

Prior to consolidation, art classes had been scattered around the campus.

"The single studio is more natural to the artist . . . it offers a more relaxed, personal and

creative atmosphere," she explains.

"Also, students can enjoy their work at the various mess stages without interfering with other art forms or academic studies."

The studios are rustic. Cedar finishing, irregular shapes, lofted ceilings, monitors, and bay windows combine to compliment the college structure and natural setting.

Although similar in appearance, each building has been designed specifically for each discipline. Careful attention to a variety of details and special facilities has given each studio a unique atmosphere, indicates Mrs. Conrath.

The painting studio is large and airy with monitors stretching the full length of the building.

"All the studio monitors face north, giving us the most authentic, natural light possible," says Mrs. Conrath.

The painting studio also boasts a circular bank of ceiling lights which can be

dimmed in certain areas, for specific emphasis on models and-or painters.

Ceramics studio is the largest of the group, covering 1,920 square feet. It has been constructed for the ceramic process, with separate rooms for forming and glazing and with a kiln barn directly outside.

The printmaking studio will be equipped for almost every printing technique, other than lithography. A special feature will be a cabinet for spray cleaning silk screens - a very rapid cleaning process.

Other studios include sculpture modeling with a woodworking room, metal casting and welding, applied arts and crafts, fabrics, and a conference-seminar room.

"The conference-seminar studio is the hub of village activity," notes Mrs. Conrath. "It will be used for informal classes, discussions, film and slide presentations, lectures from visiting artists and student exhibits."

"We also plan to teach

related subjects here, such as Creative Writing and Contemporary Man."

Most art courses carry lower division transfer credit. About 540 students will enroll in the various art classes.

All studios have indoor-outdoor flexibility, with many facilities immediately outside for creative endeavors, such as large wash tubs for fabrics, electricity outlets, a bridge crane for lifting heavy metal pieces, and numerous display areas.

Although separate, the studios are interrelated.

"They have been placed in a logical order so students may observe various art processes and may also combine them," says Mrs. Conrath.

"Fabric, printmaking and painting studios are grouped together to offer greater creativity, such as printing on fabric."

The buildings are color-coded. Each interior is part of a color spectrum, beginning with painting (yellow) to sculpture (blue-green).

"The studios will also be united with paths, courtyards and natural landscaping."

Mrs. Conrath anticipates an Oct. 1 opening date.

The Art Village concept was initiated in June, 1971. An advisory committee was formed. Members included professional artists, instructors and art students.

Architectural plans were completed fall, 1971, and construction began this past spring.

