

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Philander Smith College Historic District

Other Name/Site Number: PU9799

2. Location

Street & Number: Roughly bounded by 13th Street; 11th Street; Iizard Street; and State Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Little Rock

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Pulaski

Code: 119 Zip Code: 72202

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

5

3

Buildings

Sites

Structures

Objects

5

3

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Cathryn A. Slaton
Signature of certifying official

12-29-98
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register _____

_____ determined eligible for the
National Register _____

_____ determined not eligible for the
National Register _____

_____ removed from the National Register _____

_____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper Date
Of action

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic:	<u>Education</u>	Sub:	<u>College</u>
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Current :	<u>Education</u>	Sub:	<u>College</u>
	<u>Religion</u>		<u>Religious Facility</u>
	<u>Domestic</u>		<u>Single Dwelling</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Colonial Revival
Craftsman
Gothic
Plain/Traditional

Materials: foundation Brick, Concrete roof Composition Shingle
walls Brick other Clay Tile Roof
Novelty Siding

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

The Philander Smith College Historic District encompasses five contributing buildings and three non-contributing buildings. One of the contributing buildings, the U.M. Rose School is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The other four contributing buildings include a gymnasium, a former army barracks, Wesley Chapel and Kelly Hall.

When Philander Smith bought the property formerly housing the Little Rock Junior College in July of 1948, the U.M. Rose Building, the gymnasium, and the former army barracks were already present.

The three non-contributing buildings are the M.L. Harris Library, the Kresge-Mabee Science Building, and the Wesley Chapel parsonage. The M.L. Harris Library was constructed in 1962; the Kresge-Mabee Science Building in 1979, and the parsonage circa 1950s.

Elaboration

U.M. Rose School (PU1670, NR listed 12/08/88)

The U.M. Rose School, located at 812 West 13th Street, is now known as the James Monroe Cox Administration Building located on the campus of Philander Smith College. This building is an example of Federal Colonial Revival-style architecture. Constructed in 1915 by the Charles L. Thompson Architectural Firm (John Parks Almand is credited with the design) this former elementary school is a two-story building, atop a full basement, featuring a U-shaped plan with symmetrically placed projecting wings flanking a one-story central entrance bay on the first floor. The building is of brick construction with a flat roof concealed behind a brick parapet, a dentil cornice line and

meander trim below the parapet that surrounds the entire building. A water table defines the top of the basement.

The south, or front, facade features the same concrete water table and projecting dentil cornice line and parapet seen on the other elevations of the building but with more ornamentation. The southwest wing of the building features a large centered Palladian window. The interior of the window is filled with brick headers and flanked by two narrow four-light windows within fluted pilasters. Soldier bricks define the top of the window. Three arched fourteen-over-eight double-hung wooden windows set in soldier brick arches with concrete keystones light the main section of the building. The one-story entry projects from the center of the building. A large open patio in front of the entry, surrounded by brick half-walls with concrete coping is reached by thirteen concrete steps. Two sets of four steps each exit the patio to the east and west. The entry, situated within an elaborate surround, projects about two feet from one-story wings with square corner posts to the east and west. The wings forming the vestibule, are lit with eight-beside-eight casement windows. The entrance consists of two ten-light french doors within decorative sidelights of tracery and thin Ionic pilasters. The doors are topped with an inverted fanlight surrounded by a wooden arch. Around the wooden arch is a soldier brick arch with a large beaded keystone. The soldier arch culminates on either side of a narrow frieze above the doors and sidelights with two floral limestone panels. Two flanking pairs of modified fluted Corinthian columns surround the entry. Behind each set of columns are two thin eight-light casement windows. A simple concrete frieze supported by the columns is topped with courses of dentils and modillions on a protruding cornice. Atop the cornice is a wrought-iron balustrade. Three arched windows similar to those to the west of the door light the east half of the front facade of the building. The projecting wing to the southeast mirrors the southwest wing.

The upper section of the projecting wings to the east and west contain single four-light stationary windows topped with a soldier course. Seven second-story facade windows on the main section of the building are double-hung, square-headed with a six-over-six sash, splayed lintels and projecting embellished keystones spaced evenly across each of the three bays and separated from the first-story by a concrete belt course.

The eastern facade is fenestrated left to right with three modern two-over-two windows at the basement level. A metal door below ground level is reached by a concrete ramp within a low brick wall. Three more metal windows proceed to the northeast corner. The first-story window arrangement is left to right, a ribbon of five nine-over-nine windows, two single windows and a second ribbon of five windows to the northeast. The second-story fenestration echoes the first-story.

The northern, or rear, elevation has a slight U-shape. The projecting wing to the northeast is lit on the first-floor with a nine-over-nine wooden double-hung window. The central section of the building at the basement level contains four metal two-over-two windows and a metal door below ground level. A set of metal doors leads to the stairwell above the basement. The first-story from east to west is lit by two single nine-over-nine windows, two ribbons of five windows, a brick exterior chimney, a single window and a second set of metal doors. The wing at the northwest has a single window at

the first-floor. The second-story fenestration is identical to the first-story with the exception of two pairs of twelve-over-twelve windows topped with large elliptical fanlights to the east and west of the central section. The dominant arrangement of the wooden rear windows is nine-over-nine. Also present are two sets of twelve-over-twelve wood sash windows with an elliptical fanlight.

The western elevation is a mirror image of the east.

Old Gymnasium (PU1675)

The "Old Gym" as the building is referred to now, is located directly behind the James Monroe Cox Administration Building. It was constructed in 1936 by Works Progress Administration labor in the Plain/Traditional style. This one-story building has a T-shaped plan with both hipped and semicircular roof designs of composition shingle. The building is of brick construction with a continuous brick foundation.

The northern facade of the building consists of two one-story wings on either side of a central two-story section with a hipped roof and boxed cornice. The central two-story portion of the building is decorated with three panels in a basket-weave bond pattern. This pattern is also visible at the cornice below the hipped roof. Seven stationary windows light the basement level. Two sets of one-over-one metal windows fenestrate the western one-story wing beside a single-leaf metal door shaded by a flat metal roof. The door is topped with a square transom. A similar door opens into the eastern wing.

