

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NOV 7 1977

DATE ENTERED

FEB 9 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fisk University Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

roughly bounded by 16th & 18th Ave., Hermon, Hermon, and Jefferson Sts.
an irregular pattern bounded on the north by Jefferson Street, and on the south by

CITY, TOWN

Herman Street

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Nashville

VICINITY OF

Fifth

STATE

Tennessee

CODE
47COUNTY
DavidsonCODE
37**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

See continuation sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register's Office for Davidson County, Tennessee

STREET & NUMBER

Metro Courthouse, Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historical and Architectural Survey

DATE

June 1977

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Tennessee Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE 1873
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		only no. 8

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fisk University Historic District is located in Nashville, Tennessee, approximately one and a half miles northwest of the Central Business District. The University, located on the relatively flat crown of a hill, overlooks the central business district and the Capitol Hill area. It is comprised of approximately seventy structures of various architectural styles dating from the 1860s to 1972.

Buildings and Sites contributing to the character of the District:

1. Jubilee Hall (1711 Meharry Boulevard): 1876, Stephen D. Hatch, Architect, New York; five stories, neo-Gothic, L-shaped, dull red brick with light stone banding, steeply pitched roof with spired tower on southeast corner. The interior, with its grand stair case, was remodeled in 1965. Jubilee Hall is listed in the National Register, and in 1976 it was designated a National Historic Landmark.

1A. Limestone wall, ca. 1873, surrounding Area 1, with crenallated top course and battlements at entrance points.

5. Academic Building, formerly Carnegie Library (1720 Meharry Boulevard): 1908, Moses McKissack III, Architect; rectangular two-story brick with smooth stone belt course at first floor window level, stone ashlar foundation, stone-columned front entrance porch, red Spanish clay tile hipped roof, bracketed eaves. The interior contains a two-story high lightwell.

6. Chemistry Building, Tally-Brady Hall (1016 18th Avenue North): 1931, Henry Hibbs, Architect, Nashville; three-story, modified H-plan, brick with smooth stone belt courses, flat roof.

7. Administration Building, Erastus Milo Cravath Hall, formerly Fisk University Library (1015 17th Avenue North): 1930, Henry Hibbs, Architect, Nashville; neo-Gothic, brick and stone, irregular rectangular plan, central eight-story tower with lower set-backed wings of two and three stories; flat roof. The interior has stone columns and Gothic arches.

8. Little Theater, Speech and Drama Department (1006 18th Avenue North): early 1860s, remodeled 1935, a one-story wood frame, T-shaped building with gable roof.

9. Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery, formerly University Gym (1720 Jackson Street): 1888, White & Means, Architects, New York; a two-story red brick structure over full basement with ashlar stone foundation. The arched entrance is topped by a hip roof tower. The main roof is hipped. The walls have arched windows and ornamental brick work.

13. Fisk Memorial Chapel (1016 17th Avenue North): 1892, William B. Bigelow, Architect, New York; an oblong, polygonal stone and stucco building with large hip-roof and bell-tower over the arched front entrance flanked with circular columns in the picturesque Victorian style. Exit stairs have been added on either side toward the rear. The interior has a stage and pipe organ, curved seating and balcony, and the high, hipped ceiling has exposed framework.

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Owners of Property:

- (19) Mrs. John W. Work
1030 17th Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
- (48) Mr. I. T. Creswell
910 17th Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
- (66) Mrs. Z. Alexander Looby
2012 Meharry Boulevard
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

All other properties: Fisk University
926 17th Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

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15. Magnolia Cottage, Central Stores (1615 Meharry Boulevard): ca. 1875, 1-1/2 stories, red brick, Victorian picturesque combining elements of the Queen Ann and Italianate styles.
16. Urban Affairs Institute (1611 Meharry Boulevard): ca. 1915, two-story, ashlar stone foundation, clapboard first story, shingled second story, gable roof. The front porch is supported by Doric columns, and the porch roof deck has a wood railing.
17. Music Building (1607 Meharry Boulevard): ca. 1890, one-story clapboard with two-story hip-roofed tower entrance, shingled gable end with fretwork facing street.
18. Honors Center, Boyd House (1603 Meharry Boulevard): ca. 1915-1920, two-story brick, stone foundation, one-story porch supported by Doric columns. The side elevations have large bay windows.
- ✓ 19. Residence (1030 17th Avenue, North): 1878, Victorian picturesque, 2-1/2 story gabled bay next to two-story element with stacked porches, asbestos shingle siding.
20. Residence (1021 16th Avenue North): early 1920s, small, one-story clapboard.
21. Political Science (1017 16th Avenue North): 1920s, two-story, stucco and frame structure with hip roof, porch on two sides.
22. Residence (1604 Phillips Street): 1920s, one-story small brick cottage.
23. Student Counseling Service (1608 Phillips Street): 1920, one-story small frame cottage with clapboard siding.
26. Music Annex Building (1014 17th Avenue North): 1876, a single-story brick Italianate L-shaped structure with bracketed eaves, hooded windows and projecting arched entrance porch. A wood-frame clapboard wing was added to the structure in the 1920s.
27. Residence (1627 Phillips Street): ca. 1920, small wood-frame cottage with projecting front porch with spindle and grille decoration under porch roof.
28. Pre-College Center (1623 Phillips Street): ca. 1910, wood frame cottage with spindle grille decoration under porch roof.
29. Student Support Center (1609 Phillips Street): ca. 1930, one and a half story clapboard bungalow, gable roof, front porch.

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30. Career Planning and Placement (1615 Phillips Street): ca. 1920, one-story clapboard house, addition covered with asbestos shingles, hip roof.
32. Residence (1601 Phillips Street): ca. 1920, one and a half story brick house with bay window, gambrel roof, entrance porch supported by bracketed columns.
37. Bell Tower (Jackson Street between DuBois Hall and Livingston Hall): a brick structure housing a one-ton bell presented to Fisk in 1880. The original wooden structure was replaced by the current brick structure in 1927.
43. Faculty Residence (926 17th Avenue North): ca. 1900, two-story, corner front porch, bay window facing the street, clapboard siding, shingles in the gable end.
- 43A. Faculty Residence (926-A 17th Avenue North): ca. 1900, small, clapboard cottage in the rear of 43.
45. Mathematics Department, Dunn House (920 17th Avenue North): ca. 1910, two and a half story brick building with gable roof, ashlar stone foundation.
46. Freshmen Interdisciplinary Program (916 17th Avenue North): ca. 1920, two-story brick with one-story brick projecting wing, ashlar stone foundation.
47. Speech and Drama (914 17th Avenue North): ca. 1910, single story, brick, columns supporting front porch roof.
49. Alumni Building (908 17th Avenue North): ca. 1915, two-story brick with bay, Doric columns supporting porch roof.
50. Radio Station, WRFN (906 17th Avenue North): ca. 1915, two-story hip roof, painted brick, boarded up windows, roofed front porch extending over driveway, ornamental wrought iron fence at sidewalk.
51. Physical Facilities Office (920 17th Avenue North): ca. 1900, one and a half story stone cottage, gable roof, stone fence at sidewalk.
52. Safety and Security Office (900 17th Avenue North): ca. 1900, one-story, neo-Italianate brick over ashlar stone foundation, recessed arched entrance doorway, tall, narrow arched windows, gable roof.
54. Residence (911 18th Avenue North): ca. 1930s, two-story "Dutch Colonial", gambrel roof, pedimented entry, clapboard siding.

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55. Ballantine Hall, Art Department (913 18th Avenue North): 1890, two-story brick, hip roof, arched windows, two-story bay at center of street elevation with clapboard siding over which is a dormer with Gothic arched window. The original front porch has been removed.
57. Residence (919 18th Avenue North): ca. 1931, two-story neo-Greek Revival, gable roof with flat-roofed one-story wing, pedimented and columned entrance, clapboard siding.
58. Residence (1803 Morena Street): ca. 1930, one-and-a-half story, gable roof, gabled front entrance, clapboard.
60. Residence (1808 Morena Street): ca. 1900, two-story, gable roof, roofed entrance porch with grillwork, narrow clapboard siding.
61. Residence (1806 Morena Street): 1930s, neo-Tudor two-story, steep gable roof, stone first story, stucco second story, singled gable end.
62. Residence (923 18th Avenue North): ca. 1910, one and a half story brick with ashlar stone foundation, hip and gable roofs with dorner, with gable ends shingled, two roofed porches; ornamental brick chimney.
63. Residence (929 18th Avenue North): ca. 1910, one-story, gable roof that extends over front porch, simulated asphalt composition stone siding.
65. Biology and Physics Department (931 18th Avenue North): ca. 1910, two-story hip roof, asbestos shingles, ashlar stone foundation, tall and narrow windows, bay window on left side of gable roofed entry behind which is a two-story hip roofed tower.
67. Residence (935 18th Avenue, North): 1920s, two-story wood shingles second story over stuccoed first story, hip roof, gable roofed front entrance.

Nonconforming intrusions detracting from the integrity of the district:

2. Crosthwaite Hall, Women's Dormitory (1030 18th Avenue North): 1962, Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta; four-story brick, L-shaped, flat roof, contemporary.
3. Scribner Hall, Women's Dormitory (1020 18th Avenue North): 1959, McKissack & McKissack and Poundstone Ayers & Godwin, Architects; three-story, T-shaped brick, flat roof, contemporary.

→ BUILDINGS ARE COLORED RED. HJib 12/20/99

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4. New Residence Center, Dormitory (1712 Meharry Boulevard): 1972, Anderson, Beckwith & Haible, Architects, Boston; five-story, pinwheel plan, brick and glass, concrete lintels, flat roof, contemporary.
10. Parking lot, crushed rock paving.
11. Temporary classrooms, Biology Laboratories (Corner Jackson Street and 17th Avenue North): ca. 1972, three single-story pre-fabricated metal buildings.
- 11A. Three low brick planters (intersection of Jackson Street and 17th Avenue North): ca. 1974.
12. Adam K. Spence Hall, Student Union (1020 17th Avenue North): 1959, Godwin & Bekcett, Architects, Atlanta; rectangular, three-story brick and glass contemporary, stone spandrels, flat roof.
14. Park Johnson Hall, Social Science (1610 Phillips Street); 1954, McKissack & McKissack and Poundstone, Ayers & Godwin, Architects; rectangular three-story brick and glass contemporary with three-story stone entrance, flat roof.
24. Burrus Hall, formerly Music Building, Twelve Faculty Apartments (1507 Meharry Boulevard and 1020 16th Avenue North): 1945, McKissack & McKissack, Architects; two-story brick, L-shaped, flat roof, projecting entry with stone framed arched doors.
25. Library (1012 17th Avenue North): 1968, Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta; three-story brick contemporary with a two-story concrete colonnade supporting a deep concrete fascia surrounding the entire building.
31. Educational Support Services, Reading and Study Skills Laboratory (1611 Phillips Street): ca. 1948, one-story plywood with brick chimney, gable roof.
33. President's Home (1604 Jackson Street): 1962, single-story, glass, ashlar crab-orchard stone walls, gable roof, modified H-plan, contemporary.
34. Henderson-Johnson Gymnasium (910 18th Avenue North): 1950, McKissack & McKissack, Architects; two-story brick with one-story projecting wings, contemporary.
35. Biology Laboratory (1720 Jackson Street), 1971, one-story prefabricated metal.

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36. DuBois Hall, Women's Dormitory (1721 Jackson Street): 1959, Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta; L-shaped, three-story brick flat-roofed contemporary with stone spandrel panels.
38. Livingstone Hall, Men's Dormitory (1701 Jackson Street): 1966, Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta; L-shaped, four-story brick, glass with stone spandrels, flat-roofed, contemporary.
39. Basketball court (17th Avenue North).
40. Unoccupied (17th Avenue North): 1972, one-story pre-fabricated metal building.
41. Athletic Field, steel seating stands. 1940s.
42. English Department (928 17th Avenue North): ca. 1948, one-story brick chimney, gable roof, plywood siding.
44. Carpenter's Shop (922 17th Avenue North): ca. 1948, one-story, brick chimney, gable roof, plywood siding.
48. Creswell Residence (910 17th Avenue North): ca. early 1960s, one-story glass and wood contemporary with steel columns supporting projecting flat roof. A pierced masonry wall partially screens the house from the street.
53. Residence (909 18th Avenue North): ca. 1948, one-story, gable roof, plywood siding, brick chimney.
56. Residence (917 18th Avenue North): ca. 1948, one-story, gable roof, plywood siding, brick chimney.
59. Faculty Apartments (1809 Morena Street, A-G): 1969, Street & Street, Architects, Nashville; clustered group of buildings of brick and wood, shed roofs, contemporary.
64. Residence (930 18th Avenue North): 1960s, one-story brick, hip roof, contemporary ranch style.
66. Apartment (933 18th Avenue North): 1948, two-story brick, hip roof.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1865, John Ogden, Erastus Milo Cravath and E. P. Smith, agents of the American Missionary Association of New York, in collaboration with the Freedmen's Aid Commission of Cincinnati, devised plans to establish in Nashville the first integrated and co-educational school in the United States. They were assisted in this endeavor by General Clinton B. Fisk of the Freeman's Bureau of Tennessee. The new institution opened on January 9, 1866 and was named Fisk School in honor of General Fisk. John Ogden became the first principal. When its corporate charter was signed on August 12, 1867, the idea of a liberal arts university was conceived and the name of the institution was changed from Fisk School to Fisk University. Although the original charter specified "the education and training of young men and women irrespective of color," subsequent state legislation made it mandatory for the institution to limit its student body to members of the Negro race. With the exception of the faculty, which has always been appointed regardless of race or color, and a limited number of special students, the spirit of the original charter was never fully realized. The vestiges of the beliefs responsible for that legislation are still with us today and deter applications from prospective white students.

Five years after Fisk University opened its doors, it was in such a troubled financial state that many assumed that the University would have to be closed. In 1870, nine students and Professor George L. White left behind them in Nashville several hundred students in some former Union Hospital barracks (which comprised the first classrooms, dormitories, and offices of Fisk University) to perform concerts as a choral ensemble throughout the United States to raise money to save their financially plagued school. Ridicule and hostility characterized early audience response to this group of five women and four men who in no way performed in the traditional "minstrel fashion" that had been stereotyped for black performers in the nineteenth century. In a general atmosphere of despair, Reverend White decided to name them the "Jubilee Singers" from the Biblical reference to the year of Jubilee in the Book of Leviticus. Perseverance and faith on the part of the Singers and Reverend White began to change attitudes in predominantly white audiences. Undesired reactions were replaced by standing ovations. Their first American tour, which lasted three months and ended with an invitation by President Ulysses S. Grant to sing at the White House, established the Jubilee Singers as a performing group of national acclaim and literally saved the University. The first European tour by the Fisk Jubilee Singers in 1873 was a monumental success. The artistry, modesty and sincerity of the Singers created a popular enthusiasm that sent them on a triumphal march through the courts and concert halls of England, Holland, Scotland, Germany, Sweden and Russia.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Anderson, Beckwith and Haible, Architects, "Campus Plan," Boston: n.p., Nov. 1969.
 Collins, Leslie M., ed., "An Informal History of a People in Transition, In News and Views, 1866-1954," unpublished manuscript in the Fisk University Special Collections (FSC).
 Cresap, McCormick and Paget, Management Consultants, "Fisk University Business Management and University Space Requirements, 2 vols., n.p., Feb. 1967.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40

UTM REFERENCES

A			E.1 6			5 1 7 5 8 0			4 0 0 2 6 2 0															
1	6		5	1	7	7	9	0	4	0	0	2	6	2	0									
ZONE EASTING			NORTHING			B			D															
1	6		5	1	7	4	7	0	1	6		5	1	7	8	4	0	4	0	0	2	0	7	0
ZONE EASTING			NORTHING			ZONE EASTING			NORTHING															
1	6		5	1	7	4	7	0	1	6		5	1	7	4	0	0	4	0	0	2	5	7	0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The site bounded on the North by the southeast corner of Jefferson Street at 18th Avenue South; then running easterly along the Northern side of Jefferson Street to the southwest corner of 17th Avenue North; then southerly along the Western side of 17th Avenue North to Meharry Boulevard; then easterly along the Southern side of Meharry Boulevard (including the residence on the Northeast corner of 17th Avenue North and Meharry Boulevard) to the Southwest corner of Meharry Boulevard and 16th Avenue North; then southerly along 16th Avenue North to Jackson Street; then

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Berle Pilsk and Percy Looney, Assistant to the President of Fisk University

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Berle Pilsk, Architect, AIA

October 1977

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

3415 West End Avenue

(615) 269-0996

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Nashville

Tennessee

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Herbert E. Hays

11/2/77

TITLE

Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Wm. J. Mundy

DATE

2-9-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles A. ...

DATE

2-8-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The remarkable ventures of the Jubilee Singers and Reverend White are without precedent in American musical or educational annals and may never be properly assessed. Their efforts saved Fisk because five years after their original departure, they had raised enough money to buy the land where Fisk presently stands, the former site of Fort Gillem, and to erect Jubilee Hall, No. 1, the first permanent structure utilized for the higher education of Blacks in the South. Fisk University was introduced throughout America and Europe as a institution of rich artistic resources and cultural integrity; influential friends were won to the support of the University; funds estimated at more than \$150,000 were earned; and the Negro spiritual was established as a unique American contribution to musical literature and art. Perhaps no other college or educational institution in the world owes such a debt to a group of its students and a professor. Continuously from their formation, the Fisk Jubilee Singers have been the ambassadors of the University, the state of Tennessee and the United States throughout the world.

