



*Courtesy of Pacific University Archives, 1892*



## Old College Hall

Old College Hall is the oldest structure in Forest Grove. It represents the earliest foundation of education in the community. Tualatin Academy was chartered in 1849 and this building was begun the following July. It was an ambitious project for the missionary founders but their determination paid off and Pacific University was incorporated in 1854.

Although it has been moved twice for the construction of new buildings, Old College Hall looks much as it did in the nineteenth century. It is simple but elegant two-story wooden structure. The design of the building was patterned after Mt. Vernon, the plantation home of George Washington. The only ornamentation is an octagonal cupola and the two flat roofed porches. The window glass was brought around the Horn.

After years of remodeling and modernizing, a careful restoration took place in the early 1970s. A team of skilled craftsmen accomplished the huge task under the direction of Portland architect, Alfred Staehli. The building now reflects its original character and was placed on the National Register in 1974.

The building now houses the Pacific University Museum on the second floor. The first floor is divided into two large rooms by a central hall. The south room is now the Price Memorial Chapel, which was originally a class room. On the north side is the Academy Room, a large meeting and reception room decorated with antiques. The museum is open to the public the first Wednesday of each month. Group and private tours can be arranged upon request.

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