The west facade of the one-story wing contains a set of six-over-six wooden double-hung windows. The second-story of the central section is lit at the cornice by two six-light wooden hopper windows. The section of the building that contains the gymnasium floor under a semicircular roof with boxed cornice is stepped back from the front, northern section which contains a stage and vestibules. Eight concrete buttresses extend north to south. Seven windows between each buttress have been boarded over.

The rear, or southwestern, facade of the one-story wing contains a small hipped-roofed porch supported by a single wooden boxed column. Beneath the porch roof are two paneled doors. The gym floor is accessed at the southwest corner by a set of paneled wooden doors beneath a small gabled porch supported by two square posts. Four sets of two-over-two windows stacked vertically fenestrate the center of this facade. A second set of double-leaf doors with gabled porch open to the southeast. The southeastern facade of the one-story wing has a hipped-roof porch with three paneled doors beneath the overhang. A boxed column supports the porch roof.

The east facade of the building is identical to the west.

The gym is vacant at this time but was used for classes, by both Philander Smith and Little Rock Junior College, as well as for basketball games.

The Barracks (PU1673)

This two-story building located at 1108 Iazard Street, is of frame construction with a rectangular plan. The roof is front-gabled with

composition shingle and exposed rafters. Wall material is novelty siding; the foundation is continuous cast concrete. The architectural style is Craftsman. The building was moved from Camp Robinson military base in Jacksonville in 1948.

The front, or eastern, facade of the building has four windows (two on the first-floor, two on the second); double-hung, with a six-over-six sash. The centered double-leaf entrance to the building is accessed by painted concrete steps with metal hand rails. Flanking the door are painted brick pilasters. The doors are covered with a cloth awning. To the rear of the building at the northwest corner, is a small single-story gable-roofed wing on concrete piers. The wing is accessed by a single paneled door.

The first-story of the northern elevation is fenestrated east to west by three single six-over-six windows, a paneled wooden door is reached by a wooden wheelchair ramp and four single windows. The second-story is lit by seven evenly spaced windows, a single door reached by wooden steps and a single window.

The western, or rear, elevation of the barracks contains three windows on the first-story and two on the second.

The southern elevation is identical to the north except for the absence of a door on the second-story.

The building's original use was as a Student Union and it has continued to be used for that purpose throughout the years. Recent usage has been as the Alumni/UNCF office.

Wesley Chapel (PU1666)

Wesley Chapel is not owned by Philander Smith College, but by the United Methodist Church. Its history, however, is inextricably tied to the college, as the forerunner of Philander Smith College was Walden Seminary (established 1877), located in Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, then at Eighth and Broadway Streets in Little Rock. The Romanesque design with Gothic Revival influences is credited to John Parks Almand.

Wesley Chapel is a two-story building with an L-shaped plan. It is of brick construction with a continuous brick foundation. The roof is gabled with red clay tile. The cornice surrounding the building is closed.

The front, or northern, facade of the chapel is dominated by a wall gable with cornice return. Within the upper part of the wall dormer the windows are arched, with terra-cotta tracery, and a fourteen-over-twelve arrangement. A terra-cotta block separates the upper and lower windows. Two pairs of narrow recessed stained glass windows flank the central window arrangement in the dormer. A tall hip-on-gable roofed tower rises from the northwest corner of the building. A flat-roofed buff brick annex constructed in 1947 stands to the northeast of the original chapel. The first-story of the annex is fenestrated by a single door at the northeast corner, two pairs of two-over-two wooden double-hung windows and a pair of paneled doors under a semicircular cloth awning. The second-story is fenestrated with three pairs of evenly spaced windows. The windows and doors are embellished with soldier

brick courses and concrete squares at the top corner of the opening.

The western facade of the building is asymmetrically arranged. The tower at the northwest corner contains double-leaf paneled doors within a recessed segmented masonry arch. Arched terra-cotta tracery extends from the cornice to a pair of twelve-light windows. The southern wall of the tower is lit by a single stained glass window. Five frosted windows embellished with terra-cotta tracery extend north to south. The windows are separated by a series of brick buttresses. An arched single-leaf door with a circular light opens into a small gabled projection at the southwestern end of the sanctuary. The door is covered by a circular cloth awning and is flanked by two short brick buttresses. A rear wing with belcast roof extends to the south of the chapel and is lit with two one-over-one windows to the south of the door.

The rear of the chapel, facing south, is gabled with a cornice return. A single one-over-one window is situated at the southwest corner of the building. A shed-roofed structure that looks to have been either a side entry to the chapel, or used for storage, extends from the juncture of the original chapel and the 1947 annex to the southeast. The rear wall of the shed-roofed wing contains a boarded-over door. The eastern wall of the wing contains a boarded-over window. The first-story of the annex is accessed by a single paneled door reached by four concrete steps. To the right of the door are a single one-over-one window and two openings filled with glass blocks. The second-story of the annex is fenestrated west to east by three one-over-one windows and a single opening filled with glass blocks at the southeast.

The eastern facade of the annex contains three openings filled with glass blocks on the first-story and two similar openings on the second. The second-story openings flank a metal door reached by a metal staircase. The eastern facade of the chapel is fenestrated by three frosted windows like those on the west. A gabled section to the northeast contains a double-leaf arched entry recessed within a terra-cotta arch. Above the door is an arched fourteen-light stationary window in arched terra-cotta surround.

The interior of the chapel is carpeted with plaster walls, a multi-seat loft, hanging light fixtures, and exposed ceiling beams. The annex contains a kitchen area and meeting rooms.

The present site of Wesley Chapel, located at 1109 State Street, had its origins in 1883 with the purchase of land by Reverend O.W. Emory. The first brick structure was raised at this time and later, in 1903-04 it was torn down. A larger brick structure was completed in 1905 and remained until 1924 when it was destroyed by fire. The church was rebuilt under the Reverend J.C. Brower in 1926-27. A cornerstone located on the north side of the chapel gives the year 1926 as the date of reconstruction. An annex was added in 1947 to the church.

