

Oregon Historic Site Form

Rice Facility
6433 Tillamook
Portland, Multnomah County

LOCATION AND PROPERTY NAME

address: <u>6433 NE Tillamook</u> <input type="checkbox"/> apprx. addr	historic name: <u>Rice Facility</u>
<u>Portland</u> <input type="checkbox"/> vcnty <u>Multnomah County</u>	current/ other names: <u>Rose City Park Primary School</u>
Optional Information assoc addresses: (former addresses, intersections, etc.) location descr: (remote sites)	block nbr: _____ lot nbr: _____ tax lot nbr: _____ township: _____ range: _____ section: _____ 1/4: _____ zip: _____

PROPERTY CHARACTERISTICS

resource type: <u>Building</u> height (# stories): <u>1</u>	total # eligible resources: <u>0</u> total # ineligible resources: <u>1</u>
elig. evaluation: <u>not eligible/non-contributing</u>	NR status: _____ NR date listed: _____ (indiv listed only; see Grouping for hist dist)
primary constr date: <u>1955</u> (c.) <input type="checkbox"/> secondary date: _____ (c.) <input type="checkbox"/> (optional--use for major addns)	orig use comments: _____
primary orig use: <u>School</u>	prim style comments: _____
secondary orig use: <u>Education-Related</u>	sec style comments: _____
primary style: <u>Northwest Regional</u>	siding comments: _____
secondary style: _____	architect: <u>Dukehart & Kinne</u>
primary siding: <u>Horizontal Board</u>	builder: _____
secondary siding: _____	
plan type: <u>School (General)</u>	
comments/notes:	

GROUPINGS / ASSOCIATIONS

survey project name or other grouping name	<u>PPS Historic Building Assessment 2009</u>	<u>Survey & Inventory Project</u>
farmstead/cluster name:		external site #: <u>274</u> (ID# used in city/agency database)

SHPO INFO FOR THIS PROPERTY

NR date listed: _____
ILS survey date: 7/7/2009
RLS survey date: 7/7/2009
Gen File date: _____
106 Project(s)



ARCHITECTURAL / PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

(Include expanded description of the building/property, setting, significant landscape features, outbuildings, and alterations)

Description Summary

The Rice Facility is a one story building clad in horizontal wood siding. The T-shape finger plan building sits on a poured concrete foundation. The building is covered by shallow pitched gable roofs. The design of the 1955 building is loosely influenced by the Northwest Regional style. Elements such as a the wood siding, bands of metal windows, low sloped roofs, and overhangs are rooted in the Northwest Regional style while the horizontal plan and lack of ornamentation follow the with the broader principles of Modernism.

Architectural Description

Rice Facility is situated in the Rose City neighborhood of North East Portland at 6433 NE Tillamook Street. The facility occupies a small rectangular parcel that surrounded by NE Tillamook on the south and Rose City Park on the north, east, and west sides of the campus. The school is located in the center of the parcel; to the east of the building is the parking lot and to the west is the play ground. Vast open space and play fields provided by the ten acre Rose City Park are located beyond the paved spaces immediately surrounding the Rice Facility.

The single story building is constructed of wood frame with horizontal tongue and groove siding. The building rests on a concrete foundation. Narrow vertical boards that are arranged symmetrically break up the horizontal siding. Louvered vents are located along the gable. The horizontal massing of the building is emphasized by low sloping gable roofs and bands of metal hopper windows. The wing that forms the top of the T-shaped plan features a cross gable roof. Along each end of the building, where the gables meet, are wide overhangs under which are located secondary doorways. The primary entrance, located on south (front) elevation, is recessed within the wall of the building. The entrance is marked by two metal doors with center lights. Secondary entrances, on the east and west (side) elevations, also feature double metal doors.

The 1955 Rice Facility features a T-shaped finger plan. The bottom wing of the T is oriented on a north-south axis, which extends perpendicular to NE Tillamook. The top wing is oriented on an east-west axis. The building features a long double loaded corridor, and two short entrance halls which extend off the main corridor and provide access to the parking lot and the play ground. Rectangular classrooms and administrative offices are located along the main corridor. Within the wing that forms the top of the T-shaped plan are located a play room and large classroom that was originally designed as a kindergarten.

