**Warner Center for the Performing Arts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>4. Present Name(s)</th>
<th>Ohio Historic Inventory Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Warner Center for the Performing Arts</td>
<td>567 E. Hudson St. Columbus, Ohio 43211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Historic or Other Name(s)

| Men's Gymnasium; Warner Gymnasium |

6. Specific Address or Location

| 30 North Professor |

7. City or Village

If Rural, Township & Vicinity

Oberlin

8. Site Plan with North Arrow

9. U.T.M. Reference

Quadrangle Name

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

10. Site

Structure

Building

Object

11. On National Register?

Yes

12. N.R. Potential?

13. Part of Esth Hist Dist?

No

14. Dist. Potential?

15. Name of Established District (N.R. or Local)

NR: Oberlin College thematic nomination

16. Thematic Association(s)

Education: Parochial/Private: Higher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>17. Date(s) or Period</th>
<th>17b. Alteration Date(s)</th>
<th>18. Style or Design</th>
<th>18a. Style of Addition or Element(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901-12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Richardsonian Romanesque</td>
<td>Elements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Architect or Engineer

George Feick, Chicago

20. Contractor or Builder

George Feick, Sandusky

21. Building Type or Plan

Other Building

22. Original Use, if apparent

Gymnasium

23. Present Use

College Performing Arts Center

24. Ownership

Public

Private

25. Owner’s Name & Address, if known

Oberlin College

26. Property Acreage

1.075

27. Other Surveys in Which Included

McQuillin (75)

28. No. of Stories

2 and 1/2

29. Basement?

Yes

30. Foundation Material

Stone

31. Wall Construction

Stone Bearing

32. Roof:

Type Hip

Pitch Steep

Material Clay Tile, Roman Tile

33. No. Bays

Front 9

Side

34. Exterior Wall Material(s)

Stone, Rock-Faced Ashlar

35. Plan Shape

Rectangular

36. Changes (Explain in #42)

Altered, Minimal

37. Window Type(s)

1 over 1 Double-hung


152 ft. X 70 ft.

39. Endangered?

Yes

Explain:

Demolition or Addition (see #43)

40. Chimney Placement

Off Center Within Ridgeline

41a. Distance from road

41b. Frontage on road

152 ft.

42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features

This two-and-one-half-story Richardsonian Romanesque Style building has a capped, red tile, hipped roof, with bracketed cornice, and a high stone foundation. A wide stone arch frames the double doors of the main entrance below a stone panel with raised carving that reads "Warner Gymnasium." Similar arches are above every pair of second-story windows on the front and sides. Leaded casement windows are arranged in groups of three above the second-story arches near the roofline. The arches above the windows of the north third of the building have leaded glass, while the other arches are filled with concrete. Every window of the first story is a paired, one-over-one, double-hung, replacement window with stone sills and lintels. Two stairwells with six-sided roofs, (cont.)

43. History and Significance

Ground was broken for Warner (Men's) Gymnasium in August, 1900, and it was completed in the fall of 1901. It was named in honor of one of its donors, Dr. and Mrs. Lucien C. Warner, of New York, who provided $45,000 for the building, with an endowment fund of $5,000. It was constructed of Ohio sandstone, designed by Patton, Fisher, and Miller, of Chicago, and constructed by Mr. George Feick, of Sandusky. It is located on the site of the old Gymnasium (Second). The first floor contained the offices of the Director and instructors, examining rooms, a custodian’s room, waiting rooms, trophy room, and a large room containing four hundred and seventeen lockers.

44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (see #52)

This building is set back from the road on the southeast side of Wilder Bowl, a central college pedestrian thoroughfare.

45. Sources of Information

on the front and rear façades, appear as towers projecting from the supporting walls. The interior maintains much of its original woodwork, including an indoor track at the top half-story of the gymnasium, or main space. The building was renovated with minor changes around 1970. New main entrance doors and octagonal concrete sculptures of varying sizes were added to the front of the building, and provide outdoor seating.

The basement had a ball cage and courts for hand ball and other indoor games and one hundred lockers for athletic teams. The main gymnasium hall was on the second floor, 65 by 110 feet, 22 feet high on the sides, and 40 feet high in the center. And around the gymnasium, suspended from the roof, was a running track, measuring nineteen laps to the mile. There was also a visitors’ gallery at the north end (OC General Catalogue). Warner has survived two attempts to have it removed; the second when a new gymnasium on Woodland Street replaced it in 1971. Today the building is named "Warner Center," and it serves as the college dance and movement studio. Computability problems for these two uses have led to calls for an addition and for demolition (Moser Interview).

The building is significant for its history of athletics as part of a liberal arts education and for its architecture, which was unique at the end of the 19th century. Warner Gymnasium was listed by the City of Oberlin as an Oberlin City Landmark in September of 1975. It was listed on the National Register as part of the Oberlin College thematic nomination in 1978.