Kelly Hall (PU1672)

Kelly Hall was completed in 1952; thus its age (46 years old) falls just short of the 50 year eligibility rule for National Register consideration. However, of the five buildings being considered for National Register listing, Kelly Hall is the only one whose original construction was upon property owned by Philander Smith College and whose original use was

exclusively by the college. Kelly Hall has served as a residence for seven former Presidents of Philander Smith College and continues to serve the current President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed. As the home of Philanders' President, Kelly Hall houses close to a half-century of leadership; leadership that has laid the groundwork for another half-century of Philander Smith's existence.

Kelly Hall, located at 123 IZARD Street, is a two-story side-gabled building with a T-shaped plan. It is of brick construction with a continuous brick foundation. The roof is composition shingle with five pedimented dormers and an exterior end chimney. The cornice is boxed. The architectural style is Colonial Revival.

The symmetrical western, or front, facade of the building has two eight-over-twelve double-hung windows above a wooden panel. A soldier course tops the windows which are flanked by wooden shutters. The centered front entry consists of a storm door and a seven-paneled entrance door with a paneled transom and a triangular pediment supported by Corinthian columns. A series of concrete steps lead up to the door flanked by metal, decorative hand rails. The first-story fenestration continues south with two more windows. The second-story is five ranked with eight-over-eight sashes. These windows are also flanked by shutters and are covered with metal awnings. Three pedimented dormers containing six-over-six double-hung windows open into the attic.

The first-story of the southern elevation is lit by three windows. One is composed of eight-over-twelve sash while two are six-over-nine. The two second-story windows are double-hung with an eight-over-eight sash. Shutters flank one window. A brick exterior chimney rises from this facade. A rear hipped-roof wing containing a garage extends from the eastern elevation of the house. Its southern wall contains a recessed garage door.

The eastern, or rear, elevation is fenestrated south to north by a large bay window with a flared copper roof. The bay contains a twelve-light french door flanked by two pairs of nine-over-nine windows. A single four-over-four window is to the north of the bay. A single four-over-four window is to the north. Two pedimented dormers with louvers open in to the attic level. A brick half-wall surrounds a patio in front of the bay.

The northern facade of the rear wing contains a single door and one-over-one windows. The original gable end of the house is fenestrated east to west by a pair of six-over-six windows and two single eight-over-twelve windows. Two second-story windows are double-hung with an eight-over-eight sash. Shutters embellish one window.

Kelly Hall, since its construction, has been used both as the residence of the President of Philander Smith and as a guesthouse.

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local & Statewide

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): G

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Ethnic Heritage

Period(s) of Significance: 1915-1952

Significant Dates: 1915-1952

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: John Parks Almand

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and period of significance noted above:

On November 7, 1877, Walden Seminary opened its doors as a preparatory school for negro youth. Established by the Freedman's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Walden Seminary was first housed within the walls of Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, then located at the intersection of Eighth and Broadway in Little Rock. The seminary was named in honor of Dr. J.M. Walden, one of the originators and the first Corresponding Secretary of the Freedman's Aid Society.

In 1882, Dr. G.W. Gray, President of Little Rock Junior College, the institution for the Arkansas Annual Conference, met Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Mr. Philander Smith of Oak Park, Illinois, on a fund-seeking mission. The late Philander Smith had been a generous donor to Asiatic missions and had developed an interest in the work of the Methodist Church in the south. Mrs. Smith made a donation of \$10,500 to Walden Seminary. In honor of her donation, the Seminary changed its name to Philander Smith College on March 3, 1883.

As one of the early attempts to make education available to freedmen west of the Mississippi River, and for its presence as a center of educational

opportunity for black students, Philander Smith College Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A with local significance. It is also being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C for its diverse collection of architectural styles.

In 1845, the Methodist Episcopal Church separated when the Southern Conference found themselves in moral opposition over the issue of slavery with their northern counterparts. This split resulted in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South coming into existence in 1845. With the Civil War over, church leaders decided that a separate body was needed to teach the recently emancipated millions. On August 7-8, 1866, the Freedman's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in Trinity Church, Cincinnati, Ohio.

From 1865-1875, the white and black members were united in the same conference, the Arkansas Conference. In 1876, an act was passed by the General Conference of the northern Methodist Episcopal Church permitting the Arkansas Annual Conference to divide, thus forming an additional conference covering the same area. The division was made along color lines as the white and black Methodists found themselves in different conferences. The white Methodists became associated with the Arkansas Conference; the black Methodists with the Little Rock Annual Conference organized in 1877. Both conferences immediately began the task of establishing conference schools and with the power to promote educational institutions thus gained, the Little Rock Annual Conference designated Walden Seminary as its official educational institution.

In 1877 Walden Seminary was located at Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, Eighth and Broadway in Little Rock. Wesley Chapel can trace its origins to 1853 under the leadership of William Wallace Andrew, a black Methodist minister.

From the start, Walden Seminary was closely associated with the Little Rock Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The conference in session on February 21, 1879, made their appreciation known to the Freedman's Aid Society for their work in creating "a conference school where our young men may be educated for the ministry and our people may have the benefit of a first class seminary education." Also in 1879, Walden Seminary moved from Eighth and Broadway to the second-story of Kendrick Hall at Tenth and Center Streets.

The first president of Walden Seminary, elected by the Board of Trustees, was Reverend Thomas Mason who served the institution from 1881-1896. Reverend Mason was a graduate of Asbury (now Depauw) University in Green Castle, Indiana and a member of the Indiana Conference.

When Adeline Smith, the widow of Philander Smith donated \$10,500 to the Seminary in 1882 the Board of Trustees acknowledged her benevolence by changing the name of the institution to Philander Smith College. A new site for the school had already been purchased at Eleventh and Izard Streets and her donation would enhance the prospects of this fledgling university. Budlong Hall, the first brick building on the new site constructed in 1883, was largely funded by Mrs. Smith's donation.

The school was chartered as a four year college on March 3, 1883. In the same year a manual training department was added. In 1884 a new dormitory for girls, named for Adeline Smith was built on the southeast corner of Eleventh and Izard Streets. In 1890 Budlong Hall was expanded.

Philander Smith conferred its first Baccalaureate degree in 1888. The recipient of this degree was Dr. Rufus C. Childress who, for many years, served as Assistant Supervisor of African-American schools in Arkansas. Dr. Childress also served as Secretary of Philander Smith's Board of Trustees for some thirty years. These early years of the college also saw the formation of the following departments; the Grammar School, the Preparatory School, the Normal School to train teachers for work in the public schools of the county, the College, offering degrees in the Arts, Philosophy and Science, the School of Music and the Department of Carpentry and Printing.

