

THE MYSTERY OF CSU HISTORY TOUR



1

1. Student Services (1948)

- Built originally as a men's dormitory named Braiden Hall
- Constructed where President Lory's House once stood
- The architect, Eugene Groves, was committed to an insane asylum before construction was complete
- In 1948, 4,431 students attended Colorado A&M



2

2. Johnson Hall (1936)

- This was the original Student Center on campus built to honor Dean of Faculty S. Arthur Johnson
- It featured a bookstore, cafeteria, soda fountain room, game room, student lounge and a large ballroom
- During WWII, it housed the Army Specialized Training Corps & was awarded the Air Force Certificate of Service in 1944
- It is rumored that two ghosts live in the basement of the building



3

3. The Oval (1918)

- Was designed and created by President Lory to provide a campus layout and aid in planning future building sites
- The Oval is 2,065 ft. in circumference
- The original elm trees were planted in 1920; on April 20, 2012, 27 additional American elm trees were planted as part of on-going preservation efforts



4

4. Laurel Hall (1882)

- Originally constructed as a barn to treat animals for the veterinary sciences program
- Converted to the Chemistry Laboratory in 1883
- Became campus' first library building in 1905
- Currently houses the Office of International Programs



5

5. Guggenheim (1910)

- A gift from Sen. Simon F. Guggenheim to promote the study of home economics
- Three other Colorado Universities have Guggenheim buildings endowed by Sen. Guggenheim
- Recipes for high altitude cooking were developed & tested in the home economics laboratory here and were most famously used by Betty Crocker

6. Danforth Chapel (1954)

- This non-denominational chapel is the newest building on the Oval
- The theme of the full-length stained glass window inside is called "The Genesis," which is common to many religions and is expressed here as earth, air, fire, and water
- Architect James Hunter's ashes are buried in a niche in one of the chapel walls



11

7. Ammons Hall (1922)

- Originally built as a women's recreational and social center
- The first floor featured an indoor pool, gymnasium, kitchen, offices, living room, and sunroom
- It is rumored to be haunted by multiple ghosts and our facilities staff refuse to clean the building alone after business hours even to this day.
- Currently houses the University's Welcome Center and Office of Admissions

8. TILT (1927)

- Originally built as the campus library
- Housed the Music Department from 1964-2008 including the university's world-famous Casavant Organ which was relocated to the University Center for the Arts
- The building currently serves as The Institute of Learning and Teaching

9. Weber Hall (1922)

- Constructed as the new chemistry building after the original Chemistry Building burned down in 1921
- Most famous for housing the Colorado State Research Foundation which helped create the Peace Corps in 1960 under the direction of President John F. Kennedy
- Named after Louis R. Weber who was head of the Physics Department for 30 years
- Currently houses the Mathematics Department

10. Statistics (1910)

- Was originally the Civil and Irrigation Engineering building; "CIE" can still be seen in the stained glass on the west side of the building
- A Hydraulics Laboratory located west of the building, was most famous for developing models for Hoover Dam and Lake Mead
- The top floor was used as a sick ward during the 1918 influenza epidemic
- Currently is home to offices for the College of Natural Sciences

11. Administration (1924)

- 10 of the University's 14 Presidents have been housed on the first floor of this building
- Multiple Administration offices have been located in this building throughout the years
- This site has seen many demonstrations, protests, academic and political events over the years; including then presidential candidate Barack Obama's visit on October 26, 2008 which drew an estimated crowd of over 40,000



6



7



8



9



10

