

CITY OF NEWBERG  
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

**HIST. NAME:** Pacific College-Minthorn Hall  
**COMMON NAME:** George Fox College  
**ADDRESS:** 414 N. Meridian  
**T/R/S:** 3S 2W 17  
**MAP NO:** 3S 2W 17CC **TAX LOT:** 100  
**ADDITION:** None  
**BLOCK:** **LOT:**  
**OWNER:** George Fox College  
**ADDRESS:** 414 N. Meridian

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:** N/A 1887  
**ORIGINAL USE:** School  
**PRESENT USE:** School  
**ARCH./BLDR.:** N/A  
**STYLE:** Stripped Classical  
**BLDG. STRUC. DIST. X SITE OBJ.** \_\_\_\_  
**THEME:** Education; Religion  
**CITY:** X **UGB:**  
**QUAD:** Newberg

**PLAN TYPE/SHAPE:** Rectangular  
**FOUNDATION MATERIAL:** Brick  
**WALL CONSTRUCTION:** Wood  
**ROOF FORM & MATERIALS:** Truncated hip.  
**PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE:** Double-hung sash - number of lights varies. Some in pairs.  
**EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS:** Shiplap  
**DECORATIVE FEATURES:** Bracketed eaves.  
**OTHER:** Single bay porch. Gabled dormers.

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:** 1887  
**NO. OF STORIES:** 2  
**BASEMENT (Y/N):** Yes  
**STRUCTURAL FRAME:** Wood

**CONDITION:** EXCELLENT ☒ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☐ DETERIORATED ☐ MOVED ☐ (DATE) \_\_\_\_  
**EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS (DATED):** Extensive. See National Register Form.  
**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

George Fox College is a private, Christian, co-educational liberal arts college. Established by early Quaker settlers, it is the only Quaker institution of higher education in the Pacific Northwest. The Quaker concern for education has always played a prominent role in their history as well as the growth and settlement of Newberg. In the early 1880's Newberg did not have a secondary school and in 1883 concerned Friends established a committee to look into starting a Friends high school. Soon after funds were raised to construct a building and Jesse Edwards donated part of his wheat field for a building site. In 1885 Friends Pacific Academy was officially opened with 19 students on land now occupied by the Friends Church (307 S. College). Dr. Henry J. Minthorn was principal with W.R. Starbuck and Laura E. Minthorn teachers. In 1891 it was decided to open a college because the nearest Quaker institution was in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Pacific College opened on September 9, 1891 in the Academy building with plans underway to secure a new site for the college. A 23 acre site in northeast Newberg on the banks of Hess Creek was chosen. Thomas Newlin was elected president of the new college. Several presidents succeeded Newlin and in 1911 Levi T. Pennington became president and maintained his highly successful administration for 30 years. Under his leadership the college endowment increased dramatically and in 1925 satisfied the requirements of the United States Bureau of Educational Standards. In 1929 Pacific Academy was discontinued to concentrate on the college program. In 1949 the name of Pacific College was changed to George Fox College in honor of the founder of the Quaker faith. Today the 60 acre campus includes some 29 buildings, two of which pre-date 1930. The oldest of these, Minthorn Hall, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. It was constructed in 1887 as a gymnasium and dormitory on the first site of Pacific Academy, where the present Friends Church is located. In 1892 it was moved, along with another building no longer existent, to the present campus. Today the three-story structure houses language arts, faculty offices, and the instructional media center. The other building, Woodmar Hall, is a three-story brick building constructed in 1910. It was named in honor of Evangeline Martin and Amanda Woodward, who raised the money for its construction. The building is now the Administrative Building and has a 420 seat Auditorium. These two buildings are highly significant as the oldest existent structures associated with the history of the college.

**SOURCES:**

Dodds, Dr. Gordon. Minthorn Hall National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, 1985.

The Newberg Graphic 50th Anniversary Edition, 1939.

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: 1516

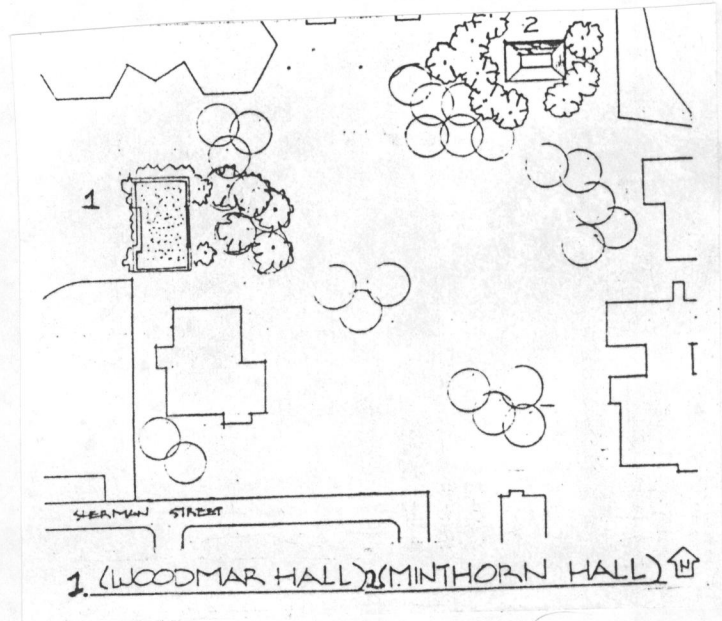
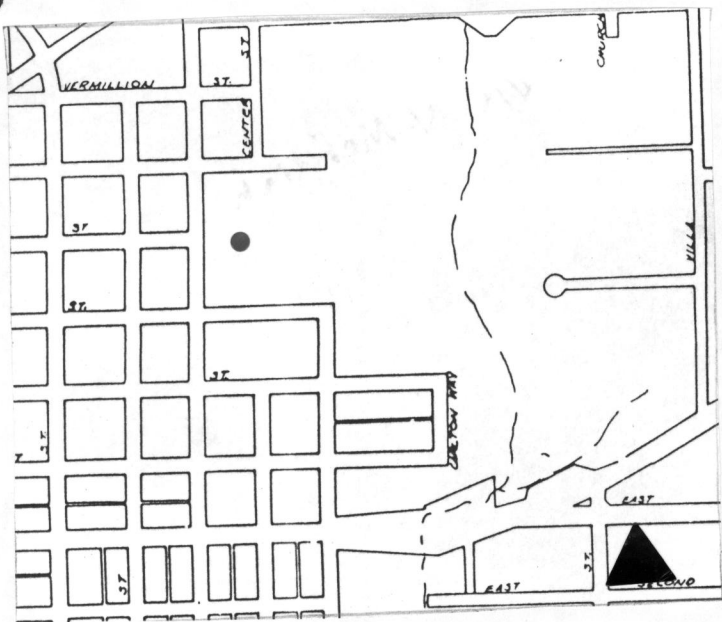
CITY OF NEWBERG  
INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM

PAGE 2



NAME: George Fox College  
ADDRESS: 414 N. Meridian  
T/R/S: 3S 2W 17  
MAP NO: 17CC  
TAX LOT: 100  
QUAD: Newberg  
ROLL NO: 15  
NEGATIVE NO: 11, 12, 13  
SLIDE NO: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*



GRAPHIC SOURCES:

City Map, 1973

SHPO INVENTORY NO.: 1516