Fisk in a number of respects, has been the Harvard, Berkeley or University of Chicago of the historically black colleges--one of the few enduring centers of black philosophical statement; it has always been viewed as first-rate, period, not just first among historically black colleges. Over the years Fisk has produced a wealth of noted scholars, including social philosopher W. E. B. DuBois, sociologist E. Franklin Frazier, historian John Hope Franklin, Congressmen William L. Dawson and Charles C. Diggs, Solicitor General of the United States Wade H. McCree, jurist Constance Baker Motley, poets James Weldon Johnson, Arna Bontemps, Sterling Brown and Nikki Giovanni, tenor Roland Hayes, and novelist John O. Killens, all of whom studied or have taught at the institution. Its principal strengths lay in music, as proven to the world by the Fisk Jubilee Singers, and the humanities, but in recent years other of its departments have been strengthened, including physics, chemistry, biology and the arts.

Over the years, Fisk University has achieved an international reputation as a liberal arts institution of high quality. Even before regional accreditation was available to historically black institutions in the South, the work of Fisk had gained recognition by the Board of Regents of New York State and by leading universities throughout the nation. The Fisk Jubilee Singers and Fisk graduates have brought national and international acclaim to the University and to the state. Fisk University stands as a monument to those who through determination and effort earned an international reputation in a segregated society for an institution born fresh from the stifling embrace of slavery.

The visual and historical integrity of the Fisk University campus remains largely intact, despite the demolition of some of the older buildings and the addition of new ones--the size, scale and appearance of which do not relate well to the older edifices. The strong street axes, the mature landscaping, and the dominating effect of the older buildings, however, have significantly diminished the effects of these intrusions. The older elements of the campus create a decidedly turn of the century atmosphere.

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Jubilee Hall, No. 1, was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1976. Its architecture, still beautiful today, epitomizes many of the aesthetic values of nineteenth-century architecture as championed by John Ruskin. Jubilee Hall is the historical heart of the campus and serves as a strong point of architectural focus.

The Administration Building, Erastus Milo Cravath Library, No. 7, with its large bulk and height, neo-Gothic detailing of brick and stone, and stepped back tower, is the visual focal point, as well as the administrative heart of the campus. The interior is characterized by stone columns and neo-Gothic vaulting and contains several murals by Aaron Douglas. This building was erected in 1929-30. It was built to serve the reading needs of 1,000 students and provide shelf space for 175,000 volumes. The building is named in honor of the Reverend Erastus Milo Cravath, the first President of the University. Reverend Cravath served as President from 1875 to 1900.

Talley-Brady Hall, No. 6, blends in very well with the Administration Building. Although built with similar materials and details, such as arched doorways and stone bays, it does not "upstage" the Administration Building because of its smaller size and more modest facade. The building was completed on July 1, 1931, and named in honor of Thomas Washington Talley, long-time professor of chemistry and chairman of the department, and in honor of one of his students, St. Elmo Brady, who later served as chairman of the Chemistry Department. Dr. Brady gained an international reputation for his work in the field of alkaloids.

The Academic Building, Carnegie Library, No. 5, is a finely proportioned, solidly detailed building constructed of very durable materials, which gives an impression of dignity and formality. It blends well with the other buildings in the immediate vicinity because of its distance from them, use of similar materials, and mature landscaping. The interior is high-lighted by a two-story lightwell which gives an airiness which is welcome in this rather heavy structure. Andrew Carnegie donated \$30,000 for the construction of this building. William Howard Taft, then Secretary of War, laid the cornerstone on May 22, 1908.

The Little Theater, No. 8, a simple one-story, clapboarded structure, has a charming simplicity. The larger scale of neighboring buildings is sufficiently blunted by the mature trees and landscaping so that the Little Theater stands on its own. It was one of the original one-story, wood frame buildings erected and used for hospital barracks by the Union Army, and was originally situated on West Church Street, near what is today Union Station. In 1866, the University occupied the hospital building donated by the United States government and known in wartime as "The Railroad Hospital." After the University purchased the site of the present campus in 1873, one of the hospital barracks was moved there. The interior of the barrack was remodeled for its current use as the campus theater in 1935.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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The Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery, No. 9, was erected in 1889 as a gymnasium. Action by the students led by a member of the senior class, Mr. W. E. B. DuBois, precipitated the search for funds by President Erastus Milo Cravath. The ground-breaking ceremony on May 10, 1888 signaled the beginning of the construction of the first gymnasium and mechanical laboratory on a predominantly black campus in the world. The foundation for the building was excavated by the students, and the cornerstone was laid on December 3, 1888. The gymnasium was rededicated in 1949 for Mr. Carl Van Vechten, a New York music critic, author, photographer, and art collector, who encouraged Miss Georgia O'Keeffe to give Fisk part of the art collection of her late husband, Alfred Stieglitz, and to provide funds for renovation of the building to house the collection. The collection includes original works by Cezanne, Picasso, Rivera, Renoir, Maris, Hartley, and Georgia O'Keeffe. It is a fine example of Victorian Picturesque eclectic architecture. This building, if constructed of heavy ashlar stone instead of brick could be classified as Richardsonian Romanesque.

The Fisk Memorial Chapel, No. 13, is a superb example of High Victorian Picturesque architecture. The Romanesque arched and columned front entrance, flanked by the twin polygonal stone and stucco towers, with the tall belltower with its Gothic stone windows, forms a superb composition. The combination of different materials and surfaces gives a richness to the composition. The interior has a structural directness and richness with its exposed framework. The high ceiling, revealing the underside of the roof, and the curved balcony, give spatial excitement to the interior. Small touches, such as the curved carvings on the entrance doors and the ornamental metal seat supports add to the richness of the interior.

The Chapel was built in 1892 with funds from a legacy from General Clinton B. Fisk. It is the center of religious and cultural life in the University community. Since its construction, it has served as headquarters for many notable public functions sponsored by the University. Heads of foreign countries, outstanding concert artists, world famous lecturers, and major political leaders have appeared there. The interior of the Chapel was renovated and a Holtkamp organ installed. The Chapel will now seat eight hundred fifty persons.

A unique feature on the campus is the Bell Tower, No. 37. The large, two-thousand-pound bell was presented to Fisk in 1880 by Mrs. Clinton B. Fisk and the Jubilee Singers, jointly. Professor George L. White in presenting the bell, on behalf of Mrs. Fisk and the Singers, said, "We give it as, in some sense, the capstone of what we have accomplished." In 1927, the wooden exterior was replaced by one of brick.

Fisk owns several residences which have a unique historical value in relation to Nashville and the University. The Moore House, No. 43, was formerly the home of the Rev. George W. Moore, who graduated from Fisk in 1881, and his wife, Ella Shepard Moore, one of the original Jubilee Singers. The house, a rambling, two story clapboard building with an unusual stencil-style ornamental vent in the shingled gable, was purchased by the University in 1921.

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Magnolia Cottage, No. 15, erected in 1875 as a private residence, was purchased by the University in 1917 and has been used as a music building and television and audio-visual center. It currently is used for central storage. This is perhaps the most captivating small residence in the Fisk University area. It contains many of the design elements of the Victorian Picturesque style: Italianate features such as the denticulated, hooded entrance tower (which adds a whimsical flavor to this building), the recessed ornamental door, and the tall narrow windows with hoods; Queen Ann elements: steep, gabled roof and hipped roof tower with finial and bay window; ornamental surfaces: wood and brick decorative surfaces; the use of several different materials: rounded shingles in the gables, brick walls, and ashlar stone foundation.

The Ellington House, No. 47, was formerly the residence of the Reverend Ellington, Pastor of the First Baptist Church in East Nashville and a Fisk graduate. It was constructed in ca. 1910 and currently houses the Department of Dramatics and Speech.

The Boyd House, No. 18, was originally the private residence of Mr. Henry Allen Boyd, President of the Citizen's Bank of Nashville. The building was constructed between 1915 and 1920 and currently serves as the University's Honors Center. This is a good example of a first-quarter, twentieth-century house often found in Nashville. Bay windows highlight the side elevations.

The Williams House, No. 16, was built between 1915 and 1920 by the eminent sociologist Edmund Haynes, a member of the Fisk faculty, and was later purchased by the University. The house has a history of residents who were famous sociologists: Charles S. Johnson, former Chairman of the Sociology Department and later President of the University, was the next resident. Later, the house was the residence of the noted poet, Arna Bontemps, the former University Librarian. Currently the house serves as the Urban Affairs Institute. It has a central tower and fretwork gable ornament.

The Work House, No. 19, which is adjacent to the campus is the private residence of Mrs. Edith Work, the widow of Dr. John W. Work, II. Dr. Work was the director of the Jubilee Singers from 1948 to 1957, and accompanied them on one of their European tours. The house was originally constructed in the nineteenth century by Adam K. Spence, one of the founders of the University. The poet Sterling Brown and the sociologist E. Franklin Frazier, author of Black Bourgeoisie, were residents of this house and both served as professors at Fisk. This Victorian-style house is distinctive because of the unique shape of the eave bracketing and the unusual roof supports over the second story balcony.

The Music Annex, No. 26, is one of the most distinctive buildings on campus. It is a finely detailed example of the Italianate style with its hooded, tall, narrow windows, arched projecting entry, finely paneled, twin arched entrance door, and bracketed,

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denticulated cornice. Unfortunately the house has an unsympathetic wood addition which, being in a deteriorated state, will be removed. The recessed entry has also deteriorated but is not beyond repair.

The South side of Meharry Boulevard between 17th Avenue, North, and 16th Avenue, North, contains a row of houses now used for University functions. These all have considerable architectural merit and include Nos. 15, 16, 18, and 19, which have already been mentioned, and the Music Building, No. 17, which is a good example of the rambling informal average sized residence built at the turn of the century. All of these houses contribute to the early character of the campus.

The houses near the intersection of 16th Avenue, North, and Phillips Street, Nos. 20, 21, 22, and 23, also enhance the nineteenth-early-twentieth century appearance of the Fisk area. The houses on Phillips Street, Nos. 27, 28 and 30, with basic repairs and painting, could be positive elements in this neighborhood. Interesting examples of the variations of the bungalow style are found in Nos. 29 and 32. Of particular interest are the front porch bracketing and curved wood on stucco in the porch gable of the last named house. Most of the houses along 17th Avenue North between Jackson Street and Herman Street are supportive of the historical character of the district.

The houses along 17th Avenue, North, vary in style from the two-story ca. 1900 clapboard residence, No. 43, to the 1900-1920 period houses of brick, stucco or stone, Nos. 40, 43A, 45, 46, 47, 49 and 51. Details of particular interest are the ornamental wrought iron railing in front of No. 50; and the tall, narrow arched windows, recessed arched entrance, and spaced dentils of the Security Office, No. 52. The most unifying element, aside from the mature trees along this street, is the diagonally laid basket-weave brick sidewalk which dates back to the nineteenth century.

The houses in the area bounded by Hermosa Street, 18th Avenue, North, and Albion Street are generally supportive of the historic character of the district. In this area, popular residential architectural styles of the 1920s, 30s, and 40s are represented, including, the neo-Greek Revival or Colonial style, No. 54, 57, and 58, as well as the neo-Tudor style, No. 61, Ballantine Hall, No. 55, could be remodeled into a handsome building. It has several handsome features such as tall, narrow, arched windows; corbelled chimney; Gothic window in the dormer; and a large bay on the street facade. Other residences typical of their time represented in this area are: House No. 62 which has a very handsomely detailed chimney; House No. 60 has interesting grillwork along the porch roof; and House No. 61 has a combination of wood shingles, stucco, hip roof, and gable roofed entrance. One of the most potentially attractive houses in this area is the Biology and Physics Department, No. 65, with its tower and bay. Houses No. 63 and No. 67, built during the first quarter of the twentieth century also contribute to the historical appearance of the district.

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ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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Verbal boundary description:

(cont.) westerly along the Northern side of Jackson Street to 17th Avenue North; then southerly along 17th Avenue North to Herman Street; then westerly along Herman Street to 18th Avenue North; then northerly along 18th Avenue North to Hermosa Street; then westerly along Hermosa Street to the Western property line of the Faculty Apartments at 1809 Morena Street; then northerly along this property line to Morena Street; then easterly along Morena Street to 18th Avenue North; then northerly along 18th Avenue North to the point of beginning at the southeast corner of Jefferson Street at 18th Avenue North.

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LEGEND

1. Jubilee Hall, 1711 Meharry Boulevard
2. Crosthwaite Hall, 1030 18th Avenue North
3. Scribner Hall, 1020 18th Avenue North
4. New Residence Center, 1712 Meharry Boulevard
5. Academic Building, 1720 Meharry Boulevard
6. Chemistry Building-Talley-Beady Hall, 1016 18th Avenue North
7. Administration Building-Erastus Milo Cravath Hall, 1015 17th Avenue North
8. Little Theater, 1006 18th Avenue North
9. Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery, 1720 Jackson Street
10. Parking lot
11. Temporary Classrooms, corner Jackson Street and 17th Avenue North
- 11-A. Three low brick planters, Jackson Street and 17th Avenue North
12. Adam K. Spence Hall, 1020 17th Avenue North
13. Fisk Memorial Chapel, 1016 17th Avenue North
14. Park Johnson Hall, 1610 Phillips Street
15. Magnolia Cottage, 1615 Meharry Boulevard
16. Urban Affairs Institute, 1611 Meharry Boulevard
17. Music Building, 1607 Meharry Boulevard
18. Honors Center, 1603 Meharry Boulevard
19. Residence, 1612 Meharry Boulevard
20. Residence, 1021 16th Avenue North
21. Political Science, 1017 16th Avenue North
22. Residence, 1604 Phillips Street
23. Student Counseling Service, 1608 Phillips Street
24. Burrus Hall, 1507 Meharry Boulevard and 1020 16th Avenue North
25. Library, 1012 17th Avenue North
26. Music Annex Building, 1014 17th Avenue North
27. Residence, 1627 Phillips Street
28. Pre-College Center, 1623 Phillips Street
29. Student Support Center, 1619 Phillips Street
30. Career Planning and Placement, 1615 Phillips Street
31. Education Support Services, 1611 Phillips Street
32. Residence, 1601 Phillips Street
33. President's Home, 1604 Jackson Street
34. Henderson-Johnson Gymnasium, 910 18th Avenue North

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LEGEND, cont.

35. Biology Laboratory, 1720 Jackson Street
36. DuBois Hall, 1721 Jackson Street
37. Bell Tower, Jackson Street
38. Livingstone Hall, 1701 Jackson Street
39. Basketball Court, 17th Avenue North
40. Unoccupied, 17th Avenue North
41. Athletic Field, 18th Avenue North
42. English Department, 928 17th Avenue North
43. Faculty Residence, 926 17th Avenue North
- 43-A. Faculty Residence, 926-A 17th Avenue North
44. Carpenter's Shop, 922 17th Avenue North
45. Mathematics Department, 920 17th Avenue North
46. Freshmen Interdisciplinary Program, 916 17th Avenue North
47. Speech and Drama, 914 17th Avenue North
48. Creswell Residence, 910 17th Avenue North
49. Alumni Building, 908 17th Avenue North
50. Radio Station, 906 17th Avenue North
51. Physical Facilities Office, 902 17th Avenue North
52. Safety and Security Office, 900 17th Avenue North
53. Residence, 909 18th Avenue North
54. Residence, 911 18th Avenue North
55. Ballantine Hall, 913 18th Avenue North
56. Residence, 917 18th Avenue North
57. Residence, 919 18th Avenue North
58. Residence, 1803 Morena Street
59. Faculty Apartments, 1809 Morena Street (A-G)
60. Residence, 1808 Morena Street
61. Residence, 1806 Morena Street
62. Residence, 923 18th Avenue North
63. Residence, 929 18th Avenue North
64. Residence, 930 18th Avenue North
65. Biology and Physics Department, 931 18th Avenue North
66. Apartment, 933 18th Avenue North
67. Residence, 935 18th Avenue North

78002579

Property Fisk University Historic District

State Tenn. Working Number 11.7.77.1835

TECHNICAL
Photos 31
Maps 2

Map needs more points (utm)

CONTROL
pl
1.9.77

There are a lot of intrusions that are concentrated primarily in the SE section. However Percy Looney Assistant to the President of Fisk has twice said they are campus boundaries that are historic dating back to 19th Jubilee Hall while listed as NHH is an integral part of campus. Therefore if listed we should make specific note of the historic character of boundaries & intrusions. However, Fisk's significance as an educational

HISTORIAN
Accept
Franklin
12.22.77

THE V.B.O. HAS TO BE RE-WRITTEN FOR IT OMIITS #21, 42-52, & 60-67. THE CAMPUS IS SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS ASSOCIATION W/ BLACK EDUCATION. I QUESTION THE INCLUSION OF THE SURROUNDING HOUSES WITHIN THIS DISTRICT; THESE HOMES ARE ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT BUT THE MAJORITY ARE NOT RELATED TO THE CAMPUS EDUCATIONALLY. I WILL WORK W/ HISTORIAN.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
Fisk
12/20/77

ARCHEOLOGIST

Institution is well established & internationally known. While Tuskegee & Hampton achieved reputations for their industrial & agricultural education during late 1800's - early 1900's, Fisk was known as the center of black intellectuals. Almost every major black scholar was at Fisk during some time in this period: WE B. DuBois, Anna Bontemps, one of first black librarians, sociologist-writer E. Franklin Frazier, historian & present chairman of Dept of History at Chicago, John Hope Franklin, and poet Sterling Brown - to name a few. Therefore w/notations

OTHER

See phone sheets: Expedite requested 12.21.77 by Looney. University has education/training grants resting on NR listings. Therefore would like to know by 12.30.77

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

Ho p - see phone report 12.29.77

historical boundaries (east) and continuity justifying district that includes several new bldgs.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Lebovich
2/18/78

BRANCH CHIEF

Hung
2-8-78

KEEPER

Wm
2/9/78

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered FEB 9 1978
Federal Register Entry 3.7.78 Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74















