

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

NEWS RELEASE: October 1, 2007

REPORT RELEASED ON PSU RESIDENCE HALL SEISMIC REHABILITATION PROJECT

Portland, Oregon: The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has released Open-File Report O-07-04 PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY MONTGOMERY COURT SEISMIC REHABILITATION PROJECT by Yumei Wang, Oregon Department of Geology & Mineral Industries and Christopher J. Heathman, Washington Department of Transportation. This Open-File Report summarizes the successful seismic upgrade project of Montgomery Court Residence Hall at Portland State University (PSU) in Portland, Oregon.

Montgomery Court is a four-story college dormitory, plus basement. The building was constructed in 1916 of unreinforced masonry (URM). URM buildings are characterized by their poor seismic performance and are not allowed by the current Oregon building code. In 1997, Montgomery Court was seismically evaluated, and many serious structural deficiencies were found to pose a serious life safety threat to the over 150 student residents.

In April 2004 the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) was funded \$780,000 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Predisaster Mitigation Program (PDM) to conduct a partial seismic upgrade. The FEMA grant provided 75% of the mitigation cost. The remaining 25% was funded by the Oregon University System and PSU. The rehabilitation was successfully completed in December 2005.

The seismic mitigation, which complied with state historic preservation guidelines, improved connections and ductility of the building, strengthened exits and secured falling hazards. These major improvements are intended to minimize the potential for a collapse of the entire building.

This project, in addition to seismic rehabilitation work done at PSU's Ondine Residence Hall, Oregon State University's Nash Hall and Western Oregon University's Humanities & Social Sciences Building previews the work that eventually will follow the just released Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment report (DOGAMI Open-File Report O-07-02). Funds in the form of state grants for

800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.com
(971) 673-1555

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)

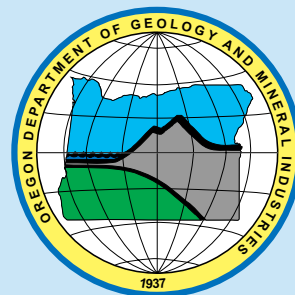
Mineral Land Regulation
and Reclamation Program
229 Broadalbin Street, SW
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 967-2039,
Gary W. Lynch, Assistant Director

Baker City Field Office
1510 Campbell Street
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-3133,
Mark L. Ferns, Regional Geologist

Coastal Field Office
313 SW 2nd Street, Suite D
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 574-6642,
Jonathan C. Allan, Coastal
Team Leader

Grants Pass Field Office
5375 Monument Drive
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(541) 476-2496,
Thomas J. Wiley, Regional Geologist

The Nature of the Northwest
Information Center
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177
Portland, OR 97232-2162
(503) 872-2750
Donald J. Haines, Manager
Internet: <http://www.NatureNW.org>



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

seismic mitigation of public schools and other emergency facilities will be available in the future to do the same type of seismic rehabilitation that was completed at these university buildings.

O-07-04 PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY MONTGOMERY COURT SEISMIC REHABILITATION PROJECT is available on CD-ROM for \$10. It can be purchased from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (503) 872-2750 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items. For additional information, please contact the Nature of the Northwest Information Center. Additionally, this item as well as all department maps can be purchased at DOGAMI Field Offices including 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, (541) 476-2496 and 1510 Campbell Street, Baker City, (541) 523-3133.

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State, and has a broad responsibility in developing a geologic understanding of natural hazards. We then make this information available to communities and individuals to help reduce the risks from earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. We assist in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards are key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at:

<http://www.OregonGeology.com>

**800 NE Oregon Street
Suite 965, Portland, OR 97232
www.oregongeology.com
(971) 673-1555**

Media Contact: James Roddey
Earth Sciences Information Officer
james.roddey@state.or.us
(971) 673-1543 (direct line)
(503) 807-8343 (cell)

Mineral Land Regulation
and Reclamation Program
229 Broadalbin Street, SW
Albany, OR 97321
(541) 967-2039,
Gary W. Lynch, Assistant Director

Baker City Field Office
1510 Campbell Street
Baker City, OR 97814
(541) 523-3133,
Mark L. Ferns, Regional Geologist

Coastal Field Office
313 SW 2nd Street, Suite D
Newport, OR 97365
(541) 574-6642,
Jonathan C. Allan, Coastal
Team Leader

Grants Pass Field Office
5375 Monument Drive
Grants Pass, OR 97526
(541) 476-2496,
Thomas J. Wiley, Regional Geologist

The Nature of the Northwest
Information Center
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 177
Portland, OR 97232-2162
(503) 872-2750
Donald J. Haines, Manager
Internet: <http://www.NatureNW.org>