In 1883, Philander Smith had two teachers and 82 pupils; by 1892, there were 15 college teachers, seven college students, and 223 sub-collegiate pupils. By the end of Reverend Mason's tenure in 1896, the college had 268 students and a faculty of six; by 1900, Philander had a student body totaling 465 and a faculty of 13. The first African-American President of the college was Reverend James Monroe Cox who served from 1897-1924. He held a Bachelor of Arts degree, and a Bachelor of Divinity degree earned from Gammon Theological Seminary.

In 1914, Philander Smith remained mostly a school of elementary and secondary grades; just a few students were college-level in secondary subjects. There were 268 elementary students, 132 secondary students, and 39 collegiate level students. The college had attracted students from twenty-four states; 147 from Arkansas. College preparatory work included; Latin, four years, Greek, two years, English, three years and six months, Mathematics, four, Chemistry, one and a quarter, History and Civics, two and Bible, six months. For those students enrolled in the college, the subjects were basically foreign languages and elementary sciences.

New property purchased under Reverend Cox's term included the northeast corner of Tenth and Izard Streets on which a new girl's dormitory was completed in 1919. The dormitory, Webb Hall, was named in honor of the organizer of the first school for negroes in Little Rock. Also the northern expansion of Budlong Hall was completed. In 1922 Philander Smith purchased forty acres in the Fulk Addition of the city. With an "A" rating given to Philander by the Arkansas State Board of Education as the leading institution in the state for the education of African-Americans, the new site with buildings, equipment, and faculty would provide a solid future for the college. When Reverend Cox retired in 1924, faculty included twenty-four individuals on the professional staff, and a total student enrollment of 378.

On July 1, 1936 Dr. Marquis Lafayette Harris became President of Philander Smith College. Dr. Harris had a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Gammon Theological Seminary, an Master of Arts degree in Sacred Theology from Boston University, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Ohio State University.

In 1948 property adjacent to Philander Smith was purchased from the Little Rock School Board. This property encompassed one city block and was formerly the site of Little Rock Junior College. Obtained in this acquisition was an

Academic Administration Building, now the James Monroe Cox Administration Building, a Gymnasium/Auditorium, now referred to as the "Old Gym" and a Chemistry Building. The forty acres in the Fulk Addition was sold to Faucett Builders, Incorporated. On March 3, 1952 a new President's home was constructed. This building, named after Bishop Edward Wendell Kelly, is known as Kelly Hall today and has served as the president's residence since its construction. Additionally in 1952 an annex to the Chemistry Building was added through a grant. Two and one-half city blocks, or urban renewal property adjacent to the campus was purchased in 1958. Philander became, as a result of this purchase the first traditionally black institution to purchase property from the Little Rock Urban Renewal as a redeveloper. The land was cleared under the Federal Program of Slum Clearance and Redevelopment. In September of 1959, a new dormitory for men and women, a student union, a cafeteria and a dining hall were erected.

The number of courses offered at the college increased from 116 in 1935-36 to 235 in 1941-42. During this same period, Philander increased the majors given from six to eighteen with prerequisites provided for Dentistry, Journalism, Law, Medicine, Music, Pharmacy, Religious Education, Social Service and Theology. In 1949 Philander Smith was the first African-American institution to be fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dr. Harris ended his term of service as president in 1960; the longest term of any president of Philander. By that year Philander had forty-six faculty members, twelve with Doctorate degrees, two with Medical degrees, twenty-six with Master's degrees and six with Bachelor's degrees. The decades following Dr. Harris' term witnessed continual expansion and academic recognition for the college. In 1962 the M.L. Harris Library was completed, six blocks of Urban Renewal property were bought in 1962 and in 1963, Philander, through Village Square Incorporated placed into use a \$3,000,000 housing project and shopping center. By 1965 the Philander Smith campus encompassed just over ten city blocks. From 1969 to 1979 Philander Smith would add eight new classrooms to the library, expand the women's dormitory, renovate the James M. Cox Administration Building, construct a new office complex and construct the new Mabee-Kresge Science Building.

During the 1980s Philander would initiate its first Cluster Program involving the support of business and industry in Little Rock and the state. Also, accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools was retained, and approval was achieved by the Arkansas State Department of Education for Teacher Education Programs.

Recently, Philander Smith was able to build a \$3,000,000 Multi-Purpose Building consisting of a gymnasium with Physical Education and Business buildings and a Academic building. Accreditation of Philander runs through the year 2007. In 1993 the school's Teachers Program obtained accreditation from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. In 1997 Philanders' Business and Economic Division achieved accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs. Current attempts are being made to gain accreditation for Philanders' Social Work Program through the Council for Social Work Education.

After 121 years of experience in aiding the city's African-Americans,

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

Philander Smith still stands atop a twenty-five acres campus in the heart of Little Rock with over 900 students and 39 full-time faculty.

Philander Smith College provided an education for Freedmen in the post-Civil War era when few educational opportunities for African-Americans existed. Today, through expansion of its facilities, the college is still helping to educate people that might not have a chance to realize their full potential. In the state of Arkansas, Philander Smith College attained several landmarks in higher education. It was the first black institution to become a four year college, the first black institution to be accredited by a regional association, the first black institution to offer a major in art and the first black institution to purchase property from the Little Rock Urban Renewal as a redeveloper. For these reasons, Philander Smith College Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A with statewide significance. For its collection of diverse architectural styles, the district is also being nominated to the National Register with local significance under Criterion C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Almand, Colonel A.J. "John Parks Almand." *The Pulaski County Historical Review* 37 (Summer 1989): 36-44.
- Arkansas Architectural Resources Form(s) for 1998.
- Gibson, De Lois. "A Historical Study of Philander Smith College, 1877-1969." M.Ed. diss., University of Arkansas. 1969.
- Ginocchio and Cromwell, Architects. Survey of Little Rock Junior College, June 25, 1947.
- Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1998.
- "Here We Stand: Celebrating 143 years of God's Service." Wesley Chapel's 143rd anniversary celebration publication.
- Lester, Jr. James E. *The People's College: Little Rock Junior College and Little Rock University*. Little Rock, August House, 1987.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, fourteenth printing, 1997.
- McDonald, Erwin L. "Philander Smith Observes Centennial." *Arkansas Democrat*, 27 February, 1977, 16A.
- Philander Smith College Bulletin* 82 (March 1959) No. 6.
- Philander Smith College Catalog for 1997-1998/1998-1999.