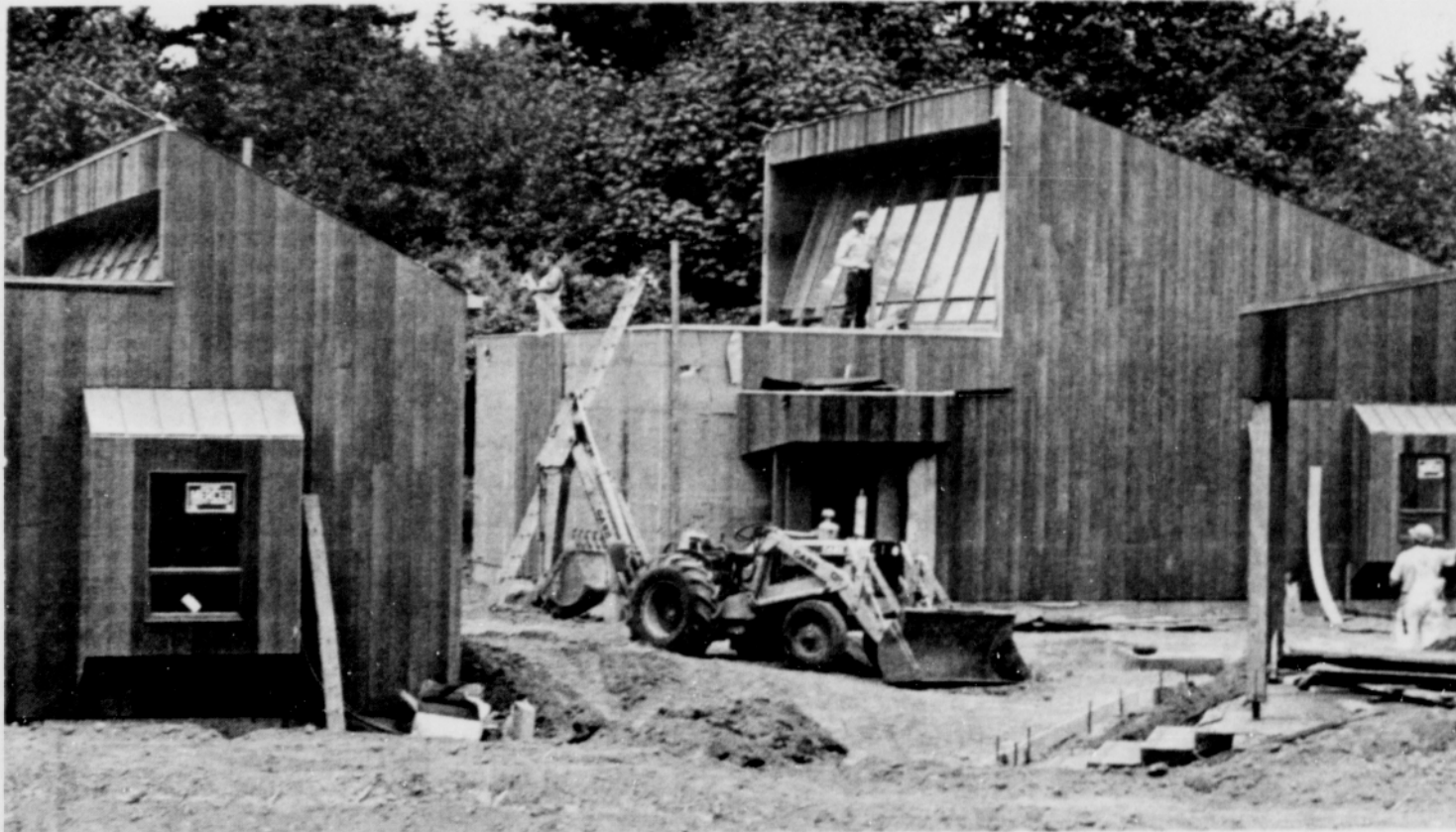
A second phase is planned within two-to-three years.

"This will be a pavillion north of the grouping - a two-story building with studios for drawing and design, a resident art studio and office space for instructors."

"There will also be an open court area for college and community displays, plus room for a historical collection representing the local community."

Mt. Hood Community College offers the widest variety of art classes among all Oregon community colleges, according to Mrs. Conrath.

"And our Art Village is definitely unique," she says.



1ST STAGE of MHCC art village is now a reality. Windows are constructed at precise angles giving students prime light for creative work.

(Olson photo)

## Drop outs earn GED diplomas

It's estimated that more than 10,000 persons in the Mt. Hood district have less than a high school education.

Of these, almost 3,000 have less than an 8th grade education.

General education development (GED) classes are offered through MHCC for those persons wanting to earn their high school equivalency certificate.

Last year, some 450 people took advantage of GED classes.

GED classes are offered in five areas: natural science, literature, grammar, mathematics and social studies. Students study in each of the areas and then take a test. When they pass, they receive their certificate.

Sandy, Gresham, Parkrose and David Douglas high schools offer GED classes.

Adult Basic Education (ABE) classes are offered for those with less than an 8th grade education.

Basic classes are offered in reading, writing and arithmetic.

David Douglas offers six ABE classes fall term. Other ABE courses will be offered at the Rockwood Methodist Church from 9 am to noon, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

An interesting aspect of the ABE program is ESL—English as a Second Language. It's aimed at foreign-born persons who want to pick up the English language or Americans who for some reason left school before acquiring a proficiency in the language.

Both GED and ABE classes are free.

For information on either the GED or ABE programs, call 666-1561, Ext. 430.

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