1030

NO
PARKING
BETWEEN
SIGNS
←

































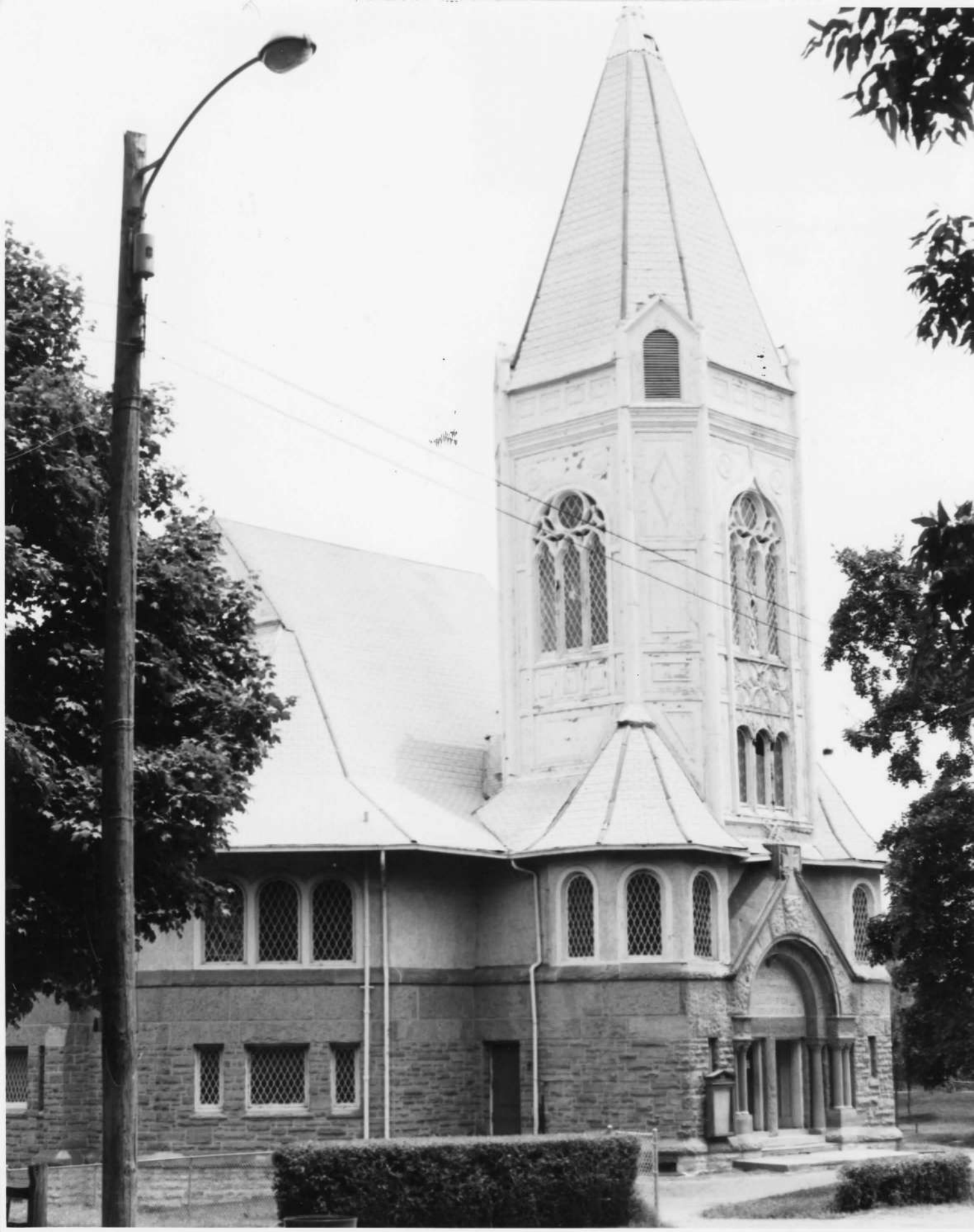
900
SAFETY
AND
SECURITY
OFFICE







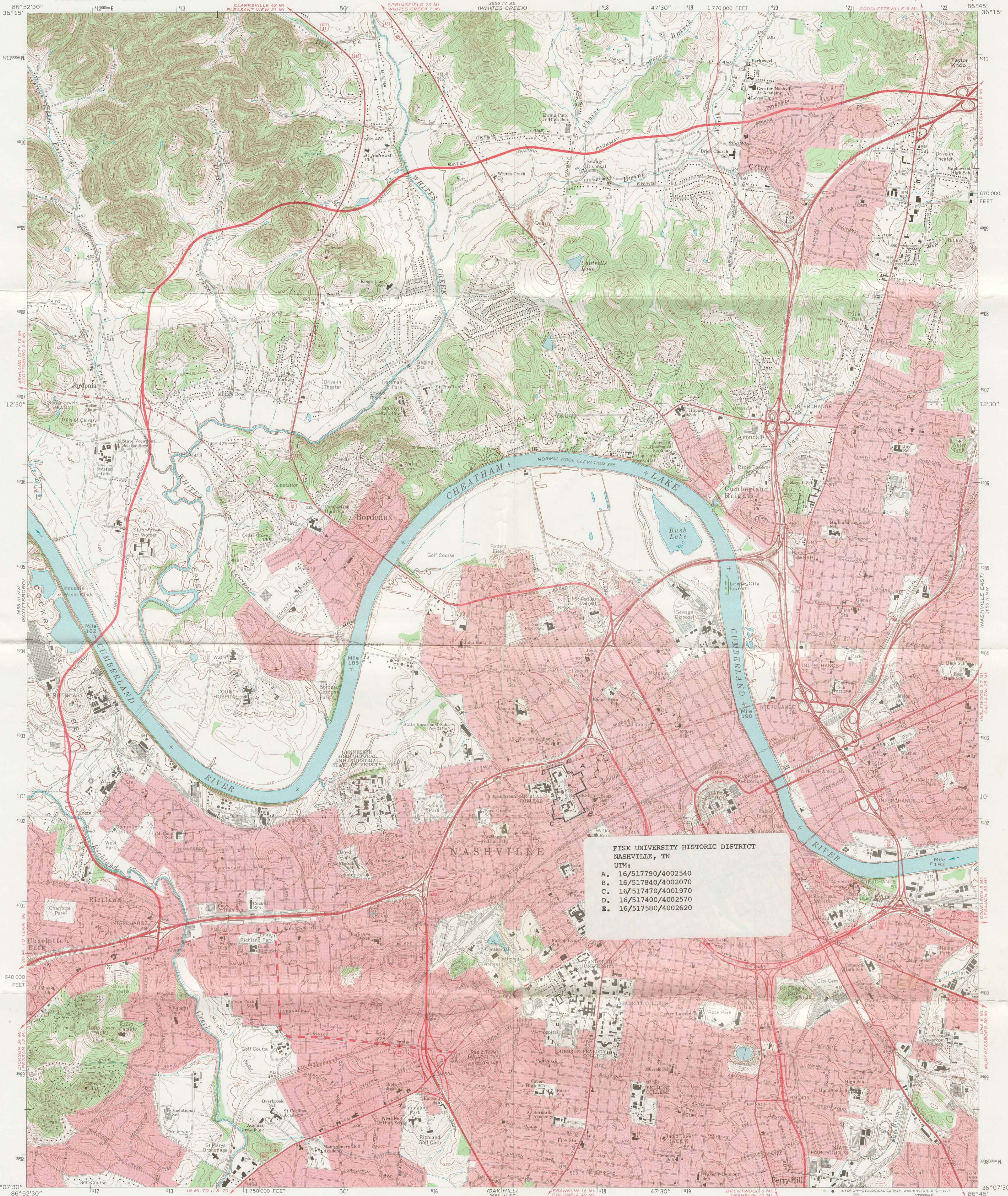






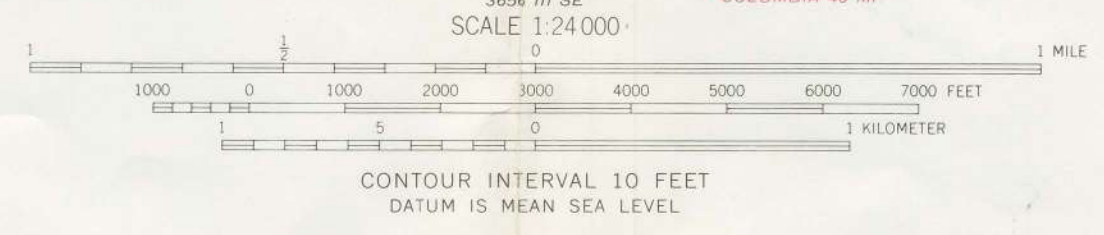
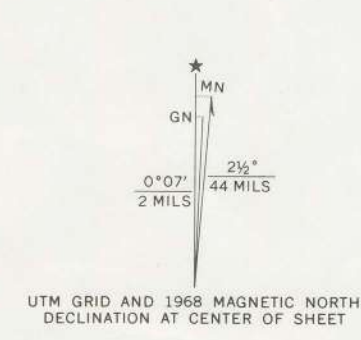






PISK UNIVERSITY HISTORIC DISTRICT
NASHVILLE, TN
UTM:
A. 16/517790/4002540
B. 16/517840/4002070
C. 16/517470/4001970
D. 16/517400/4002570
E. 16/517580/4002620

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and Tennessee Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1951 and by the Army Map Service. Field checked 1952
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1968
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Tennessee coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is uncheckd
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND TENNESSEE DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENN. 37219
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

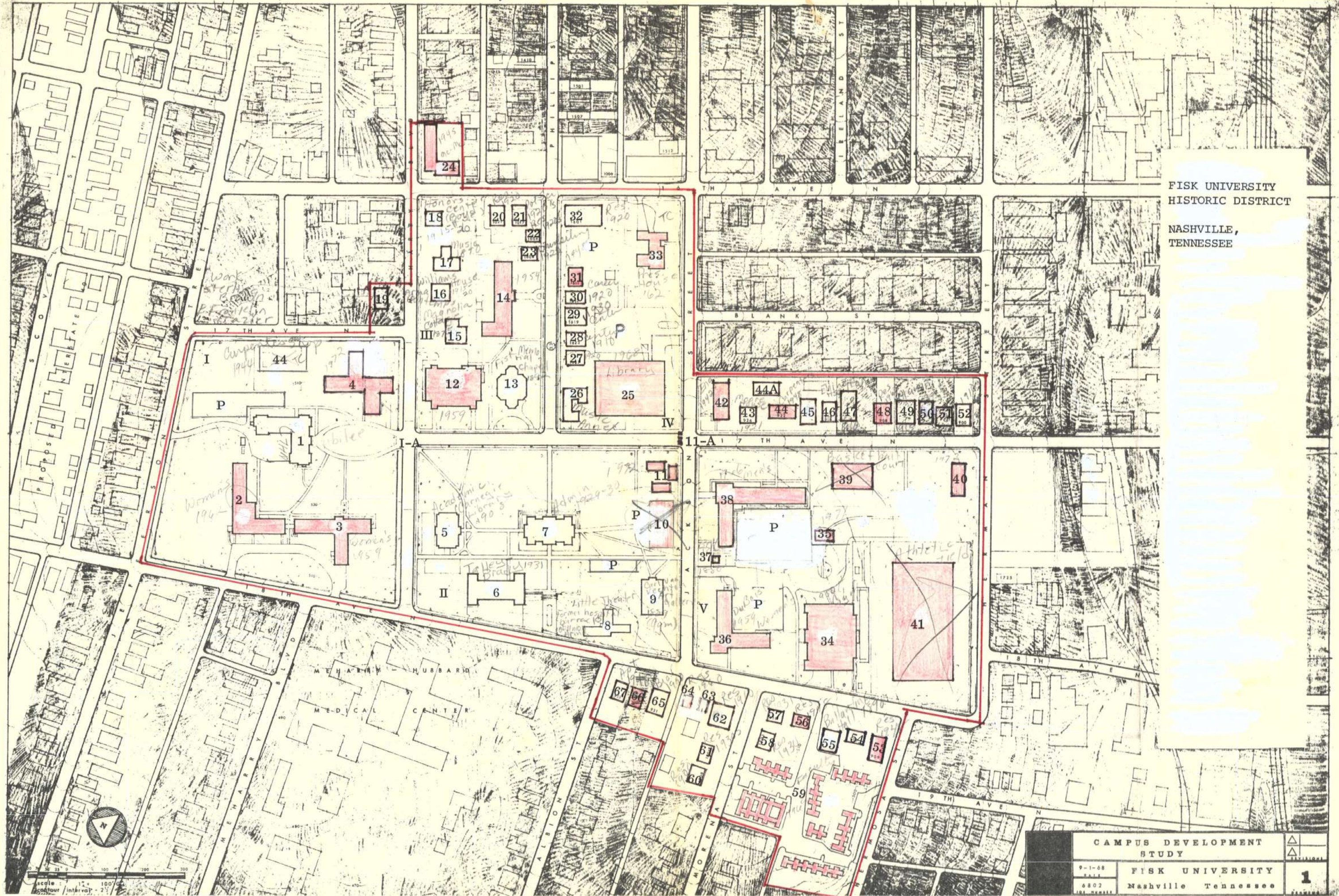
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

NASHVILLE WEST, TENN.
N3607.5-W8645/7.5

1968
AMS 3656 III NE-SERIES V841
FEB 9 1978



FISK UNIVERSITY
HISTORIC DISTRICT
NASHVILLE,
TENNESSEE





FISK UNIVERSITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 14, 1977

State of Tennessee
TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
170 Second Avenue, North
Nashville, TN 37201

Tennessee Historical Commission:

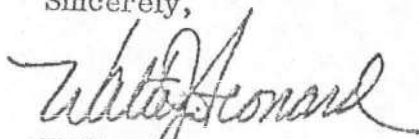
Humane institutions find their being in people. In the various buildings and memorials established in and about the Fisk University campus, the University is able to honor for posterity the good works of many individuals. One of the goals of my new administration at Fisk will be to ensure that the integrity of those grateful remembrances of these individuals who have made Fisk a particular part of their lives will be protected.

Perhaps the prior administration lost sight of the importance of this goal. Alumni never forget their memories, and when an institution plans campus development in such a way as to destroy its historical integrity, the erosion of alumni and community support is sure to follow. One may constructively develop a campus without destroying its moral fiber, but this requires the leadership of that institution to assume the responsibility of not just its present condition but its future condition after that leadership is gone.

I assumed the presidency of Fisk University and the responsibility for its future on June 1, 1977. In my total plan for the restoration of the Fisk campus, the first step is to enlist your aid in ensuring that the historical integrity of the campus will be preserved for the individuals who have passed through its halls, its current and former friends, and for the generations yet to come. To put the Fisk University campus on the National Register of Historic Places represents the first stage of this restoration plan whereby no new construction will take place which significantly detracts from the historical character of the present campus and all existing structures which detract from this character will be eliminated or muted through landscaping.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Walter J. Leonard
President



STATE OF TENNESSEE

TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

170 SECOND AVENUE, NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201
TELEPHONE (615) 741-2371

HERBERT L. HARPER, Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

November 2, 1977

Dr. William J. Murtagh
National Register
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed please find the forms necessary to nominate the Fisk University
Historic District to the National Register of Historic Places.

If additional information is needed, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Herbert L. Harper

HLH:ll
Enc.

DATE 12.21.77
TIME OF CALL 10:30 AM

TELEPHONE REPORT

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Percy Looney

615.329-8555

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Fisk University Historic District

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Stated grant applications pending if listed. Would like decision by 1st wk in January. Told him I'd expedite.

Also asked if boundaries were historic - did they date back to school's inception.

He said they were historic - primarily because school has had difficulty expanding. Also they gave info to SHPO & its accurate. He's seen copy of nomination we have

NAME OF PERSON PLACING RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Lucy Franklin

Historian

880

DATE 12/29/77

TIME OF CALL 11:40 AM

TELEPHONE REPORT

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

Percy Looney

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Fisk University

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Requested more ~~info~~ photos of recent structures - said officials would do if they had such on hand.

Also requested additional documentation on historicity of boundaries

He said: No need ^{yet} for call or letter from OAHF for grant application. Will go in at end of January

1.17.77 - called Looney to make sure he clear about info needed. Not in, out of town, so left message

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Lucy Franklin

Historian

880

1.24.77 - call to Looney who out of town. Left message for him to call

Fisk University
Nashville, Tennessee 37203
January 20, 1978

Ms. Lucy Franklin
Review Unit
National Register of Historic Places
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Parks Service
United States Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Ms. Franklin:

I apologize for this late response but I'm in the midst of a business trip. The weather in Nashville has been awful. This delayed taking of photographs of the campus from the air. I shouldn't have said photographs because initially we received slides since the City of Nashville did this for us at no expense to the University. We had the photographs specially printed for the purpose of this letter.

With the first \$20,000 earned by the "Jubilee Singers" twenty-five acres of land were purchased to the northwest of the city, the former site of Fort Gillem during the war. Fort Gillem was named after General Gillem, of Modoc fame, who lived near Nashville subsequent to his Modoc campaign. Its ramparts were leveled to receive a building earned by the songs of freed men and women.

In 1874, the Fort Houston Bill, introduced in the Senate by Henry Cooper of Tennessee, passed that body on May 28, and was approved by President Grant on June 23, and provided the University with four additional acres of land. During the period between 1874 and 1895, the campus expanded from twenty-five acres and one unfinished building to thirty-five acres and eight permanent buildings.

Jubilee Hall was built in modern English style with trimmings of native limestone. The grounds surrounding Jubilee Hall and included within the limestone brick wall are named Victoria Square, in grateful acknowledgment of kindness shown the Jubilee Singers in England.