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

Philander Smith College History. Found in the M.L. Harris Library's vertical files on the campus of Philander Smith College.

Philander Smith College President's Annual Reports for: Tuesday, April 5, 1949; Tuesday October 23, 1951; Tuesday, March 25, 1952.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map(s) for 1950.

Vernon, Walter N. Methodism in Arkansas, 1816-1976. Little Rock: Joint Committee for the History of Arkansas Methodism, 1976.

1998 nomination of the U.M. Rose School to the National Register of Historic Places found at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data: _____

☒ State historic preservation office

☐ Other state agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre.

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>565700</u>	<u>3844200</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>565910</u>	<u>3844340</u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u>565860</u>	<u>3844980</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>565600</u>	<u>3843920</u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point located at the west boundary of the district on Eleventh Street, proceed eastward along Eleventh for 660 feet. Then proceed south 295

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

feet along Gaines Street to State Street. Proceed west along State Street for 262 feet, then proceed south for 260 feet along the eastern boundary of U.M. Rose Elementary School to West Thirteenth Street. Proceed west for 328 feet on West Thirteenth Street, turn north and proceed 393 feet along Izard Street. Turn west for 65 feet along the southern boundary of the Army Barracks, then proceed north 82 feet to point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the Philander Smith College Historic District which retains its integrity and is associated with the functioning of Philander Smith College. The boundary excludes, where possible, properties that have lost integrity and/or have no significance.

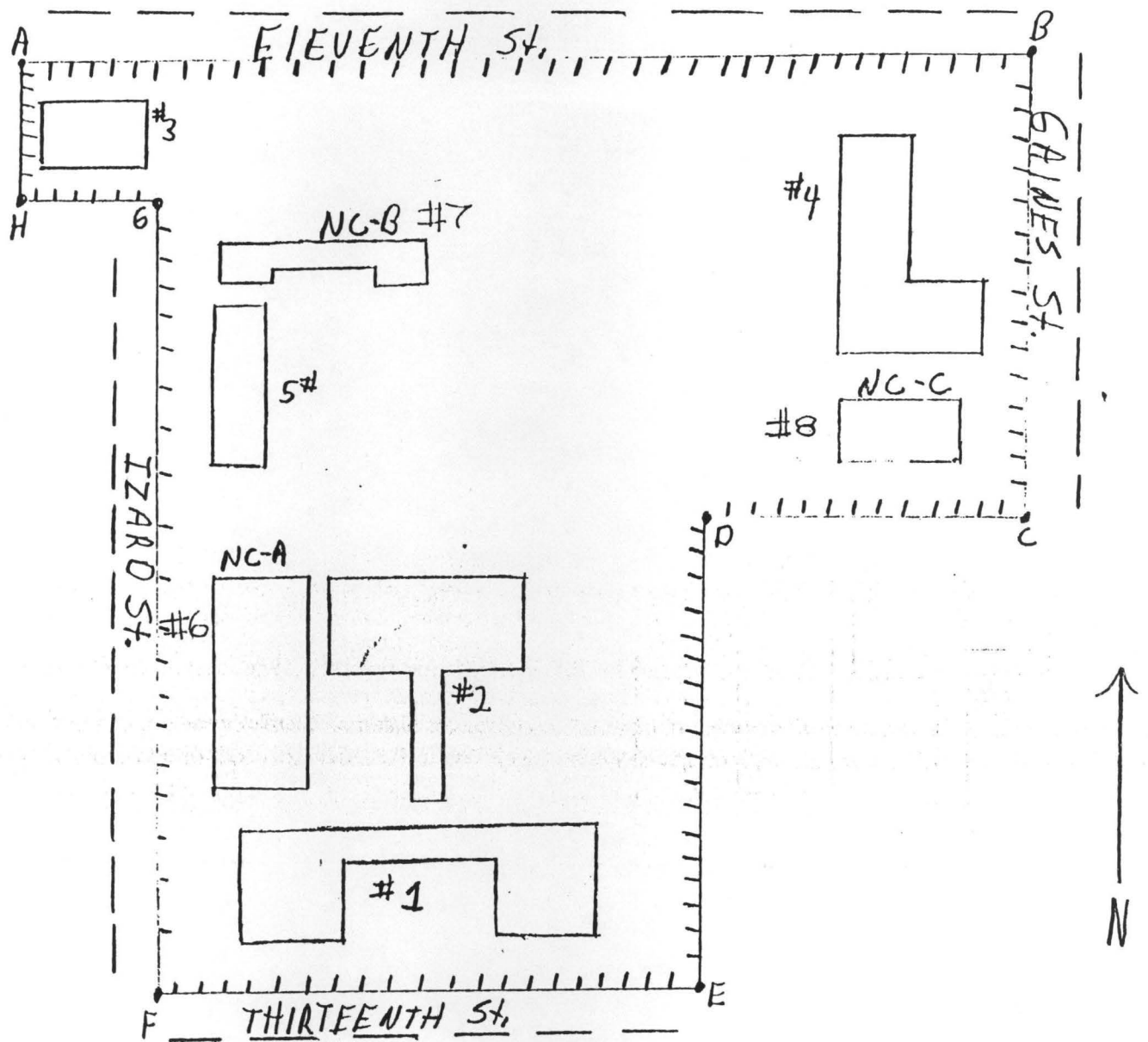
11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Shane Dutton/AHPP Intern

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/02/98

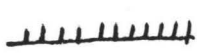
Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201



Philander Smith College

Historic District

Boundary 

1. U M Rose School
PUI670
2. Old Gymnasium
PUI675
3. The Barracks
PUI673
4. Wesley Chapel
PUI666
5. Kelly Hall
PUI672

NC - Noncontributing

- 6 NC-A - Kresge-Mabee Science Building PUI676
- 7 NC-B - M. L. Harris Library PUI668
- 8 NC-C - Wesley Chapel Parsonage PUI676

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Philander Smith College Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 1/21/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/02/99
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/18/99 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/07/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99000229

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: Y
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT ___DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RETURN

SEE ATTACHED COMMENTS

RECOM./CRITERIA RETURN

REVIEWER PAUL R. LUSIGNAN

DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE 202.343.1628

DATE 2/24/99

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments (Y/N) see attached SLR Y/N

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Pulaski County, Arkansas

National Register of Historic Places - Return Comments:

The current documentation is being returned so that substantive and technical issues regarding the nomination can be addressed. Upon completion of the revisions the National Register can proceed with formal consideration of the property.