The principal entrance to the school opens into a central corridor, extending north-south through the building, where classrooms are located. The administrative offices are located in the north end of the building and along a rear hallway that opens into the parking lot. Corridor walls that mark the area with administrative offices are punctuated by a series of rectangular windows. The double-loaded corridor features vinyl tile wainscot with a metal cap and a rubber base. Flooring throughout the building consists of asphalt/vinyl tile, and carpet. Tubular light fixtures are suspended from the acoustic tile clad ceilings. The building is heated by boilers that are located off the north hallway.

A play room is located at the west side of the "T". This room features a composition tile wainscot with a metal cap and rubber base, as well as composition floor tiles. The rectangular room is illuminated by a wall of fixed rectangular windows.

The classrooms are rectangular in plan with counters beneath the windows and a recessed wardrobe, closet, and sink area along one wall. The rooms feature plaster walls with birch plywood wainscot and molding. Classroom doors are birch hollow core with center lights. Classrooms are heated by console units located beneath the exterior windows.

Alterations/Integrity

Rice Facility has undergone minor alterations over the last fifty years. The building was restored after a fire in 1956 at a cost of \$7,782 (PPS Chronology). Alterations include the reconfiguration of the administrative offices and the kindergarten classroom. The facility is currently used as administrative office space for the Portland Public Schools and as storage space for the Portland Park Bureau. The alterations have not affected integrity of the 1955 building.

HISTORY

(Chronological, descriptive history of the property from its construction through at least the historic period [preferably to the present])

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Statement of Significance

Built for \$ 178,718.00 in 1955, the Rice Facility (originally Rose City Primary) was named in honor of Charles A. Rice who served as Superintendent of the Schools from 1925-1938 (PPS Chronology Binder; Snyder: 1979 241). The school was constructed during a period of modernization and new construction initiated by Portland Public Schools (PPS) after World War II. In 1945, the citizens of Portland approved a ballot measure that provided \$5,000,000 over five years to construct, improve, and rehabilitate its public school buildings (Portland Public Schools 1945: 2). The ballot measure enabled PPS to respond to the explosive growth in school-age children that had occurred in the city as a result of the arrival of defense plant workers and their families, as well as the deferred maintenance arising from the lack of funds during the depression (Portland Public Schools 1945: 2-3). Beginning with the 1945 bond measure, PPS embarked on an effort to improve its school facilities through renovations, additions, and new construction of over fifty schools between 1945 and 1970.

For the new building program, PPS schools adopted the call of architects and school planners across the country for new types of schools. Nationally known architects including Richard Neutra, Walter Gropius and the Architects Collective, and Perkins Will promoted new school types that reflected both evolving educational practices and design philosophies (Ogata 2008: 567-568; Perkins and Cocking 1949: 238-246). Emphasizing the need for economy and rapid construction, the designers adopted new materials that were standardized and mass produced including steel, plywood, and aluminum. In many buildings, architects achieved flexibility through the building's structure by employing non load-bearing partition walls and zoned ventilation and heating systems. Folding walls and moveable cabinets provided additional flexibility intended to enable teachers to rearrange rooms based on lesson plan and activities (Ogata 2008: 568).

The architects of Wilcox Elementary School, Dukehart & Kinne, adopted the building program and principles that dominated the discourse for school design during the second half of the twentieth century. Dukehart & Kinne was formed by John Kistner Dukehart and Elizabeth Pennock Kinne in 1953. Kinne and Dukhart met as employees of the Portland firm of Johnson & Wallwork. Elizabeth Pennock Kinne continued to work with Dukehart after he established his own firm, John K. Dukehart & Associates, in 1947. In 1953, Elizabeth Pennock Kinne became partner in the new firm Dukehart & Kinne. Elizabeth Pennock Kinne and John Dukehart worked on many significant Portland buildings including the Town Club, buildings for Reed College, and Binford Apartment complex. They also designed the Harvey Scott Memorial Library and the Jefferson School of Optometry at Pacific University in Forest Grove Oregon (Ritz 116-117, 226-227).

The Rice Facility features a simplified version of the finger plan school with one wing or finger, rather than multiple connecting fingers with double loaded interior corridors. The construction of the facility, wood frame with brick veneer, allowed for economic building and ease of expansion. The school utilized mass produced materials, including aluminum windows, as economical decoration.