I hope that these photographs and this supplemental information are sufficient for your purposes. If there is any other information that you need, don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Percy R. Luney
Executive Assistant to the President
Fisk University

PRL/jb

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE

1.31.78

TIME OF CALL

10:45

AM
PM

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

Percy Looney

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

415 444-0390

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Fisk University

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Requested additional documentation
ie. title or legal description of original
or pre 1900 boundaries. Said he'd see
to it when returned to Fisk - Thurs.

~~He~~ He said he wouldn't buy
argument about modern architectural
construction on campus

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Looney

Historian

880

FISK UNIVERSITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 3, 1978

Ms. Lucy Franklin
Office of Archeology and
Historic Preservation
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Survey
United States Department of Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ms. Franklin:

Enclosed please find the documents which I indicated would be forthcoming in our telephone conversation on February 3, 1978. As you can see, I have also enclosed our original application to the Tennessee Historical Commission in order that you might note our original status in our original application.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Percy R. Luney
Executive Assistant to the President

PRL:sm

Enclosures

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
DATE REC'D **FEB 08 1978**
INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)
REFLEXIVE MATERIAL SENT
TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)
DATE ACTION TAKEN
INITIALS

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **TENNESSEE**

Date Entered **FEB 9 1978**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fisk University Historic District	Nashville Davidson County

Also Notified

Hon. James R. Sasser

Hon. Howard H. Baker, Jr.

Hon. Clifford R. Allen

Regional Director, Southeast Region

880 Mott/js 2/9/78

Mr. Percy R. Luney, Executive Assistant

to the President

Fisk University

Nashville, Tennessee 37203

State Historic Preservation Officer

Mr. Herbert L. Harper

Executive Director, Tennessee

Historical Commission

170 Second Avenue North, Suite 100

Nashville, Tennessee 37201

Advisory Council on
Historic Preservation
1522 K Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Davidson Co.
Tenn.

JUN 21 1978

Mr. Edward L. Kirkpatrick, Jr.
Environmental Review Officer
Metropolitan Government of Nashville
and Davidson County
Environmental Review Office
Suite 601, Stahlman Building
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

On June 19, 1978, the Council received a determination from the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County that use of Community Development Block Grant Funds for the 18th Avenue Overpass, Nashville, Tennessee would not adversely affect the Fisk University Historic District, a property included in the National Register of Historic Places. The Executive Director does not object to your determination.

A copy of your determination of no adverse effect, along with supporting documentation and this concurrence, should be included in any assessment or statement prepared for this undertaking in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and should be kept in your records as evidence of your compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320).

Your continued cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

signed

Myra F. Harrison
Assistant Director
Office of Review
and Compliance

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Dr. Ernest Connally

FROM : Cecil McKithan *C.M.*

SUBJECT: Fisk University Historic District

DATE: September 6, 1979

NHL- Jubilee Hall, Fisk University
Designated- December 2, 1974
Significance-

One of the leading Black Liberal Arts Universities in the United States. Formed a counter pole to the vocationally directed schools such as Hampton and Tuskegee.

HABS Project- Photographic study completed of Jubilee Hall during August of 1970 by Jack Boucher. No measured drawings.

National Register Listing- Fisk University Historic District
Listed- February 2, 1978

District consists of 40 acres of land with approximately 70 structures of various architectural styles dating from the 1860's to 1972. 43 of the structures contribute to the integrity of the district, while 27 of the structures are regarded as detracting from the integrity of the district.

Grants-

Term of Project: June 1, 1978 - September 30, 1980

Amount: \$16,000 in matching Federal Funds

Purpose: Replacement of a portion of the roof of Jubilee Hall

Recommendation: Leave Jubilee Hall as the National Historic Landmark and the Fisk University Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places.

Reasons:

1. In dealing with education, the policy has been to designate a single building as symbolic of the national significance of the university. Usually the oldest building is selected. Examples are Connecticut Hall-Yale, Stone Hall-Atlanta University, Swayne Hall-Talladega College.
2. Too many intrusions. New buildings.
3. Many of the buildings listed have at best only a vague relationship with Fisk

Addendum:

Richard Tune of the Tennessee SHPO's office informed me late Thursday that Fisk University had applied for 4 grants. All of them were eventually turned down.





United States Department of the Interior

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20243

IN REPLY REFER TO:

650

SEP -7 1979

Memorandum

To: Under Secretary

Through: Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

From: Director, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

Subject: Visit of Dr. Leonard of Fisk University

We have surveyed the cultural side of the Bureau to provide background for Dr. Leonard's visit. None of the Divisions is currently involved in any discussions with University officials. A small Historic Preservation Fund grant of \$16,000, for Jubilee Hall, a National Historic Landmark, was awarded in 1978. After some damage resulting from contractor delay, the project to repair the roof is now completed. The State has received the final billing from the University.

Mr. Herbert Harper, the State Historic Preservation Officer, has indicated that Dr. Leonard has discussed with him the possibility of extending Landmark status to the entire campus to be eligible for more Historic Preservation Fund monies. However, the campus was listed on the National Register in 1978. All buildings described in the National Register listing are currently eligible for grant assistance, at the discretion of the State Historic Preservation Officer. National Landmark status would not enhance eligibility for funding.

Mr. Harper has turned down four grant requests by Fisk University.

This visit is probably a funding search.

for May Maguire
Chris Therral Delaporte

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

TO:

Lucey Jr.

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Percy Lucey

OF (Organization)

Fisk University NOT

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. *(415) 444-0390* FTS

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

75 #84 Addition
Odd Fellows Bldg
Ashland Jackson City
Oregon

RECEIVED BY <i>Sharon</i>	DATE <i>30</i>	TIME <i>5⁰⁰</i>
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63-109

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-76)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

TO:

Lucy

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Percy Lucey

OF (Organization)

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. CODE/EXT. FTS

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

*Picture + materials
will be in mail
tomorrow*

RECEIVED BY

Lh

DATE

1-18

TIME

4:30

63-109

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-76)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

☆ U. S. GPO:1977-0-241-530/3335

*Leg re impressed w/ educ.
sig. of Fisk Univ.*

Boundaries

*Requesting additional info. to
resolve tech. question of
boundaries*

2. Call Grants people

Aerial views

More on boundaries

A PROPOSAL TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Presented By

FISK UNIVERSITY
Nashville, Tennessee

A PROPOSAL TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Submitted by

FISK UNIVERSITY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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I. FISK UNIVERSITY: A NATIONAL RESOURCE

In his inaugural address upon becoming the ninth President of Fisk University in 1977, Dr. Walter J. Leonard said to an enthusiastic audience, "What the nation has in Fisk is a slightly damaged Rembrandt, but a Rembrandt, nevertheless. We can't allow this masterpiece (Fisk) to be destroyed. At present, in spirit and physical plant, all Fisk needs is restoring and some reframing.

"At this time in our history, our academic program is far, far above our physical plant and fiscal resources. A balance must be struck. For under no circumstances must our academic program suffer." Many who have supported Fisk since first hearing or reading that statement have agreed that, in so many ways, he is right.

The last few years have not been kind to Fisk; on the one hand, the University faced increased competition from far wealthier, predominately white and equally prestigious colleges and universities for the talented black youth which had been Fisk's historic student constituency. On the other hand Fisk has shared the financial dilemmas facing most independent colleges over the past fifteen years, but with far fewer financial resources to deal effectively with them. But Fisk, in a number of respects, has been the Harvard, Berkeley, Princeton, or University of Chicago of the historically black colleges--one of the few enduring centers of black excellence. Fisk has always been viewed as first-rate, period, not just first among historically black colleges.

Noted Scholars, Statesmen, and Professionals

Fisk has flourished tremendously over the years, producing a wealth of noted scholars such as:

- * Social philosopher, W.E.B. DuBois;
- * Sociologist, E. Franklin Frazier;
- * Historian, John Hope Franklin;
- * Politicians such as Congressman William L. Dawson, Mayor Marion Barry of Washington, D.C.;
- * Businessmen such as Governor of the Central Bank of the Bahamas, Timothy Donaldson; President and Chairman of the Board of Universal Life Insurance Company, A. Maceo Walker; Vice President of the Honeywell Corporation, Charles Johnson; Vice President and Secretary of Consolidated Edison Electric Company of New York, Archie Bankston; Vice President and General Counsel of the General Motors Corporation, Otis M. Smith;
- * Jurists such as the Solicitor General of the United States, Wade H. McCree; United States District Judge of New York, Constance Baker Motley; Federal Judge, James Kimbrough;
- * Poets such as James Weldon Johnson, Arna Bontemps, Sterling Brown and Nikki Giovanni;
- * Novelists John O. Killens and Frank Yerby;
- * Musicians Roland Hayes, the John W. Works and Undine Moore,

all of whom studied or taught at the University. A number of Fiskites have served over the years in federal and state public service

positions. Dr. Samuel Adams is a former U.S. Ambassador and statesman; John Lewis has been the head of Action; Wilhelmina Delco serves in the Texas House of Representatives; and Wilson Frost is Chairman of the Finance Committee for the City of Chicago. The first black man to earn a Ph.D. at Harvard, W.E.B. DuBois, and the first black Ph.D. in chemistry and physics, Elmer Imes, were Fisk graduates. The founder of the NAACP, W.E.B. DuBois, and the co-founder of the National Urban League, George Edmund Haynes, were graduates of our University.

An analysis of present records shows that one out of every six of the nation's black physicians, dentists, and lawyers have graduated from Fisk, as well as a number of other graduates holding responsible positions in a wide variety of other fields, such as community and business leaders, public servants, teachers, artists, and scientists. Today over 50% of our students continue to enroll in some of the nation's finest graduate and professional schools, ensuring that Fisk graduates will continue to play a respected role in our society.

Accreditation: First in Phi Beta Kappa

In 1930, Fisk University became the first predominately black college to gain full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. It was also the first such institution to be placed on the approved lists of the Association of American Universities (1933) and the American Association of University Women (1948). In 1952, Fisk became the first black college to be granted a charter for the establishment of the Phi

Beta Kappa Honor Society, the most considerable recognition of excellence to which a liberal arts college can aspire. Fisk was also the first black college to receive a chapter of the Mortar Board, a senior honor society for women. In addition to the achievements listed above, Fisk is a member of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States and a sponsoring institution of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Inc.

Recognition of these and the other significant contributions which Fisk and her graduates have made to our American society was bestowed on February 9, 1978, when the entire campus of the University was officially lauded as an important historical site through the placement of the Fisk Historical District in the National Register of Historical Places by the National Park Service. According to the Department of Interior, "The National Register of Historical Places is a list of properties significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture--a comprehensive index of the significant physical evidences of our national patrimony." As the only University in Tennessee to be so honored, Fisk University, by this action, was recognized by the State and Federal Governments as possessing unusual significance to the history of the State of Tennessee and the nation; a testament to our university as one of the major and most unique educational institutions in this country.

Reputation for Excellence

The distinctive feature of the educational program at Fisk throughout the years has been its general excellence achieved

against very considerable odds. This excellence in educational programs is attributable to the abilities of our faculty members, the quality of our student enrollment and Fisk's dedication to the liberal arts tradition in education. It is our belief that a liberal arts education is the best preparation for college students. With the social, scientific, and economic uncertainty facing future generations of our society, it will be vitally important for us as a nation to train students who will have the ability to assess, decide and adapt to the situations presented to them, an ability that is honed by a liberal arts education. Buttressing this tradition are a number of valuable Fisk educational resources.

1. Fisk's focus has always been national, indeed, international in scope. In a typical freshman class, students are drawn from 40 states and 7 foreign countries, providing a rich opportunity for students to come into contact with people from a variety of geographical backgrounds. Our alumni reside in 49 states and 32 foreign countries.
2. The University has, from its very inception in 1866, always accepted students for admission without regard to race, sex, or religion. Indeed, of the eight members of our first graduating class of 1875, two members were white, while four were women.
3. The faculty, administrative staff, and Board of Trustees are all racially integrated, bringing to the University the richness of experience that such diversity can generate.
4. The University houses a significant collection of modern art in the Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery, which for many years, since its construction in 1881, served as the University's gymnasium. The Alfred Stieglitz Collection of Modern Art at Fisk University, comprised of more than one hundred

items, represents a considerable part of the entire Stieglitz Collection of Modern Art and includes original works by Cezanne, Picasso, Rivera, Renoir, Marin, Hartley, and other notable artists. It also includes two striking oil paintings by Georgia O'Keeffe, one of America's most eminent painters, the widow of Alfred Stieglitz and donor of the Stieglitz Collection at Fisk. In addition to the paintings are nineteen priceless photographs on chloride by Stieglitz, himself, who was a pioneer in artistic photography and was unsurpassed in creative expressions with the camera.

In addition to the main room in the Gallery, there is a room to house items acquired in the future and a room which holds the Floring Stettheimer Memorial Collection of books on the fine arts, presented to the University by Carl Van Vechten. The library is composed of some twelve hundred volumes.

5. The Fisk Library houses many unique Special Collections significant to the study of the life of black people and race relations in this country and the world. Among these are the Julius Rosenwald Fund Archives, the George Gershwin Memorial Collection of Music and Musical Literature and the over seventy-five papers and manuscript collections of such people as William Dawson, W.C. Handy, Marcus Garvey, Charles S. Johnson, W.E.B. DuBois, John Mercer Langston, Jean Toomer, Aaron Douglas, Langston Hughes, John W. Work, III, Charles Waddell Chestnutt, Winold Reiss and many others. Altogether, Fisk's Negro Collection consists of more than 35,000 titles on black people in Africa, America, and the Caribbean.

Indeed, Fisk University has earned a reputation for excellence during over 113 years of relatively stable, if not easy, operation. During the last decade, however, Fisk has experienced several years of rapid but badly underfunded growth, followed by sudden contraction of enrollment and funds. These ten years of rapid change and readjustment have strained Fisk's resiliency. Yet, Fisk has already begun a reorganization and recovery which is being led by its new President, Walter J. Leonard, former Special Assistant to President Derek C. Bok of Harvard University.

Inaugurated on October 6, 1977, Walter Leonard brings a dedication and a sense of mission to his job of leading Fisk's restoration and continued development of its resources.

II. THE CURRENT MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY

Development of Intellectual and Social Leadership

Fisk is an independent institution whose main purpose is to provide excellence in liberal arts education. Through a well-planned program involving undergraduate and graduate education, the University aims to develop among its students superior knowledge and understanding in the arts, the humanities, the natural sciences, and the social sciences. The ultimate goal is to equip each student for intellectual and social leadership in our complex, modern world.

Since one of the major functions of a university is the advancement of knowledge through both teaching and research, Fisk aims to stimulate and encourage research and creative activity among its faculty and students. It is the belief of the University that research and discovery together establish an intellectual climate favorable to full realization of the ideals of liberal education.

As a university, Fisk seeks:

1. to pass on to its students the accumulated universal knowledge so as to develop a graduate possessing a free mind;
2. to develop in its students the skills of their specialty necessary for application of individual creativity, earning a livelihood and the concomitant growth of the society in light of the dictum: "Man is the archetype of society -- society is free only to the extent that an individual is free;"
3. to develop a graduate possessing respect for individual freedom and the democratic process, and capable of contributing to constructive community consolidation, facilitating liberation of black people so that they become free in the fullest sense--socially, economically, and politically.

Fisk aims to develop educated human beings. Involved in the achievement of this aim are the enthusiasm and intellectual curiosity of students, the skill and devotion of the teaching staff, the expertise and experience of the administration and trustees, and the heroic

heritage of Fisk. While one is no longer obliged to demonstrate that the trained intelligence of black men and women is fully as important to the health and development of the society as is the education of white men and women, today's challenge deals with even more fundamental matters: Assisting young black men and women of ability and promise to free themselves of the self-stereotypes that have been transmitted to them by the American culture and helping them to face the resistance that custom puts in the way of their legitimate aspirations. Because of these goals, a liberal arts college catering to the unique needs of black students of talent is more important today than at any time in the history of higher education.

Overcoming Obstacles

Black men and women still encounter racially motivated obstacles to achievement and recognition despite the gradual abolition of legal and political disabilities and despite their increased entry into new areas of employment. More importantly, society has trained black men and women from childhood to accept a limited set of options and restricted levels of aspiration. Providing a setting in which these more subtle constraints may be overcome is peculiarly the mission of Fisk and other historically black, independent colleges.

For the same reasons that a Princeton, Harvard, Virginia, Yale and M.I.T. exist for the education of a predominately white student body; and Wellesley, Bryn Mawr and Randolph-Macon exist to educate women, the predominately black college should be allowed to exist for black students. For the same reasons many Catholics are drawn to Notre Dame, Holy Cross and Catholic University for an

education in the Catholic tradition; and many Mormons are attracted to Brigham Young for an education in the Mormon tradition; and members of the Jewish faith may seek colleges like Brandeis for an education in the Jewish tradition; many black men and women prefer Fisk and our sister institutions for an education in the black tradition. We believe that freedom of choice and diversity are two of the factors that make the American system of higher education the best in the world. America's strong network of independent colleges and universities, generously supported by their alumni, their communities and friends, insures this freedom.

Although Fisk has always been committed to admissions without regard to race, religion or sex, federal and state laws of past years have helped determine Fisk's development as a predominately black institution. Over the years, young people have come to the University from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds and many have been members of very poor black families. The expense of providing quality education for all Fisk students--both the needy and the economically able--remains enormous.

In the mid-1950's and early 1960's, Fisk, like most other private institutions, expanded its curriculum and faculty with the aid of private and federal funds. These funds were partially withdrawn from Fisk and other colleges and universities in the late 1960's and early 1970's. This decrease in support prompted a major curtailment in Fisk's growth, and forced the administration to defer maintenance of the physical plant. Partial withdrawal of federal funds, coupled with the crippling effect of inflation, drastically affected Fisk's financial health, which has resulted in considerable deterioration of vital areas of the University's physical facilities.