Description

The resource count should be revised to read four (4) contributing buildings [Gym, Chapel, Barracks, Kelly Hall]. Previously listed resources [U. M. Rose School] should not be included in the count provided on new nominations. [NR Bulletin 16A p.16]

Significance

The majority of the current statement of significance discusses the early history and development of the Walden Seminary and Philander Smith College. While this material is necessary for an understanding of the broader importance of the nominated resources, the nomination needs to focus much more directly on the context, events, and significance of the period 1948 to 1952--the proposed period of significance. The extant buildings reflect Philander Smith College at a certain point and time in its history. The narrative must be written so as to directly show how the campus at this point in time and how **these extant** resources reflect important themes or events associated with African American educational history in Arkansas.

One way would be to examine and discuss how the extant buildings reflected the culmination of years of effort and struggle by the college to provide a modern, professional campus for its operations. The extant buildings stand as a symbol of the success, status, and relative prosperity achieved by the school by 1948 as it expanded and grew into a modern teaching institution. Additional documentation could be provided to better establish the place held by the school during the 1940s-50s within the context of African American education. Since the extant buildings only became part of the Philander Smith College after 1948, they can only reflect the history of the college from that point on, they have no relationship whatsoever to the college during the period prior to 1948. The mere fact that the buildings existed prior to 1948 has no relevancy to their significance under the themes of African American education as outlined in the narrative. The period of significance under Ethnic Heritage and Education should be revised to read 1948-1952. In addition, *Education* should be added as an area of significance for the historic district. [Should there be a desire to expand the period of consideration beyond 1948-1952, the narrative would need to address the history, development, and significance of the Little Rock Junior College in the area of education during the period prior to 1948.]

With regard to the earlier history of the Philander Smith College, it would be useful to know the condition or status of the earlier buildings discussed in the text, specifically what happened to the earlier college facilities built adjacent to the current district campus [*Budlong Hall, Smith Dormitory, Webb Hall*]. Were these building (which could reflect the earlier time period) demolished? Were they so substantially altered that they were excluded from consideration in this nomination? How so? We are told about earlier buildings, but given little resolution regarding their eventual status.

In addition, the nomination should better address how the 1926 Wesley Chapel relates to the circa 1948

history of the college campus. The association of the congregation with the early history and establishment of the seminary is interesting, but it has little evident connection with this property or the contributing components of the nominated district. Was the Wesley Chapel used by the college and its students? Did the congregation and its leaders retain close ties to the college throughout its history? Was the congregation's decision to relocate near the college campus in 1883 a conscious decision on behalf of the congregation? It is not clear from the current nomination whether Wesley Chapel had any significant associations with the Philander Smith College during the period of significance 1948-1952, or whether it was simply an adjacent landholder.

The architectural significance of the district is not currently justified under Criterion C. The nomination fails to provide any elaboration on the subject of architectural significance. The buildings are not related to any important design trends in local architecture; individually significant characteristics, styles, or features are not identified; nor are any contextual materials provided to better understand the significance of the buildings in terms of local architectural history. The nomination cannot rely merely on the descriptive narrative alone for justification of architectural significance. The area of significance *Architecture* and *Criterion C* should be deleted, unless additional documentation is provided to show how the district's buildings reflect important architectural traditions or designs in the context of Little Rock architectural history.

If the architectural significance relies solely on the previously identified importance of the U. M. Rose School [nominated under Criterion C in 1988] the nomination should specifically note this fact and provide an additional single significance date of 1915.

Geographical Information

✓ The current verbal boundary description (VBD) and sketch map should be revised to more accurately convey the information necessary. The distances given in the current VDB do not conform to a closed area. Adding the east-west distances results in a discrepancy of five (5) feet [660' to 655'], not a large problem and one that could be consigned to acceptable error, but the north-south distances reveal a much larger gap [475' to 555'] of about 80'. Please revise the description to conform to a closed area.

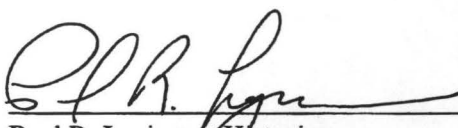
✓ The USGS map shows Icard Street as continuing through the college campus in front of the Barracks building, yet the sketch map shows the barracks as contiguous with the central campus. The same is true for the Wesley Chapel building on the east side of the district. Should the sketch map be revised or are these roadways no longer extant?

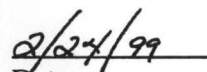
✓ The acreage is given as "less than one," but the map appears to show an area of at least 7 to 8 acres. Please clarify the actual acreage being nominated.

✓ The U.T.M. coordinates should be revised as follows:

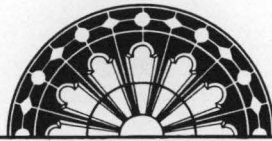
B. 3844160 C. 3843920 D. 3843980

If you have questions regarding these comments, please contact me directly at the number listed below.


Paul R. Lusignea, Historian
(for) Keeper of the National Register
(202) 343-1628


Date

A:\philandr.rtn



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

December 29, 1998

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United State Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20002

RE: Philander Smith College Historic District - Little Rock, Pulaski County.