While the Rice Facility retains integrity of design, feeling, and association, the facility is not a strong example of the planning principles that characterized PPS school design during the mid-twentieth century. Although designed by a noteworthy Portland architectural firm, archival research does not indicate that the building is considered a significant example of their work meriting consideration under Criterion C as representing the work of the master. The Rice Facility, therefore, is not recommended as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, B, or C.

RESEARCH INFORMATION

(Check all of the basic sources consulted and cite specific important sources)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Title Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Census Records | <input type="checkbox"/> Property Tax Records | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Histories |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sanborn Maps | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biographical Sources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Files | <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituaries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> State Archives | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Photographs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Directories | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Permits | <input type="checkbox"/> State Library | |

Local Library: Multnomah County Library University Library: Portland State University Library

Historical Society: Oregon Historical Society Other Repository: PPS Archives

Bibliography: Bibliography

Ogata, Amy F. "Building for Learning in Postwar American Elementary Schools." Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Vol. 67, no. 4, December 2008: 562-591.

Perkins, Lawrence B and Walter D. Cocking. Schools. New York: Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 1949.

Portland Public Schools. School Chronology Binder. PPS Archives, Portland, Oregon.

_____. Rice Elementary School. Facility Plan.

_____. Rice Elementary School. Facility Profile.

Ritz, Richard. E. Architects of Oregon. A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Deceased – 19th and 20th Centuries. Portland: Lair Hill Publishing, 2002.

Snyder, Eugene E. Portland Names and Neighborhoods. Their Historic Origins. Portland: Binford & Mort Publishing; 1st edition 1979.



Main building (274A), south (front) and east (side) elevations, looking northwest.



Main building (274A), north (rear) elevation, looking southwest.



Main building (274A), south (front) and east (side) elevations, looking northwest.



Main building (274A), side entrance along east (side) elevation, looking north.



Main building (274A), west (side) elevation, looking northeast.



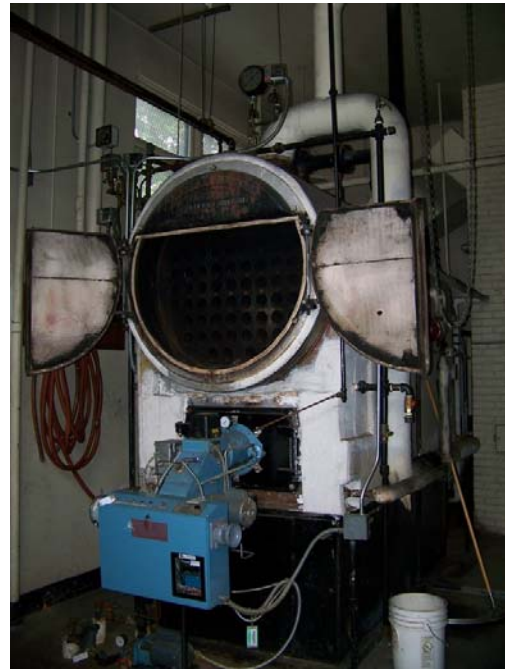
Main building (274A), rear hallway at office, looking east.



Main building (274A), central hall with main entrance at end, looking south.



Main building (274A), playroom, looking northwest.



Boiler, looking southeast



Main building (274A), classroom, looking south.

Rice Facility

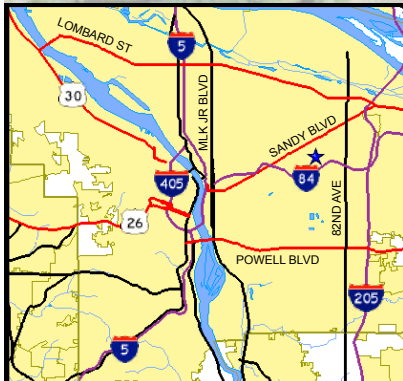
6433 NE Tillamook St, Portland OR, 97213

[View Site in Google Maps](#)






2009 photograph of the Rice Elementary School, looking northwest.

Aerial photo © 2009 Metro, Portland OR Imagery Date: July 12, 2007



Historical Significance and Building Integrity

-  Contrib: High Significance
-  Contrib: Moderate Signif.
-  Non-Contributing



Building Periods

1. Main Building (274A), 1955