In addition, Fisk has been struggling to meet the growing demands made on black universities to maintain high enrollment levels. As a consequence of a recent change in admissions policies at many predominately white colleges, many of which were closed to black students until the 1960's and the 1970's, Fisk now must compete for talented students with such richly-endowed schools as Amherst, Duke, Davidson, the University of the South, Southwestern at Memphis, Emory and Bryn Mawr. These institutions have substantial financial resources to entice deserving students in order to meet their student mix requirements; Fisk does not.

Recent Improvements

Since the assumption of office by the new President, considerable effort has gone into improving the image of Fisk. Under his leadership, the historic Fisk Memorial Chapel has received much needed renovations; Memorial Chapel has long been a major focal point and center of activity at Fisk. The old Music Annex has been renovated to house the Admissions Office, and other buildings have been repaired and painted. The care of shrubs, lawns, and upkeep of the grounds in general have been upgraded. While these and many other steps have been taken to symbolize a new Fisk, they alone do not begin to address the institution's continuing financial requirements.

Need for Financial Stability

For its continued development as an institution of excellence, Fisk must have substantial additional financial resources. The institution is confident of its mission as stated and has begun to implement

programs that support that mission; however, without adequate financial resources, that mission may need to be dramatically altered. The institution is now at a point where, if its mission of providing a high quality education to a predominately black student body of talent is not supported dramatically and with sufficient resources, it might well become just another college. This would be tragic because Fisk is a vital educational resource. Further, as a National Historic District with an increasing number of national and international visitors, it is important that the Fisk campus stand as a model and showcase for the United States and the World.

The financing problem of the University now and in the immediate past years has been that it has had too little revenue to finance its current and capital operations. A large part of this problem has been due to the way in which the institution has been financed throughout history. In recent years, it has been largely dependent on outside grants and contracts which have a tendency to be temporary sources of financing for program activities that have a permanent character about them.

A second problem has been that the prices that the institution has charged both for tuition and fees have always been too low to cover the high quality of services offered. While Fisk is the most expensive of the independent black colleges for a student to attend, our tuition and fees for 1979-80 will only be \$2,850 compared to over \$4,500 at Vanderbilt and over \$6,500 at Harvard. We must charge less because of the limits that our students and their parents are able to pay, given the more limited income available to black wage earners. These factors and related ones bring the University to the present point.

The basic strategy of the present administration is for Fisk to attain a certain measure of financial stability. This will require

that the University generate greater income from sources over which it has greater control, i.e., tuition and fees, unrestricted annual gift income, endowment through individual gifts, bequests, and other estates, and other related sources of income.

III. ASSISTANCE REQUESTED FROM THE DEPARTMENT
OF THE INTERIOR

Forward Fisk: A Major Gifts Fund Program

In recent years the University has been able to attract for its Annual Fund approximately \$1.5 - \$2.0 million each fiscal year from its alumni and friends. We will clearly need to continue, indeed to increase, this annual giving in the future to keep pace with inflation and general cost increases. The Annual Fund, unrestricted annual gift support, is vital and necessary to the institution's financial well-being, since it has customarily represented about one-fifth of our annual funding to support the University's basic operations.

Over the past eight years our alumni and friends have responded quite generously to this need to maintain the flow of funds to the Annual Fund. For example, private gifts and grants increased more than \$500,000 between 1978 and 1979, going from approximately \$1.1 million to \$1.6 million. Alumni contributions, which for a number of years amounted to no more than \$30 - 40,000 per year, amounted to almost \$200,000 last year. During this period the percentage of alumni contributors to the Annual Fund has increased from approximately 5% in 1971-72 to over 24% in 1978. The national average for such contributions is only about 18%.

But Fisk, at this time, in its history, has an urgent need for significant infusions of additional funding in order to insure its position as an institution of distinction. Concurrent annual support and capital fund programs are logical and reasonable. Accordingly, on May 10, 1978, the Fisk Board of Trustees announced an intensive fund-raising campaign, appropriately called FORWARD FISK: A MAJOR GIFTS FUND PROGRAM, to raise a total of over \$60 million over the next few years--\$11 million of that amount in the next three years. Funds from

this effort would address directly the needs of the physical plant, endowment for the academic program, scholarships for students, and general institutional support.

One of the first grants to be received as part of the Forward Fisk Major Gifts Fund Program was a three-year \$1.4 million commitment from the Ford Foundation. Other significant grants received from foundations to date have included monies from the Bush Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. These gifts of confidence in the future of Fisk are only a start; more is necessary.

Vital Needs of the Fisk Historical District

Often forgotten in general fund-raising programs is the need for funds to maintain an institution's physical plant. After years of neglect and so-called deferred maintenance, the state of Fisk's physical plant is not close to the condition that it ought to be in order to assure a quality educational experience for our students. For example: in this past year a substantial area of the facility which we are using to conduct our music classes was destroyed by fire, but no source of funds was available to begin an immediate repair; the ceilings in one of our most valuable, historic buildings caved in, but, again funds were not available to begin an immediate repair. A most critical and urgent problem is the breakdown of our heating system. At the beginning of Spring, both of the boilers which generate heat for our entire campus broke down from age; these two boilers were built in 1931 and 1937, respectively. Our engineers informed us that the estimated cost to replace these boilers and to provide an adequate back-up capability will cost in excess of \$600,000---funds which we do not

presently have. But the boilers must be in place by October 1 of this year in order for the University to continue its operations.

Indeed, a number of the educational programs of Fisk are now housed in buildings that are not entirely suitable for a first-rate instructional program. For example, our music program is now housed in a former graduate student apartment complex; our gymnasium was built in 1951 and has not had major renovations since that time; our science building, built in 1931, is clearly not adequate for today's student body. The state of the University's physical facilities belies the calibre of instruction that goes on inside our various buildings, in spite of the condition of the buildings. For example, each year, approximately 40% of our biology and chemistry majors enter medical or dental schools, while 20% attend graduate school; in music, the Fisk Jubilee Singers continue to gain acclaim with each passing year and last year one of our music majors won a Watson Fellowship to study opera in Europe. These achievements have been made with facilities that are clearly not adequate.

It is clear that the University, now in its 113th year, needs a source of funds to meet unforeseen needs of the physical plant. A permanent source of predictable funding is needed to enable the institution to redress the deterioration of the physical plant and to be able to better meet emergency needs as they invariably will arise with a physical plant as old as ours.

Accordingly, as one of the few universities in the country designated as a National Historic District, we are requesting the assistance of the Department of the Interior to improve the physical facilities and grounds of the Fisk campus in order to make the University the attractive showcase that it ought to be, given its position in the nation and the world as an institution of higher education.

Specifically, we are seeking support in the amount of \$8,150,000 for the following projects:

1. Repair and Replacement of Boilers

Heat for the campus is provided by steam from a central facility located at the edge of the campus. For the past few years the campus has been heated by two boilers that were initially installed in 1931 and 1937. As mentioned earlier, both boilers are now inoperative and require immediate replacement in order for the campus to be assured of heating for the upcoming academic year. Replacing these boilers with one of adequate capacity as well as providing full back-up capability will cost approximately \$600,000 according to our engineers. The University does not presently have these funds; yet it cannot delay the initiation of this vital work if the campus is going to have heat for the next academic year. Immediate financial resources are needed for us to meet the costs of this urgent repair.

2. Upgrade the Steam Distribution System

The main steam supply line serving the campus extends out of the steam plant on an overhead bridge for a short distance and drops into an underground trench system that extends through the campus and terminates at Jubilee Hall. Poured concrete trenches contain all of the main arteries and many of the branch lines. Coated steel conduits and clay pipe conduits carry other branch lines to the individual buildings. The ages of the piping systems can

generally be tied to the ages of the buildings they serve. Most of the lines are quite old and have deteriorated to the replacement point. The lines were originally insulated, but can be considered almost completely uninsulated at the present time. The exterior surfaces of the visible lines in manholes are corroded considerably. The older lines have perforated in many places and have required repairs during the summer vacation period. Some of the lines are exposed to the atmosphere and weather where they were originally under buildings that have now been removed. Some of the clay conduits have leaked to ground water and are completely filled with earth. A very substantial percentage of the total steam supply is presently being wasted due to heat losses from uninsulated lines and to line leaks. Condensate is presently being wasted because of deterioration of the return lines and return pumping system.

Our engineers have recommended very strongly that the entire steam distribution system for the campus should be replaced, with the exception of a few of the more recently installed branch lines which are still in good condition and can remain in service. The recommended plan for a new steam distribution system would cost almost \$3 million.

3, Renovation of Talley-Brady Hall

Talley-Brady Hall, housing the Chemistry and Physics Departments, was completed on July 1, 1931. The building was named in honor of Thomas Washington Talley, long-time

professor of chemistry and chairman of the department, and in honor of one of his students, Elmo Brady, who later served as chairman of the chemistry department.

At one time this building was held up as one of the most advanced chemistry and physics facilities in the South. But a recent report to our Board of Trustees pointed out that the building was in dire need of:

- * Renovation of inadequate laboratories;
- * Replacement of outdated equipment;
- * Replacement of electrical system;
- * Installation of an air conditioning system;
- * Repair of heating system and controls;
- * Complete refurbishing of interior and exterior;

But then the report concludes with the statement "Talley-Brady Hall could be renovated to be an attractive and functional science instruction facility." Our architects have estimated the cost of renovating the chemistry building at approximately \$3 million.

4. Renovation of Van Vechten Gallery

The Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery is one of Fisk's most historic sites. Erected in 1888 as a gymnasium, the building was built as a direct result of action by students, led by W.E.B. DuBois, '88, to build such a facility. The ground-breaking ceremony on May 10, 1888, signaled the beginning of the construction of the first gymnasium and mechanical laboratory on a predominately black college campus in the world. The foundation for the building was

excavated by the students and the cornerstone was laid on December 3, 1888. The gymnasium was rededicated in 1949 for Mr. Carl Van Vechten--a New York City music critic, author, photographer, and art collector--who encouraged Miss Georgia O'Keeffe to give Fisk part of the art collection of her late husband, Alfred Stieglitz, and to provide funds for renovation of the building to house the collection. The collection, as mentioned earlier, includes original works by a number of prominent artists.

The Van Vechten Art Gallery has not had any major repair or renovation work done on it since the building was converted to a gallery in 1949. In order for the building to continue to be adequate as a gallery, such renovation is now needed. It is estimated that such work will cost approximately \$350,000.

5. Renovation of Jubilee Hall

Jubilee Hall, itself a National Historic Landmark, is in many ways the very symbol of all that for which Fisk University stands. This handsome building, built in 1876 through the efforts of the Fisk Jubilee Singers, was completely renovated in 1965.

Additional work is now needed on both the exterior and interior of the building in order to insure that it appropriately presents the image that a national historical landmark should present. Some three years ago the University

presented a proposal to the Tennessee Historical Commission to assist the University in a project to repair the roof of Jubilee Hall. The project was approved by the Commission, an architect selected and plans drawn, and a contractor selected to perform the work required. Due to unnecessarily long delays caused by both the architect, in having appropriate plans approved by the Commission, and the contractor, in beginning the work, serious water leakages began to develop from the roof to the ceiling on the fourth floor of Jubilee Hall with the consequence that, during the first part of this year, sections of the ceiling began to fall. In order to insure the safety of women students housed in this facility, the fourth floor of the dormitory has been vacated. Now in addition to repairing the roof of Jubilee Hall, the ceiling on the fourth floor of the dormitory also requires repairing. The need is particularly urgent because of the pressing need for dormitory space.

In addition to this rather major project, Jubilee Hall also requires more minor repairs to bring the building into the condition that it belongs. These include:

- a) paint all interior walls and woodwork;
- b) sand and refinish all hardwood in lobby and siderooms;
- c) install new carpets in the public areas;
- d) repair window sills and window stools.

The estimated cost of the work required in Jubilee Hall is \$175,000.

6. Renovation of the Erastus Milo Cravath Memorial Library (The Administration Building)

The Erastus Milo Cravath Memorial Library was erected in 1929-30. In 1969, when the new library was built, the Cravath Building was converted for administrative uses. The building was named in honor of the Reverend Erastus Milo Cravath, the first President of Fisk. Reverend Cravath set the standard of academic excellence that Fisk has stood for over these past decades during his tenure as the University's president from 1875-1900.

The Administration Building is a striking memorial to the memory of E.M. Cravath. Like Jubilee Hall, one can feel a sense of history upon entering the lobby of the Cravath Building. With its great expanse and height, neo-gothic design, its steeped back tower, and its broad steps, the Cravath Building easily dominates the center of the campus. It has commanding views in all four directions. The interior lobby is characterized by high ceilings, stone columns and neo-Gothic vaulting.

Unfortunately, maintenance of this impressive building has been deferred over these past few years. Three projects are proposed to improve the structure:

- a) Complete cleaning of all stone work at 17th Avenue, North, North entrance lobby and installation of new fixtures in the corridors of the lobby;
- b) Restore exterior of the building including the cleaning, caulking, and waterproofing of exterior:
 - i) all windows and doors will be caulked;
 - ii) all exterior stone and/or brick shall be wet sand blasted;

- iii) one heavy coat of transparent water-proofing will be applied to all stone;
 - iv) all windows, doors, overhangs, down pipes, and gutters will be properly prepared by sanding and scraping and then painted.
- c) repair the tower clock and the stairs leading up to the Administration Building.

The estimated cost of this work is \$150,000.

7. Renovation of Other Campus Buildings

There are a number of other important historical buildings on campus that are in a serious state of disrepair and require immediate renovation to arrest their further decline.

These buildings include:

- a) Ballentine Hall, built in 1890 for the training of "colored" priests and deacons of the Episcopal Church. The building was purchased by Fisk in 1914 and named in honor of Anna T. Ballentine, a former principal of young women at Fisk. In recent years the building has housed some of the activities of the Art Department.

Ballentine Hall is the control point for steam and electricity for one section of the campus. The building is in a very bad physical condition. The front porch was taken off some time ago and gaping holes remain; the roof leaks badly; the interior walls are streaked with water marks; and the building is generally dilapidated, although still very structurally sound.

- b) Magnolia Cottage, erected in 1875 as a private residence, was purchased by the University in 1917 and has been used as a music building and television and audio visual center. It is currently unused because of its need for extensive repair and renovation.
- c) Other houses on campus that require repair and renovation include the Dunn House, the Thompson House, the Williams House, and the Richardson House. All of these former residences had at one time been used for educational purposes,

but their disrepair in recent years caused the University to cease using them for such purposes. After renovation, these buildings would again be available for such educational purposes.

The renovations of these dwellings would cost approximately \$750,000.

8. Landscaping

Finally, assistance is requested to beautify the grounds of the University including planting grass, trees, and hedges; improving campus lighting and security; and making improvements in our parking facilities. The cost of this landscaping is estimated at \$125,000.

COST SUMMARY

In summary then, Fisk is seeking the assistance of the Department of Interior to restore the physical facilities of the University and to ensure that the campus is the showpiece that it ought to be as a National Historic District. The assistance requested amounts to \$8,150,000 as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1. Repair and replacement of boilers	\$ 600,000
2. Upgrade the steam distribution system	3,000,000
3. Renovation of Talley-Brady Hall	3,000,000
4. Renovation of Van Vechten Gallery	350,000
5. Renovation of Jubilee Hall	175,000
6. Renovation of the Erastus Milo Cravath Memorial Library	150,000
7. Renovation of Other Campus Buildings	750,000
8. Landscaping	<u>125,000</u>
Total assistance requested.....	\$8,150,000

STATEMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The visual and historic integrity of the Fisk University campus is to a large measure intact. However, the visual and historic integrity of the Fisk campus has suffered because of the demolition of older buildings or addition of new buildings constructed of a size, scale and appearance visually unrelated to the older buildings on campus, as well as by the addition of numerous parking areas. However, the strong street axes, mature landscaping, the dominating effect of the older buildings, have, to a great extent, lessened the effect of these intrusions at Fisk. The visual integrity of these older elements of the campus still impart a dominating late 19th Century - 1920's feeling to the campus.

For the purpose of evaluation, the campus area can be divided into several areas which at present form separate visual entities and thus reflect the historical development of the campus. Many existing unifying features have been used well, some have not, many existing features can be enhanced, and many can be added to unify the entire campus.

Jubilee Hall (1) became a National Landmark in 1976. Its architecture-- still beautiful today, epitomizes many of the esthetic values of 19th Century Architecture as championed by John Ruskin. Jubilee Hall is the historical heart of the campus and serves as a strong point of architectural focus. Its status is emphasized by the old stone wall (which surrounds area I) and by its location on the highest point of the campus, at the culmination of the compelling monumental linear axis from Herman Street at 17th Avenue North.

This strong sense of ceremonial progression is blunted by the brick planters (11A) at the intersection of 17th Avenue North and Jackson Street.

Statement of Architectural Significance - 2

Meharry Boulevard also visually culminates at the crown of the hill at Jubilee Hall with its commanding vista down 17th Avenue North.

Crosthwaite Hall (2) and Scribner Hall (3) are non-assertive, contemporary buildings whose intrusion upon the area is blunted by the mature trees, higher elevation of Jubilee Hall, and the stone wall (11-A) that extends along Meharry Boulevard from 17th Avenue North past Scribner Hall (3).

The New Residence Center (4), while a good example of contemporary architecture, is more intrusive because of its size, height and lack of landscaping to screen it from Jubilee Hall and Meharry Boulevard.