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:br

Enclosures



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Philander Smith College Historic District

Other Name/Site Number: PU9799

2. Location

Street & Number: Roughly bounded by 13th Street; 11th Street; Izard Street; and State Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Little Rock Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Pulaski Code: 119 Zip Code: 72202

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	Buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Objects
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Philander Smith College Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Cathryn H. Sater
Signature of certifying official

July 15, 1999
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register

_____ determined eligible for the
National Register

_____ determined not eligible for the
National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain): _____

B. B. Sater

9/13/99

_____ Signature of Keeper Date
Of action

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic:	<u>Education</u>	Sub:	<u>College</u>
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Current :	<u>Education</u>	Sub:	<u>College</u>
	<u>Religion</u>		<u>Religious Facility</u>
	<u>Domestic</u>		<u>Single Dwelling</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Colonial Revival
Craftsman
Gothic
Plain/Traditional

Materials: foundation Brick, concrete roof Composition shingle
walls Brick other Clay tile roof
Novelty siding

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

The Philander Smith College Historic District encompasses five contributing buildings and three non-contributing buildings. One of the contributing buildings, the U.M. Rose School is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The other four contributing buildings include a gymnasium, a former army barracks, Wesley Chapel and Kelly Hall.

When Philander Smith bought the property formerly housing the Little Rock Junior College in July of 1948, the U.M. Rose Building, the gymnasium, and the former army barracks were already present.

The three non-contributing buildings are the M.L. Harris Library, the Kresge-Mabee Science Building, and the Wesley Chapel parsonage. The M.L. Harris Library was constructed in 1962; the Kresge-Mabee Science Building in 1979, and the parsonage circa 1950s.

The Philander Smith College Historic District is bounded on the south by 13th Street, on the east by State Street, north by 11th Street and west by IZard Street.

Elaboration

U.M. Rose School (PU1670, NR listed 12/08/88)

The U.M. Rose School, located at 812 West 13th Street, now known as the James Monroe Cox Administration Building is located on the campus of Philander Smith College. This building is an example of Federal Colonial Revival-style

architecture. Constructed in 1915 by the Charles L. Thompson Architectural Firm (John Parks Almand is credited with the design) this former elementary school is a two-story building, atop a full basement, featuring a U-shaped plan with symmetrically placed projecting wings flanking a one-story central entrance bay on the first floor. The building is of brick construction with a flat roof concealed behind a brick parapet, a dentil cornice line and meander trim below the parapet that surrounds the entire building. A water table defines the top of the basement.

The south, or front, facade features the same concrete water table and projecting dentil cornice line and parapet seen on the other elevations of the building, but with more ornamentation. The southwest wing of the building features a large centered Palladian window. The interior of the window is filled with brick headers and flanked by two narrow four-light windows within fluted pilasters. Soldier bricks define the top of the window. Three arched fourteen-over-eight double-hung wooden windows set in soldier brick arches with concrete keystones light the main section of the building. The one-story entry projects from the center of the building. A large open patio in front of the entry, surrounded by brick half-walls with concrete coping is reached by thirteen concrete steps. Two sets of four steps each exit the patio to the east and west. The entry, situated within an elaborate surround, projects about two feet from one-story wings with square corner posts to the east and west. The wings forming the vestibule, are lit with eight-beside-eight casement windows. The entrance consists of two ten-light French doors within decorative sidelights of tracery and thin Ionic pilasters. The doors are topped with an inverted fanlight surrounded by a wooden arch. Around the wooden arch is a soldier brick arch with a large beaded keystone. The arch culminates on either side of a narrow frieze above the doors and sidelights with two floral limestone panels. Two flanking pairs of modified fluted Corinthian columns surround the entry. Behind each set of columns are two thin eight-light casement windows. A simple concrete frieze supported by the columns is topped with courses of dentils and modillions on a protruding cornice. Atop the cornice is a wrought-iron balustrade. Three arched windows similar to those to the west of the door light the east half of the front facade of the building. The projecting wing to the southeast mirrors the southwest wing.

The upper section of the projecting wings to the east and west contain single four-light stationary windows topped with a soldier course. Seven second-story windows on the main section of the building are double-hung, square-headed with a six-over-six sash, splayed lintels and projecting embellished keystones spaced evenly across each of the three bays and separated from the first-story by a concrete belt course.

The eastern facade is fenestrated left to right with three modern two-over-two windows at the basement level. A metal door below ground level is reached by a concrete ramp within a low brick wall. Three more metal windows proceed to the northeast corner. The first-story window arrangement is left to right, a ribbon of five nine-over-nine windows, two single windows and a second ribbon of five windows to the northeast. The second-story fenestration echoes the first-story.

The northern, or rear, elevation has a slight U-shape. The projecting wing to the northeast is lit on the first floor with a nine-over-nine wooden double-

hung window. The central section of the building at the basement level contains four metal two-over-two windows and a metal door below ground level. A set of metal doors leads to the stairwell above the basement. The first-story from east to west is lit by two single nine-over-nine windows, two ribbons of five windows, a brick exterior chimney, a single window and a second set of metal doors. The wing at the northwest has a single window at the first floor. The second-story fenestration is identical to the first story with the exception of two pairs of twelve-over-twelve windows topped with large elliptical fanlights to the east and west of the central section. The dominant arrangement of the wooden rear windows is nine-over-nine. Also present are two sets of twelve-over-twelve wood sash windows with elliptical fanlight.

The western elevation is a mirror image of the east.

Old Gymnasium (PU1675)

The "Old Gym" as the building is referred to now, is located to the north, directly behind the James Monroe Cox Administration Building. It was constructed in 1936 by Works Progress Administration labor in the Plain/Traditional style. This one-story building has a T-shaped plan with both hipped and barrel roof designs of composition shingle. The building is of brick construction with a continuous brick foundation.

The northern facade of the building consists of two one-story wings on either side of a taller central section with a hipped roof and boxed cornice. The central portion of the building is decorated with three panels in a basket-weave bond pattern. This pattern is also visible at the cornice below the hipped roof. Seven stationary windows light the basement level. Two sets of one-over-one metal windows fenestrate the western one-story wing beside a single-leaf metal door shaded by a flat metal roof. The door is topped with a one-light transom. A similar door opens into the eastern wing.

The west facade of the one-story wing contains a set of six-over-six wooden double-hung windows. The upper level of the central section containing the stage and vestibules, is lit at the cornice by two six-light wooden hopper windows. The lower section of the building that contains the gymnasium floor under a barrel roof with boxed cornice is stepped back from the northwestern wing. Eight concrete buttresses extend north to south along the gym floor portion of the building. Seven windows between each buttress have been boarded over.