The Administration Building (7) with its large bulk and height, neo-Gothic detailing of brick and stone, its stepped-back tower and its broad steps leading down to 18th Avenue North, emphasizes its importance as the administrative heart of the campus. It has commanding views in all four directions, provides a dominating termination to Phillips Street, and is a visual focal point of the campus. The interior is characterized by stone columns and neo-Gothic vaulting and contains several murals by Aaron Douglas.

Talley-Brady Hall (Chemistry - 6) blends in very well with the Administration Building with its similar materials and details such as arched doorways and stone bays. Yet it does not "upstage" the Administration Building because of its smaller size and more modest facade.

The Academic Building (Carnegie Library -5) is a finely proportioned, solidly detailed building constructed of very durable materials: brick, stone, clay tile roof, bronze gutters and downspouts. It gives an impression of dignity and formality. It blends well with the other buildings in the immediate vicinity because of its distance from them, its use of similar materials and its mature landscaping. The interior is highlighted

by a two-story lightwell which gives an airiness which is welcome in this rather heavy structure.

The Little Theater (8), a simple one-story, clapboarded structure, has a charming simplicity with its intimate theater. The larger scale of neighboring buildings is sufficiently blunted by the mature trees and landscaping such that the Little Theater stands on its own. A stronger pedestrian link to the campus core would give visual importance commensurate with its historic significance.

The Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery (9) (originally a gymnasium) is a fine example of Victorian Picturesque eclectic architecture: Romanesque arches; heavy ashlar stone foundation; large, steep hipped roof; large tower with finials; flat-roofed dormers with double-arched windows, brick columns and ornamental brickwork--corbeled out from the main wall. This building, if constructed of heavy ashlar stone instead of brick, could be classified as Richardsonian Romanesque. The building has a metal rear stair. The great central interior space has a flat ceiling and interior partition walls. A sensitive renovation would restore this outstanding building to its former grandeur.

This area (II on the map), with its mature landscaping, broad lawns, low brick walls around the Administration Building, and views toward the Chapel and Music Annex, gives a strong sense of the past and of the scholarly life. The Temporary Classrooms (11) and Parking Area (10) are the most intrusive element in this area of the campus and will be removed in the near future.

The parking area enclosed by the Gymnasium (34), DuBois Hall (36) and Livingstone Hall (38) has great potential. A tree-lined paved area, extending from Herman Street to Jackson Street, to provide focus toward

the Administration Building while screening parking, would provide a strong visual axis and physical access from Herman Street, across Jackson Street to the Administration Building (7) and unify this area (see V on map) with the Central core area of the campus (see II on map). The Bell Structure (37) located between DuBois Hall and Livingstone Hall, serves as an additional focal point in this area.

DuBois Hall (36), Livingstone Hall (38), and The Gymnasium (34), are intrusions upon the architectural integrity of the campus. Fortunately, they are constructed of brick, the dominant building material on the campus; they are unassertive, and the mature landscaping helps screen them from the older buildings on campus. The Biology Lab (35), a temporary structure, is an intrusion on the campus and will be removed in the near future. The Stadium (41) with its steel formed seating area is well screened by landscaping.

The Chapel (13) is one of the most outstanding buildings on the campus, second only to Jubilee Hall. It is a superb example of High Victorian Picturesque architecture. The Romanesque arched and columned front entrance flanked by the twin polygonal stone and stucco towers, with the tall bell-tower with its Gothic stone windows, form a superb composition. The combination of different materials and surfaces give a richness to the composition which suffers only from the metal stair railing at the side and rear. The interior has a structural directness and richness with its exposed framework. The high ceiling, exposing the underside of the roof, and the curved balcony, give spatial excitement to the interior. Small touches, such as the curved carvings on the entrance doors and the ornamental metal seat supports add to the richness of this interior. This

is truly an outstanding building.

The Chapel is situated next to Spence Hall (12) and Park Johnson Hall (14), two contemporary, quiet, cleanly detailed buildings. The addition of landscaping, which would screen these buildings from the Chapel, would help to emphasize the visual integrity and importance of the Chapel, one of the oldest buildings on the campus.

The Music Annex (25) is one of the most outstanding buildings on campus. It is a finely detailed example of the Italianate style with its hooded, tall, narrow windows, arched projecting entry, finely paneled twin arched entrance door; and bracketed, denticulated cornice. Unfortunately the house has an unsympathetic wood addition which, being in a deteriorated state, will be removed. The recessed entry is in a deteriorated state but is not beyond repair. Sensitive renovation of the exterior and interior could restore this small structure to its inherent beauty.

The Library (25) overwhelms the Music Annex. Its scale and size are a very disruptive element. Well-designed landscaping is planned to blunt its intrusive effects.

Although the contemporary style of the President's house varies with most of the buildings in the immediate vicinity, its small scale, low profile, and landscaping help it to blend in with the neighborhood.

The South side of Meharry Boulevard between 17th Avenue North and 16th Avenue North contains an interesting row of houses now used for University functions. Magnolia Cottage (15) is perhaps the most captivating small residence in the Fisk University area. It contains many of the design elements of the Victorian Picturesque style: Italianate elements such as the denticulated, hooded entrance tower (which adds a whimsical flavor to this building) the recessed ornamental door, and the tall narrow windows

with hoods; Queen Ann elements: steep, gabled roof and hipped roof tower with finial, bay window; ornamental surfaces: wood and brick ornamental surfaces; the use of several different materials: rounded shingles in the gables, brick walls and ashlar stone foundation. This small house should be restored to the gem it once was.

The Music Building (16) is a good example of the rambling, informal style of average sized homes of the late 19th and early 20th Century. . . The Urban Affairs Institute (17) is interesting for its central tower and fretwork gable ornament.

The Honors Center (18) is a more formal residence and is a good example of a style of home built in the first quarter of the 20th Century in which Nashville abounds. The bay windows add interest to the side elevations.

Residence (19): This Victorian picturesque home is interesting because of the unique shape of the eave bracketing and unusual bracketing supporting the roof over the second story balcony. These houses have architectural merit, particularly 1611 Meharry Boulevard (16) and they are excellent examples of the prevalent residential architecture of the times. They are highly supportive visually of the late 19th and early 20th Century atmosphere of much of the Fisk campus.

The houses on 16th Avenue North; (20), (21), (22) and (23), on Phillips Street have a lower architectural quality than the houses along Meharry Boulevard. They are nonetheless supportive of the late 19th Century and early 20th Century atmosphere of the Fisk area. 1611 Phillips Street (31) is an intrusion as is the addition to 1615 Phillips Street (22). (23), (27), (28) and (30), with basic repairs and imaginative painting, could be positive elements in this neighborhood. The houses at 1601 Phillips Street (32) and

1619 Phillips Street (29) are interesting examples of the variations of the bungalow style. Of particular interest are the front porch bracketing and curved wood on stucco in the porch gable of the house at 1601 Phillips Street. (32).

Most of the houses along 17th Avenue North between Jackson Street and Herman Street are supportive of the historical character of the district. Intrusions are the English Department (42), Carpenter's Shop (44) and the private residence at 910 17th Avenue North (48). However, the scale, setback and mature landscaping of these buildings as well as their non-assertive character alleviates their intrusive influence.

The impact of Livingstone Hall (38), a long three-story building of brick, glass and stone spondrels, is muted by its deep setback from the sidewalk and by the mature magnolia trees. Other intrusions are the basketball court (39) and metal building (40). These intrusions can likewise be screened by landscaping. The supportive structures along 17th Avenue North vary in style from 926 17th Avenue North (43), a rambling, two-story clapboard house with an interesting stencil style ornamental vent in the shingled gable, to the 1900-1920 period houses of brick, stucco or stone (45, 46, 47, 49, 50, 51). Details of particular interest are: the ornamental wrought iron railing in front of 906 17th Avenue North (50); and the tall, narrow arched windows, recessed arched entrance, and spaced dentils of the Security Office (52). The most unifying element aside from the mature trees along this street is the diagonally laid basketweave brick sidewalk which dates back to the 19th Century.

The houses in the area bounded by Hermosa Street, 18th Avenue North and Albion Street are generally supportive of the historic character of the district with the exception of (53, 56, 59, 61 and 66).

Here, as in the other residential areas around the campus, the small scale, landscaping and nonassertive character of the intruding buildings help enormously in deflecting the intrusive character of these buildings. Of particular interest are the faculty apartments (59) at 1801 Morena Street, which skillfully hide their high density from the street.

In this area, popular residential architectural styles of the 1920's, 30's and 40's are represented; the neo-Greek Revival or Colonial style (54, 57 and 58) as well as neo-Tudor (61). Ballantine Hall (Art) (55), could be remodeled into a handsome building. It has several handsome features such as tall, narrow, arched windows, corbelled chimney, Gothic window in the dormer and a large bay on the street facade.

Other residences typical of their time represented in this area are: the house (62) at 923 18th Avenue North which has a very handsomely detailed chimney; the residence (60) at 1808 Morena Street has interesting grill-work along the porch roof; and the house (61) at 933 18th Avenue North with its combination of wood shingles, stucco, hip roof, and gable roofed entrance. One of the most potentially attractive houses in this area is the Biology and Physics Department (65), 931 18th Avenue North, with its tower and bay. To cover this house with shingles, for example, would give it the scale and texture it needs.

9

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To all Persons to whom these Presents shall come,

I, William W. Belknap,

Secretary of War of the United States of America, send Greeting:

Whereas there was approved on the twenty third day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy four an act to confirm the purchase of a portion of the site of Fort Houston, at Nashville, Tennessee, and to provide for the donation of the same to the Fiske University for educational purposes, in the words following:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the purchase by the United States, on the twenty-first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, from Russell Houston, of certain land consisting of about three and one-fourth acres, situate in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, with the buildings thereon standing, and being the same premises described in a deed of said date from said Houston to the Chief Engineer of the Army, in trust for the United States, recorded in book thirty-five, page two hundred and forty-one, in the register's office of Davidson County, Tennessee, be, and the same hereby is, ratified, sanctioned and confirmed, so that the said purchase, and the ^{said} deed thereupon executed, shall have the same legal validity and effect as if the same had been by a previous act of Congress, specifically authorized."

"Sec 2. That the Secretary of War be and he hereby is, authorized and directed, to grant and convey to the Fiske University of Nashville, Tennessee, all the right, title, interest and estate of the United States in and to said tract of land for educational purposes: Provided, That no further expense relative thereto shall be incurred by the United States: And provided further, That the trustees of the said Fiske University be, and they are hereby, authorized to sell and dispose of the above-described property at their discretion, and to use the proceeds elsewhere for educational purposes in connection with the said Fiske University."

Now, therefore, know ye, that I the said William W. Belknap,

Secretary of War, as aforesaid, by virtue of the power and authority, in me
vested as aforesaid, do hereby grant and convey unto the Trustees of the
Fisk University of Nashville, Tennessee, their successors and assigns forever,
for educational purposes, all the right title interest and estate of the United
States in and to a certain tract of land containing three acres, more or less,
situate in the city of Nashville, Tennessee with the buildings thereon X X
standing and being the same premises described in a deed dated on
the twenty-first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-five
from Russell Houston to the Chief Engineer of the Army of the United
States, in trust for the United States, recorded in book thirty-five
page two hundred and forty-one in the Register's office of Davidson
County, Tennessee

So have and to hold the same with all the privileges
and appurtenances thereunto belonging unto the aforesaid
Trustees of the Fisk University of Nashville, Tennessee their
successors and assigns forever, and to their only proper use and
behoof as Trustees of said University and for the aforesaid
educational purposes

And the said William W. Belknap, Secretary of
War as aforesaid, doth hereby, for himself and successors
in office, covenant, promise, and agree to and with the
said Trustees, their successors and assigns in manner and
form following, that is to say that the said Trustees their
successors and assigns shall and may peaceably and
quietly, have, hold and enjoy the said right title and
interest and estate herein conveyed in said land, ten-
ements, hereditaments and premises, and every part
and parcel thereof, without let, suit, trouble, vic-
tion or disturbance of the said William W. Belknap
Secretary of War as aforesaid, or his successors in office,
or of or by any other persons or persons lawfully

claiming a title claim from, by, or under, or in trust
for him, them, or any of them:

In testimony whereof I have
hereunto subscribed my name
and caused the seal of the War
Department to be affixed on
this sixth day of
October in the year of
our Lord one thousand, eight
hundred and seventy-four
Wm. W. Belknap
Secretary of War

In message of
W. R. Roche

District of Columbia }
City of Washington } ps.

H. T. Crosby, a notary public
in and for the District of Columbia aforesaid, do hereby
certify that William W. Belknap, Secretary of War
party to a certain deed bearing date on the sixth
day of October, A.D., 1874, and hereto annexed personally
appeared before me in the District of Columbia
aforesaid the said William W. Belknap being personally
well known to me to be the person who executed the said
deed, and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed.

Given under my hand and notarial
seal this sixth day of October, A.D., 1874.

H. T. Crosby
Notary Public
Dist. Col.

William W. Ballknap
Secy of Mass.

State University

Oct 6 1874.

John Newton, Nashville Tenn

3935. ² 1874

Record in Mass. Right Book
Book 154, page 20.

150-4
15-3
200 Paid

State of Tennessee, Davidson County.

Register's Office, Nashville, Tenn., July 13th 1875.

I, B. F. BINKLEY, REGISTER, for said county, do certify that the foregoing Deed and CERTIFICATE were filed for record, July 13th, 1875, at 3:00 o'clock P. M., entered on page 115 of Note Book No. 6, and registered to-day in Book No. 54, pages 153 & 154 of my Office.

B. F. Binkley, County Register.



I, W. P. Harding, of Davidson County, Tennessee, have this day bargained, sold, aliened and conveyed, and do hereby bargain, sell, alien and convey unto Edgar Hetchum, Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York and to his successors and assigns in office for the uses and purposes of said Association, for the consideration of seven thousand dollars in hand paid, the receipt in full of which is hereby acknowledged, a tract or piece of land in Davidson County, Tennessee, as follows:— Block or Lot No. 5 according to map registered in Book 21 Page 107, in Register's Office of Davidson Co. Tenn., in the old Navy's land lying in Civil District No 13 of Davidson Co. Tenn., near the City of Nashville, — lying as will appear from said map or plan seven hundred and three feet on Robertson street, five hundred and thirty one feet on Jackson street, seven hundred and thirteen $\frac{1}{2}$ on Soline street, and six hundred and sixty $\frac{1}{4}$ on Hamilton street, containing nine $\frac{619}{1000}$ Acres more or less; being the same lot conveyed to me by G. W. Harding & others by deed recorded in Register's office of Davidson County in Book 43 page 271. To Have and to Hold to the said Edgar Hetchum, Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York and to his successors and assigns in office for the uses & purposes of said Association. I Covenant and agree to and with the said Edgar Hetchum, Treasurer &c., — that I am lawfully seized and possessed

of said land, have a good right to convey it, and that the same is unincumbered.

I further covenant and agree and bind my heirs and representatives, to warrant and forever defend the title to the said land to the said Edgar Hetchum Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York and to his successors and assigns in Office, against the lawful claims of all persons whatsoever.

This ^{20th} 28 day of January A.D. 1873.

W. P. Harding (Seal)

State of Tennessee,
DAVIDSON COUNTY. }

Personally appeared before me, W. G. EWIN, Clerk of the County Court of said County,
the *Within* named *W. P. Harding*

the bargainer, with whom I am personally acquainted, and who acknowledged that *He* executed the annexed instrument for the purposes therein contained.

WITNESS my hand, at office, this *28* day of *January* 187*3*

W. G. Ewin Clerk.
By *[Signature]* Deputy Clerk.

STATE OF TENNESSEE.

Davidson County.

Register's Office Feb'y, 19th 1873

I, B. F. BINKLEY, Register for said County, do certify that the foregoing
Deed and certificate were received *Feb'y, 17th*, 1873
at *10.00* o'clock, *A.* M., entered on page *323* of Note Book No. 5,
and registered to-day in Book *48* page *570-71* of my Office.

B. F. Binkley

COUNTY REGISTER.

W. P. Harding
L^y Seed

Edgar Hetchum
Trees Amer. Imp. Asso-
ciation

19-48-570-71

17-10⁰⁵ A.M.

#1 6.00 Due

State Tax	7.00
Clerk's fee	25
Paid	<u>7.25</u>

Know all men that I John C. Brown a
Citizen of Davidson County & State of Tennessee
for the consideration hereinafter to be mentioned
do hereby sell transfer & convey to Edgar
Ketchum Treasurer of 'The American Miss-
ionary Association of New York' and
to his successors and assigns in office
for the uses and purposes of said Assoc-
iation my undivided half interest
in & to the following piece of land
lying in the 13^d Civil District of
Davidson County Tennessee containing
as shown by Survey of W. F. Foster
Seven Acres and $16\frac{64}{100}$ Poles: Said lot
of ground fronting 398.10 feet on
Harding Street, 681.9 $\frac{9}{100}$ feet on Salem
Street, 522.2 feet on Jackson Street
and 672 feet on Robertson Street, &
being a part of the land devised by
Thomas Harding Sr to his children, and
the same that E. B. Mc. Clanahan Trustee
of Andrew J. Harding conveyed to Joel
A. Battle and myself jointly, and owned
by said Battle & myself jointly at the time
of his death. The title to the said piece
of land was devised out of the heirs
of said Battle & myself by decree of
the Chancery Court of Davidson County,

In witness in the case entitled Herbert
Administrator vs. John C. Brown et al, at
this present, the October Term 1873 thereof,
and rested in the said Edgar Ketchum
Treasurer Treasurer &c. who paid into
Court the purchase money the sum of Five
Thousand Dollars, one half of which by
said decree was ordered to be paid to
me & the other half to the Administrator
of said Beattie, This conveyance to said
Edgar Ketchum Treasurer &c. is intended
to be a further assurance of title to my
one half interest in said tract, in addi-
tion to the above recited decree, and
the consideration of this conveyance
is acknowledged to be the one half
of the purchase money paid into the
Chancery Court by said Edgar Ketchum
Treasurer &c. i.e. the half of Five Thousand
and Dollars paid in the case of Herbert
Adm? vs. John C. Brown et al, To have
& to hold to the said Edgar Ketchum
Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of
New York his successors in office & assigns
for the uses & trusts of said Association
forever. I covenant with the said Edgar
Ketchum Treasurer &c. his successors in office
& assigns that I am lawfully seized
of said half interest in said land, none

a good right to convey it, & that the same is unincumbered. And I further covenant for myself my heirs & representatives that I will forever warrant & defend the title to the said half interest in said land against the lawful claims of all persons whatsoever.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 26 day of May 1873.
Geo. C. Brown

State of Tennessee,

DAVIDSON COUNTY, }

Personally appeared before me, C. H. EASTMAN, Deputy Clerk of the County Court of said County, the above named

Geo. C. Brown

he the bargainor, with whom I am personally acquainted, and who acknowledged that he executed the annexed instrument for the purpose therein contained.

WITNESS my hand at Office, this 26th day of May 1873

C. H. Eastman

Deputy Clerk

State of Tennessee--Davidson County,

Register's Office, Nashville, Aug. 11th 1873

I, B. F. BINKLEY, Register for said county, do certify that the foregoing Deed and Certificate were filed Aug. 9th 1873, at 2:25 o'clock, P. M., entered on page 343 of Note Book No. 5, and registered to-day in Book No. 49, page 335 of my office.

B. F. Binkley

County Register.

3

John C. Brown

40²/₃ Paid -

Edgar Mitchell, Jr

49 5-35-76

9 - 2²⁵/₁ P.M

H1 50 Paid

I, Thomas J. Harding, of Davidson County State of Tennessee, have this day bargained and sold, and do hereby transfer and convey unto Edgar Ketchum Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York City and to his successors and assigns in Office for the uses and purposes of the said Association forever, for the consideration of eight thousand and one hundred (\$8100⁰⁰) dollars in hand paid, the receipt of which is herewith acknowledged, a tract or piece of land in Davidson County Tennessee as follows:— Lot No one (1) of the Mc Navey land (of Thomas Harding) lying near the City of Nashville, Tennessee, in Civil District No. thirteen (13) of Davidson County, the metes and bounds of which will more specifically appear by reference to a Plan of said lots which is of record in the Registers Office of said County in Book twenty one (21) page one hundred and seven (107). (The said lot in the Plan above referred to contains Seven $\frac{235}{1000}$ acres more or less, and is bounded Northwardly by Jefferson street, Eastwardly by Short St. Southwardly by Harding St. and Westwardly by Solers St.) To Have and to Hold to the said Edgar Ketchum Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York City and his successors and assigns in Office forever. And I covenant and agree to and with the said Edgar Ketchum Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York City and his successors and assigns



in office, that I am lawfully seized and possessed of said land, have a good right to convey it, and that the same is unencumbered.

I further Covenant and agree and bind myself, my heirs and representatives to warrant and forever defend the title to the said land to the said Edgar Hetchum, Treasurer of the American Missionary Association of New York City and his successors and assigns in office, against the lawful claims of all persons whatever.

Witness my hand and seal this 22nd day of July A. D. 1872.

Thomas J. Harding

State of Tennessee, }
DAVIDSON COUNTY. }

Personally appeared before me, W. G. EWIN, Clerk of the County Court of said County,

the Within named Thos J Harding

acknowledged that he the bargainer, with whom I am personally acquainted, and who executed the annexed instrument for the purposes therein contained.

WITNESS my hand, at office, this 22 day of July 1872

W. G. Ewin Clerk.

By _____ Deputy Clerk.

STATE OF TENNESSEE, }
Davidson County. }

Register's Office, July 26th 1872.

I, B. F. BINKLEY, Register for said County, do certify that the foregoing Deed and certificate were received July 23rd, 1872 at 6:30 o'clock, P. M., entered on page 297 of Note Book No. 5, and registered to-day in Book 47 page 510 of my Office.

B. F. Binkley
COUNTY REGISTER.

Nashville, Tenn. 4. 14
by Thomas J. Harding

to }
} did

Edgar ^{Treasurer} Ketchum

Entered
2. 21. 41.

510

Jubilee Campus

23-3-41

1st Pair

State case	-	810
stamps	-	850
clerk's fee		25
		<hr/>
		\$16.85
Paid		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1** NAME

HISTORIC

FISK UNIVERSITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

926 17th Avenue North

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Tennessee

VICINITY OF
CODE

COUNTY

Davidson

CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

FISK UNIVERSITY

STREET & NUMBER

926 17th Avenue North

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register's Office for Davidson County, Tennessee

STREET & NUMBER

Metro Court House, Public Square

CITY, TOWN

Nashville,

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fisk University Historic District is located in Nashville, Tennessee, approximately 1-1/2 miles northwest of the Central Business District. The University, located on the relatively flat crown of a hill, overlooks the central business district and the Capitol Hill area. It is comprised of approximately 70 structures of various architectural styles dating from the 1860's to 1972.

Inventory of Buildings and Sites located within the Fisk University Historic District that contribute to the character of the District:

- 1) Jubilee Hall, 1711 Meharry Boulevard. 1876. Stephen D. Hatch, Architect, New York. Five stories, neo-Gothic, L-shaped, dull red brick with light stone banding, steeply pitched roof with spired tower on S.E. corner. The interior, with its grand stair case, was remodeled in 1965. Jubilee Hall was designated a National Landmark Building in 1975.
- 1-A) Limestone wall, ca. 1873, surrounding Area 1 with crenallated top course and battlements at entrance points.
- 5) Academic Building (formerly Carnegie Library), 1720 Meharry Boulevard, 1908. Mickissack, Architect. Rectangular two-story brick with smooth stone belt course at first floor window level; stone ashlar foundation, stone-columned front entrance porch, red Spanish clay tile hipped roof; bracketed eaves. The interior contains a two-story high lightwell.
- 6) Chemistry Building-Tally-Brady Hall, 1016 18th Avenue North. 1931. Henry Hibbs, Architect, Nashville. Three-story, modified H-plan, brick with smooth stone belt courses, flat roof.
- 7) Administration Building, Erastus Milo Cravath Hall (formerly Fisk University Library), 1015 17th Avenue North; 1930. Henry Hibbs, Architect, Nashville. Neo-Gothic, brick and stone, irregular rectangular plan, central eight-story tower with lower set-backed wings of two and three stories; flat roof. The interior has stone columns and Gothic arches.
- 8) Little Theater, Speech and Drama Department. 1006 18th Avenue North; early 1860's, remodeled 1935. A one-story wood frame, T-shaped building with gable roof.
- 9) Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery (formerly University Gym). 1720 Jackson Street. 1888. White & Means, Architects, New York. A two-story red brick structure over full basement with ashlar stone foundation. The arched entrance is topped by a hip roof tower. The main roof is hipped. The walls have arched windows and ornamental brick work.
- 13) Fisk Memorial Chapel. 1016 17th Avenue North. 1892. William B. Bigelow, Architect, New York. An oblong, polygonal stone and stucco building with large hip-roof and bell-tower over the arched front entrance flanked with circular columns in the picturesque Victorian style. Exit stairs have been added on either side toward the rear. The interior has a stage and pipe organ, curved seating and balcony; the high, hipped ceiling has exposed frame-work.

-continued-

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Fisk University Historic District can be evaluated in terms of the history of Fisk University and its impact upon the development of this country; its site plan, and its architecture. Fisk University owns all of the structures listed in the Fisk University Historic District with the exception of (19), (48) and (66). Fisk University, then, with a few relatively minor exceptions, has complete control over all the properties within the district and can insure that future development of the district will enhance the historic integrity of the greater campus area.

-continued on attached sheets-

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheets.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY

STATE	CODE	COUNTY
STATE	CODE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Berle Pilsk

ORGANIZATION

Berle Pilsk Architect AIA

STREET & NUMBER

3415 West End Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

Nashville

DATE

14 June 1977

TELEPHONE

615/269-0996

STATE

Tennessee 37

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____

STATE _____

LOCAL _____

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-663), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

7 DESCRIPTION continued

- 15) Magnolia Cottage. Central Stores. 1615 Meharry Boulevard. Ca. 1875. 1-1/2 stories, red brick. Victorian picturesque combining elements of the Queen Ann and Italianate styles.
- 16) Urban Affairs Institute. 1611 Meharry Boulevard. Ca. 1915. Two-story, ashlar stone foundation; clapboard first story; shingled second story; gable roof. The front porch is supported by Doric columns. The porch roof deck has a wood railing.
- 17) Music Building. 1607 Meharry Boulevard. Ca. 1900. One-story clapboard with two-story hip-roofed tower entrance; shingled gable end with fret-work facing street.
- 18) Honors Center. Boyd House. 1603 Meharry Boulevard. Ca. 1915-1920. Two-story brick, stone foundation, one-story porch supported by Doric columns. The side elevations have large bay windows.
- 19) Residence. 1612 Meharry Boulevard. Ca. 1880's. Victorian picturesque; 2-1/2 story gabled bay next to two-story element with stacked porches. Asbestos shingle siding.
- 20) Residence. 1021 16th Avenue North. Early 1920's. Small, one-story clapboard.
- 21) Political Science. 1017 16th Avenue North. 1920's. Two-story, stucco and frame structure with hip roof, porch on two sides.
- 22) Residence. 1604 Phillips Street. 1920's. One-story small brick cottage.
- 23) Student Counseling service. 1608 Phillips Street. 1920. One-story small frame cottage with clapboard siding.
- 26) Music Annex Building. 1014 17th Avenue North. 1876. A single-story brick Italianate L-shaped structure with bracketed eaves, hooded windows and projecting arched entrance porch. A wood-frame clapboard wing was added to the structure in the 1920's.
- 27) Residence. 1627 Phillips Street. Ca. 1920. Small wood-frame cottage with projecting front porch with spindle and grille decoration under porch roof.
- 28) Pre-College Center. 1623 Phillips Street. Ca. 1910. Wood frame cottage with spindle grille decoration under porch roof.
- 29) Student Support Center. 1619 Phillips Street. Ca. 1930. One-and-a-half story clapboard bungalow, gable roof, front porch.
- 30) Career Planning and Placement. 1615 Phillips Street. Ca. 1920. One-story clapboard house. Addition covered with asbestos shingles. Hip roof.
- 32) Residence. 1601 Phillips Street. Ca. 1920. One-and-a-half story brick house with bay window, gambrel roof, entrance porch supported by bracketed columns.

- 37) Bell Tower. Jackson Street between DuBois Hall and Livingston Hall. A brick structure housing a one-ton bell presented to Fisk in 1880. The original wooden structure was replaced by the current brick structure in 1927.
- 43) Faculty Residence. 926 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1900. Two-story, corner front porch, bay window facing the street, clapboard siding, shingles in the gable end.
- 43-A) Faculty Residence. 926-A 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1900. Small, clapboard cottage.
- 45) Mathematics Department. Dunn House. 920 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1910. Two-and-a-half story brick building with gable roof, ashlar stone foundation.
- 46) Freshmen Interdisciplinary Program. 916 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1920. Two-story brick with one-story brick projecting wing, ashlar stone foundation.
- 47) Speech and Drama. 914 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1910. Single story, brick, columns supporting front porch roof.
- 49) Alumni Building. 908 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1915. Two-story brick with bay, Doric columns supporting porch roof.
- 50) Radio Station. WRFN. 906 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1915. Two-story hip roof; painted brick; boarded-up windows; roofed front porch extending over driveway; ornamental wrought iron fence at sidewalk.
- 51) Physical Facilities Office. 920 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1900. One-and-a-half story stone cottage, gable roof; stone fence at sidewalk.
- 52) Safety and Security Office. 900 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1900. One-story neo-Italianate brick over ashlar stone foundation; recessed arched entrance doorway; tall, narrow arched windows, gable roof.
- 54) Residence. 911 18th Avenue North. Ca. 1930's. Two-story "Dutch Colonial"; gambrel roof; pedimented entry, clapboard siding.
- 55) Ballantine Hall (Art Department). 913 18th Avenue North. 1890. Two-story, brick, hip roof; arched windows; two-story bay (at center of street elevation) with clapboard siding over which is a dormer with Gothic arched window. The original front porch has been removed.
- 57) Residence. 919 18th Avenue north. Ca. 1931. Two-story Neo-Greek Revival, gable roof with flat-roofed one-story wing, pedimented and columned entrance, clapboard siding.
- 58) Residence. 1803 Morena Street. Ca. 1930. One-and-a-half story; gable roof, gabled front entrance, clapboard.
- 60) Residence. 1808 Morena Street. Ca. 1900. Two-story; gable roof; roofed entrance porch with grillework; narrow clapboard siding.
- 61) Residence. 1806 Morena Street. 1930's. Neo-Tudor two-story; steep gable roofs; stone first story; stucco second story, singled gable end.

7 DESCRIPTION continued

- 62) Residence. 923 18th Avenue North. Ca. 1910. One-and-a-half story brick with ashjar stone foundation, hip and gable roofs with dormer; gable ends are shingled; two roofed porches; ornamental brick chimney.
- 63) Residence. 929 18th Avenue North. Ca. 1910. One-story; gable roof that extends over front porch; simulated asphalt composition stone siding.
- 65) Biology and Physics Department. 931 18th Avenue North. Ca. 1910. Two-story, hip roof; asbestos shingles, ashlar stone foundation; tall, narrow windows; bay window on left side of gable roofed entry behind which is a two-story hip-roofed tower.
- 67) Residence. 935 18th Avenue North. 1920's. Two-story wood shingles second story over stuccoed first story; hip roof; gable roofed front entrance.

Inventory of non-conforming intrusions that detract from the integrity of the District:

- 2) Crosthwaite Hall. 1030 18th Avenue North. 1962. Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta. Women's Dormitory. Four-story brick, L-shaped building, flat roof, contemporary.
- 3) Scribner Hall. 1020 18th Avenue North. 1959. Women's Dormitory. McKissack & McKissack and Poundstone Ayers & Godwin, Architects. Three-story T-shaped brick, flat roof, contemporary.
- 4) New Residence Center. 1712 Meharry Boulevard. 1972. Anderson, Beckwith & Haible, Architects, Boston. Dormitory, five-story; pinwheel plan, brick and glass, concrete lintels, flat roof, contemporary.
- 10) Parking lot, crushed rock paving.
- 11) Temporary classrooms - Biology Laboratories. Corner Jackson Street and 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1972. Three singles-story pre-fabricated metal buildings.
- 11-A) Three low brick planters at the intersection of Jackson Street and 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1974.
- 12) Adam K. Spence Hall, Student Union. 1020 17th Avenue North. 1959. Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta. Rectangular, three-story brick and glass contemporary, stone spandrels, flat roof.
- 14) Park Johnson Hall. Social Science. 1610 Phillips Street. 1954. McKissack & McKissack and Poundstone, Ayers & Godwin, Architects. Rectangular three-story brick and glass contemporary with three-story stone entrance, flat roof.

- 24) Burrus Hall -- formerly Music Building. 12 Faculty Apartments. 1507 Meharry Boulevard and 1020 16th Avenue North. 1945. McKissack & McKissack, Architects. Two-story brick, L-shaped, flat roof, projecting entry with stone framed arched doors.
- 25) Library. 1012 17th Avenue North. 1968. Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta. Three-story brick contemporary with a two-story concrete colonnade supporting a deep concrete fascia surrounding the entire building.
- 31) Educational Support Services, Reading and Study Skills Laboratory. 1611 Phillips Street. Ca. 1948. One-story plywood with brick chimney, gable roof.
- 33) President's Home. 1604 Jackson Street. 1962. Single-story, glass, ashlar crab-orchard stone walls, gable roof. Modified H-plan. Contemporary.
- 34) Henderson-Johnson Gymnasium. 910 18th Avenue North. 1950. McKissack & McKissack, Architects. Two-story brick with one-story projecting wings. Contemporary.
- 35) Biology Laboratory. 1720 Jackson Street. 1971. One-story pre-fabricated metal.
- 36) DuBois Hall. 1721 Jackson Street. 1959. Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta. Women's Dormitory. L-shaped, three-story brick, flat-roofed contemporary with stone spandrel panels.
- 38) Livingstone Hall. 1701 Jackson Street. 1966. Godwin & Beckett, Architects, Atlanta. Men's Dormitory. L-shaped, four-story brick, glass with stone spandrels, flat-roofed, contemporary.
- 39) Basketball Court. 17th Avenue North.
- 40) Unoccupied. 17th Avenue North. 1972. One-story pre-fabricated metal building.
- 41) Athletic Field, steel seating stands. 1940's.
- 42) English Department. 928 17th Avenue North. 1952. Calvin L. McKissack, Architect. Three-story brick, gable roof with vertical wood siding in gable end; contemporary.
- 44) Carpenter's Shop. 922 17th Avenue North. Ca. 1948. One-story, brick chimney, gable roof, plywood siding.
- 48) Creswell Residence. 910 17th Avenue North. Ca. early 1960's. One-story glass and wood contemporary with steel columns supporting projecting flat roof. A pierced masonry wall partially screens the house from the street.

53) Residence. 909 18th Avenue North. Ca. 1948. One-story; gable roof, plywood siding, brick chimney.

50) Residence. 917 18th Avenue North. Ca. 1948. One-story, gable roof, plywood siding, brick chimney.

59) Faculty Apartments. 1809 Morena Street (A-G). 1969. Street & Street, Architects, Nashville, TN. Clustered group of buildings of brick and wood; shed roofs, contemporary.

64) Residence. 930 18th Avenue North. 1960's. One-story brick, hip roof, contemporary ranch style.

66) Apartment. 929 18th Avenue North. 1948. Two-story brick; hip roof.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

STATEMENT OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In 1865, John Ogden, Erastus Milo Cravath and E. P. Smith, agents of the American Missionary Association of New York, in collaboration with the Freedmen's Aid Commission of Cincinnati, devised plans to establish in Nashville the only school in the United States dedicated to "the education and training of young men and women irrespective of color."¹ They were assisted in this endeavor by General Clinton B. Fisk of the Freedmen's Bureau of Tennessee. The new institution opened on January 9, 1866 and was named Fisk School in honor of General Fisk. John Ogden became the first principal. When its corporate charter was signed on August 12, 1867, the idea of a liberal arts university was conceived and the name of the institution was changed from Fisk School to Fisk University. Although the original charter of incorporation specified "the education and training of young men and women irrespective of color," subsequent state legislation made it mandatory for the institution to limit its student body to members of the Negro race. With the exception of the faculty, which has always been appointed regardless of race or color, and a limited number of special students, the spirit of the original charter was never fully realized. The vestiges of the beliefs responsible for that legislation are still with us today and deter applications from prospective white students.

¹By-Laws of Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee; incorporated in 1867 under the laws of the State of Tennessee.

Five years after Fisk University opened its doors, the University was in such a troubled financial state that it was assumed by many that the University would have to be closed. In 1870, nine students and Professor George L. White left behind them in Nashville several hundred students and some Union Hospital barracks (which comprised the first classrooms, dormitories and offices of Fisk University) to perform concerts as a choral ensemble throughout the United States in the hopes of raising money to save their financially plagued school. Ridicule and hostility characterized early audience response to this group of five women and four men who in no way performed in the traditional "minstrel fashion" that had been stereotyped for black performers in the nineteenth century. In a general atmosphere of despair, Reverend White decided to name them the "Jubilee Singers" from the Biblical reference to the year of Jubilee in the Book of Leviticus. Perseverance and faith on the part of the Singers and Reverend White began to change attitudes in predominantly white audiences. Undesired reactions were replaced by standing ovations. Their first American tour, which lasted three months and ended with an invitation by President Ulysses S. Grant to sing at the White House, established the Jubilee Singers as a performing group of national acclaim and literally saved the University.

The first European tour by the Fisk Jubilee Singers in 1873 was a monumental success. The artistry, modesty and sincerity of the Singers created a popular enthusiasm that sent them on a triumphal march through the courts and concert halls of England, Holland, Scotland, Germany, Sweden and Russia. Queen Victoria of England was so impressed by the Jubilee Singers that she

commissioned a picture to be painted by the court artist. This life-size painting was afterwards given to Fisk University and now hangs in Jubilee Hall, constructed from the revenues of this tour. Jubilee Hall, a national landmark, is one of the finest educational buildings in the South and typifies Goethe's description of great architecture as "frozen music."

The remarkable ventures of the Jubilee Singers and Reverend White is without precedent in American musical or educational annals and may never be properly assessed. Their efforts saved Fisk because five years after their original departure, they had raised enough money to buy the land where Fisk presently stands and to erect Jubilee Hall, the first permanent structure utilized for the higher education of blacks in the South. Fisk University was introduced throughout America and Europe as an institution of rich artistic resources and cultural integrity; influential friends were won to the support of the University; funds estimated at more than \$150,000 were earned for the University; and the Negro spiritual was established as a unique American contribution to musical literature and art. Perhaps no other college or educational institution in the world owes such a debt to a group of its students and a professor. Continuously from their formation, the Fisk Jubilee Singers have been the ambassadors of the University, the State of Tennessee and the United States throughout the world.

Fisk in a number of respects, has been the Harvard, Berkley or University of Chicago of the historically black colleges--one of the few enduring centers of black philosophical statement. Harvard University professors Christopher Jencks and David Riesman in their 1968 study, "The Academic Revolution," placed

Fisk "at the head of the Negro academic procession." As far as most Fisk people are concerned, the Jencks-Riesman evaluation is gratuitous. The book caused a furor in black academic circles, which criticized it as being patronizing, insensible and replete with errors of fact and judgment. But whatever the merits of the Harvard study, Fisk has always been viewed as first-rate, period, not just first among historically black colleges.

Fisk has flourished tremendously over the years, producing a wealth of noted scholars, including social philosopher W. E. B. DuBois, sociologist E. Franklin Frazier, historian John Hope Franklin, congressmen William L. Dawson and Charles C. Diggs, Solicitor General of the United States Wade H. McCree, jurist Constance Baker Motley, poets James Weldon Johnson, Arna Bontemps, Sterling Brown and Nikki Giovanni, tenor Roland Hayes, and novelist John O. Killens, all of whom studied or have taught at the institution. Its principal strengths lay in music, as proven to the world by the Fisk Jubilee Singers, and the humanities, but in recent years other of its departments have strengthened, including physics, chemistry, biology and the arts.

Over the years, Fisk University has achieved an international reputation as a liberal arts institution of high quality. Even before regional accreditation was available to historically black institutions in the South, the work of Fisk had gained recognition by the Board of Regents of New York State and by leading universities throughout the nation. If the Fisk tradition has a beginning, it began with the Fisk Jubilee Singers who took the black man's art and scholarship to the four corners of the world and returned in triumph to build a monument to their success, Fisk

University. The Fisk Jubilee Singers carried the names of Fisk University and the State of Tennessee to the royal courts and the concert halls of Europe. The Fisk Jubilee Singers and Fisk graduates have brought national and international acclaim to the State of Tennessee. The campus of Fisk University now needs to be recognized as a monument to the success of those earlier Fisk graduates and the Fisk Jubilee Singers who through determination and effort earned an international reputation in a segregated society for an institution born fresh from the stifling embrace of slavery.

The Little Theatre (8) is the oldest structure on the Fisk University campus. It is one of the original one-story wood frame buildings erected and used for hospital barracks by the Union Army. It was originally situated on West Church Street, between Knowles and McCray Streets near what is today Union Station. At that time in 1866, the University occupied the hospital building donated by the United States government and known in wartime as "The Railroad Hospital." With the funds earned by the Jubilee Singers, the University purchased twenty-five acres of land to the northeast of Nashville--the former site of Fort Gillem and moved one of the hospital barracks to its present site on campus in 1873. The interior of the barrack was remodeled for its current use as the campus theatre in 1935.

The Carl Van Vechten Art Gallery (9) was erected in 1889 as a gymnasium. Action by the students led by a member of the senior class, Mr. W. E. B. DuBois, precipitated the search for funds by President Erastus Milo Cravath. The ground-breaking ceremony on May 10, 1888 signaled the beginning of the construction of the first gymnasium and mechanical laboratory on a predominantly black

campus in the world. The foundation for the building was excavated by the students and the cornerstone was laid on December 3, 1888. The gymnasium was rededicated in 1949 for Mr. Carl Van Vechten² who encouraged Miss Georgia O'Keeffe to give Fisk part of the art collection of her late husband, Alfred Stieglitz, and to provide funds for renovation of the building to house the collection. The collection includes original works by Cezanne, Picasso, Rivera, Renoir, Maris, Hartley and Georgia O'Keeffe.

Ballentine Hall (55), built in 1890 for the training of colored priests and deacons of the Episcopal Church, was purchased by Fisk in 1914. The building was named in honor of Anna T. Ballentine, former principal of the young women at Fisk. The building currently houses the offices of the Art Department.

The Fisk Memorial Chapel (13) was built in 1892 by a legacy from General Clinton B. Fisk. The legacy took the form of a memorial chapel pursuant to the wishes of Mrs. Fisk and her family. The original chairs were contributed by the YMCA. The Chapel is the center of religious and cultural life in the University community. Since its construction, it has served as headquarters for many notable public functions sponsored by the University. Heads of foreign countries, outstanding concert artists, world famous lecturers, and major political leaders have appeared there. The interior of the Chapel was renovated and a Holtkamp organ installed. The present seating capacity of the Chapel is eight hundred fifty persons.

The Carnegie Library (5) was erected after a gift by Mr. Andrew Carnegie at a cost of \$30,000 in 1908. The cornerstone was laid May 22, 1908 by William Howard Taft, then Secretary of

²Mr. Carl Van Vechten was a New York music critic, author, photographer and art collector.

War and later the twenty-seventh President of the United States. The building currently is called the Academic Building and houses the Office of Student Life and classrooms.

The Erastus Milo Cravath Memorial Library (7) was erected in 1929-30. It was built to serve the reading needs of 1,000 students and provide shelf space for 175,000 volumes. The building is named in honor of the Reverend Erastus Milo Cravath, the first President of the University. Reverend Cravath served as President from 1875 to 1900. The descendants of abolitionists, Cravath's family has continued to participate in the development of the University. From 1900 to 1940, his son, Paul D. Cravath, served as President of the Board of Trustees and later his granddaughter, Mrs. William F. Gibbs, served in the same capacity. Paul D. Cravath was the founder of Cravath, Swaine and Moore, one of the most reputable and largest law firms in New York City and the world.

The walls of the Library are decorated with murals by Aaron Douglas, one of the most gifted of American artists and a member of the Fisk faculty. His work includes murals for the College Inn, Sherman Hotel, Chicago; the 135th Street Branch of the YMCA, New York; and four panels for the 135th Street Branch of the New York Public Library.

Talley-Brady Hall (6), housing the Chemistry Department, was completed in July 1, 1931. The building is named in honor of Thomas Washington Talley, long-time Professor of Chemistry and Chairman of the Department, and in honor of one of his students, St. Elmo Brady, who later served as Chairman of the Chemistry Department. Dr. Brady gained an international reputation for

his work in the field of alkaloids.

Burrus Hall (24) was constructed in 1945 and named in honor of James Dallas Burrus and John Burrus, two of the first four graduates of Fisk University. After graduation James accepted a position as instructor of mathematics and the first full-time Negro teacher at Fisk. He remained at Fisk until the fall of 1877 when he entered Dartmouth College to do graduate study in mathematics. When James left Fisk for Dartmouth, John replaced him until 1879 when he began to pursue the study of law. James was reportedly the first black to receive a Master of Arts degree from an accredited college in 1879 when he was awarded that degree from Dartmouth. After teaching two more years at Fisk, James went to Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College as a professor of mathematics and superintendent of the college farm. Admitted to the Tennessee bar in 1881, John practiced law in Nashville for a year and then accepted the presidency of Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College in Rodney, Mississippi.

In 1893, after deciding that if blacks were ever to be independent as a race, they would have to establish sound financial enterprises, James and John left Mississippi and returned to Nashville. John became a farmer-lawyer and James joined his younger brother Preston in the drug and real estate business. Much of the Burrus' profits were given to Fisk between 1893 and 1922. In 1922, after the death of John, James and Preston, in keeping with John's wishes, gave his eighty-five acre farm to the school. After the death of James in 1928, the last living brother, the University soon learned that he had willed his entire estate to Fisk which included eighty-five houses, stocks and bonds valued

at approximately \$120,000.

Livingstone Missionary Hall was constructed in 1881 with the assistance of friends of the University in Great Britain, England, Holland, Germany and Switzerland. The plan for the erection of the hall was conceived in 1876, when the Fisk Jubilee Singers were in England. The first contribution to the construction fund, outside of the earnings of the Jubilee Singers, was given by Mrs. Agnes Livingstone Burce, of Edinburgh, daughter of the great African explorer, David Livingstone, for whom the building was named. The honor of completing the work and securing the erection of the building is due to Mrs. Valeria G. Stone of Malden, Massachusetts, who donated \$60,000 toward its construction. This building burned down in 1970, but the name is preserved in New Livingstone Hall (38) which was constructed in 1966 and in front of which sits the cornerstone of Livingstone Missionary Hall.

Park-Johnson Hall (14) was built in 1954 and named in honor of Dr. Robert Park, one of America's foremost sociologists of the University of Chicago and Fisk University, and one of his distinguished students, Dr. Charles S. Johnson, President of Fisk University from 1947 to 1956.

Adam K. Spence Hall (12) serves as the student union and houses the University's dining service, post office, and other student facilities. This building was constructed in 1959 and named after Mr. Adam K. Spence who became the second principal of Fisk University and later served as the executive assistant to the first President, Erastus Milo Cravath, in 1875.

DuBois Hall (36), constructed as a dormitory facility in 1959, was named after W. E. B. DuBois, Fisk alumnus, historian,

author, scholar, and one of the original founders of the NAACP and the Pan-African Council. He was the first black recipient of a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Harvard University. One of his many books, Suppression of African Slave Trade, is volume one of the collection of Harvard Classics.

Scribner Hall (3) was erected in 1959 and was named for Mrs. Dora A. Scribner, a Professor of English at Fisk. Crosthwaite Hall was dedicated in 1963 in honor of Mrs. Minnie Lou Scott Crosthwaite, for many years the Registrar of the University.

Henderson A. Johnson Gymnasium (34), constructed in 1950, is named after a former outstanding Fisk athlete, coach, Dean of Men and Director of Physical Education.

A unique feature on the campus is the Bell Tower (37). The large, two thousand pound bell was presented to Fisk in 1880 by Mrs. Clinton B. Fisk and the Jubilee Singers jointly. Professor George L. White in presenting the bell, on behalf of Mrs. Fisk and the Singers, said, "We give it as, in some sense, the capstone of what we have accomplished." In 1927, the wooden exterior was replaced by one of brick.

Fisk owns several residences which have a unique historical value in relation to Nashville and the University. The Moore House (43) was formerly the home of the Reverend George W. Moore, who graduated from Fisk in 1881, and his wife, Ella Shepard Moore, one of the original Jubilee Singers. The house was purchased by the University in 1921.

Magnolia Cottage (15), erected in 1875 as a private residence was purchased by the University in 1917 and has been used as a

music building and television and audio visual center. It currently is used for central storage.

The Ellington House (47) was formerly the residence of the Reverend Ellington, Pastor of the First Baptist Church in East Nashville and a Fisk graduate. It was constructed in approximately 1910 and currently houses the Department of Dramatics and Speech.

The Boyd House (18) was originally the private residence of Mr. Henry Allen Boyd, President of the Citizen's Bank of Nashville. The building was constructed between 1915 and 1920 and currently serves as the University's Honors Center.

The Williams House³ (16) was built between 1915 and 1920 by the eminent sociologist Edmund Haynes, a member of the Fisk faculty, and was later purchased by the University. The house has a history of residents who were famous sociologists. Charles S. Johnson, former Chairman of the Sociology Department and later President of the University, was the next resident. Later, the house was the residence of the noted poet, Arna Bontemps, the former University Librarian. Currently, the house serves as the Urban Affairs Institute.

The Dunn House (45), formerly the home of David Dunn who graduated from Fisk in 1893, was purchased by the University in 1921, and currently houses the Department of Mathematics. The Talley House (49) was the residence of Thomas Washington Talley, Professor and Chairman of the Chemistry Department. The building was constructed in 1915 and now serves as the Alumni House.

The Work House (19) which is next to the campus is the

³Named for Mr. Nathaniel Williams who served as Director of Alumni Affairs at Fisk from 1968 to 1975.

private residence of Mrs. Edith Work, widow of Dr. John W. Work, II. The history of this house is so connected to the history of Fisk that it must be considered a part of any historical district including the Fisk campus. Dr. Work was the director of the Jubilee Singers from 1948 to 1957 and accompanied them on one of their European tours. The house was originally constructed in the nineteenth century by Adam K. Spence, one of the founders of the University. The poet Sterling Brown and the sociologist E. Franklin Frazier, author of Black Bourgeoisie, were residents of this house and both were professors of Fisk.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The site bounded on the North by the S.E. corner of Jefferson Street at 18th Avenue South; then running easterly along the Northern side of Jefferson Street to the S.W. corner of 17th Avenue North; then southerly along the Western side of 17th Avenue North to Meharry Boulevard; then easterly along the Southern side of Meharry Boulevard (including the residence on the Northeast corner of 17th Avenue North and Meharry Boulevard) to the S.W. corner of Meharry Boulevard and 16th Avenue North; then southerly along 16th Avenue North to Jackson Street; then westerly along the Northern side of Jackson Street to 17th Avenue North; then southerly along 17th Avenue North to Herman Street; then westerly along Herman Street to 18th Avenue North; then northerly along 18th Avenue North to Hermosa Street; then westerly along Hermosa Street to the Western property line of the Faculty Apartments at 1809 Morena Street; then northerly along this property line to Morena Street; then easterly along Morena Street to 18th Avenue North; then northerly along 18th Avenue North to the point of beginning at the S.E. corner of Jefferson Street at 18th Avenue North.

History of Nashville, Tennessee. Methodist Church.
Location: Vanderbilt University Library.

Hopkins, Alphonso A. Life of Clinton B. Fisk. New York: Funk and Wagners
1888.
Location: Fisk University Library.

Interview with Mrs. I. Creswell. May 16, 1977.
Location: 17th Avenue North (Mrs. Creswell's residence).

Interview with Mrs. Mary Shane. May 17, 1977.
Location: 12th Avenue North (Mrs. Shane's residence).

Interview with Mrs. John W. Work, III. May 15, 1977.
Location: 17th Avenue North and Meharry Blvd.
(Mrs. Work's residence).

Preliminary Appraisal and Discription of Properties Owned by Fisk
University at Nashville, Tennessee. 1948.
Location: Fisk University President's Office.

President's Reports to the Board of Trustees, Fisk University.
1952 to present.
Location: Fisk University President's Office.

Report of Committee on Campus Buildings, Board of Trustees. April, 1977.
Location: Fisk University President's Office.

FISK UNIVERSITY
 HISTORIC DISTRICT
 NASHVILLE,
 TENNESSEE



CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT STUDY			△
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