The rear, or southern, facade of the western wing contains a small hipped-roof porch supported by a single wooden boxed column. Beneath the porch roof are two paneled doors. The gym floor is accessed at the southwest corner by a set of paneled wooden doors beneath a small gabled porch supported by two square posts. Four sets of two-over-two windows stacked vertically fenestrate the center of this facade. A second set of double-leaf doors with gabled porch open to the southeast. The southern facade of the eastern wing has a hipped-roof porch with three paneled doors beneath the overhang. A boxed column supports the porch roof.

The east facade of the building is identical to the west.

The gym is vacant at this time but was used for classes, by both Philander Smith and Little Rock Junior College, as well as for basketball games and plays.

The Barracks (PU1673)

This two-story building located at 1108 Izard Street, is of frame construction with a rectangular plan. The roof is front-gabled with exposed rafters. Wall cladding is novelty siding; the foundation is continuous cast concrete. The architectural style is Craftsman. The building was moved from Camp Robinson military base in Jacksonville in 1948.

The front, or eastern, facade of the building has four windows (two on the first-floor, two on the second); double-hung, with a six-over-six sash. The centered double-leaf entrance to the building is accessed by painted concrete steps with metal hand rails. Flanking the door are painted brick pilasters. The doors are shaded by a cloth awning. To the rear of the building at the northwest corner, is a small single-story gable-roofed wing on concrete piers. The wing is accessed by a single paneled door.

The first-story of the northern elevation is fenestrated east to west by three single six-over-six windows, a paneled wooden door reached by a wooden wheelchair ramp, and four single windows. The second-story is lit by seven evenly spaced windows, a single door reached by wooden steps and a single window.

The western, or rear elevation of the barracks contains three windows on the first-story and two on the second.

The southern elevation is identical to the north except for the absence of a door on the second-story.

The building's original use was as a student union and it has continued to be used for that purpose throughout the years. Recent usage has been as the Alumni/UNCF office.

Wesley Chapel (PU1666)

Wesley Chapel is not owned by Philander Smith College, but by the United Methodist Church. Its history, however is inextricably tied to the college, as the forerunner of Philander Smith College was Walden Seminary (established 1877), located in Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, then at Eighth and Broadway Streets in Little Rock. The Romanesque design with Gothic Revival influences is credited to John Parks Almand.

Wesley Chapel is a two-story building with an L-shaped plan. It is of buff brick construction with a continuous brick foundation. The roof is gabled with red clay tile.

The front, or northern, facade of the chapel is dominated by a wall gable with cornice return. Within the upper part of the wall dormer the windows are arched, with terra-cotta tracery, and a fourteen-over-twelve arrangement. A terra-cotta block separates the upper and lower windows. Two pairs of narrow recessed stained glass windows flank the central window arrangement in the

dormer. A tall hip-on-gable roofed tower rises from the northwest corner of the building. A flat-roofed buff brick annex constructed in 1947 stands to the northeast of the original chapel. The first-story of the annex is fenestrated by a single door at the northeast corner, two pairs of two-over-two wooden double-hung windows and a pair of paneled doors under a semicircular cloth awning. The second-story is fenestrated with three pairs of evenly spaced windows. The windows and doors are embellished with soldier brick courses and concrete squares at the top corner of the opening.

The western facade of the building is asymmetrically arranged. The tower at the northwest corner contains double-leaf paneled doors within a recessed segmented masonry arch. Arched terra-cotta tracery extends from the cornice to a pair of twelve-light windows. The southern wall of the tower is lit by a single stained glass window. Five evenly spaced frosted windows embellished with terra-cotta tracery extend north to south. The windows are separated by a series of brick buttresses. An arched single-leaf door with a circular light opens into a small gabled projection at the southwestern end of the sanctuary. The door is covered by a circular cloth awning and is flanked by two short brick buttresses. A rear wing with belcast roof extends to the south of the chapel and is lit with two one-over-one windows to the south of the door.

The rear of the chapel, facing south, is gabled with a cornice return. A single one-over-one window is situated at the southwest corner of the building. A shed-roofed structure that looks to have been either a side entry to the chapel, or used for storage, extends from the juncture of the original chapel and the 1947 annex to the southeast. The rear wall of the shed-roofed wing contains a boarded-over door. The eastern wall of the wing contains a boarded-over window. The first-story of the annex is accessed by a single paneled door reached by four concrete steps. To the right of the door are a single one-over-one window and two openings filled with glass blocks. The second-story of the annex is fenestrated west to east by three one-over-one windows and a single opening filled with glass blocks at the southeast.

The eastern facade of the annex contains three openings filled with glass blocks on the first-story and two similar openings on the second. The second-story openings flank a metal door reached by a metal staircase. The eastern facade of the chapel is fenestrated by three frosted windows like those on the west. A gabled section to the northeast contains a double-leaf arched entry recessed within a terra-cotta arch. Above the door is a arched fourteen-light stationary window in an arched terra-cotta surround.

Kelly Hall (PU1672)

Kelly Hall was completed in 1952; thus its age (46 years old) falls just short of the fifty year eligibility rule for National Register consideration. However, of the five buildings being considered for National Register listing, Kelly Hall is the only one whose original construction was upon property owned by Philander Smith College and whose original use was exclusively by the college. Kelly Hall has served as a residence for seven former Presidents of Philander Smith College and continues to serve the current President, Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed.

Philander Smith College Historic District Pulaski County, Arkansas
Name of Property County and State

Kelly Hall, located at 123 IZARD Street, is a two-story Colonial Revival building with a T-shaped plan. It is of brick construction with a continuous brick foundation. The roof is topped with five gabled dormers.

The symmetrical western, or front, facade of the building has two eight-over-twelve double-hung windows above a wooden panel. A soldier course tops the windows which are flanked by wooden shutters. The centered front entry consists of a barred storm door and a seven-paneled entrance door with a paneled transom and a triangular pediment supported by Corinthian columns. A series of concrete steps lead up to the door flanked by metal, decorative hand rails. The first-story is five-ranked with eight-over-eight windows. These windows are also flanked by shutters and are covered with metal awnings. Three gabled dormers containing six-over-six double-hung windows open into the attic.

The first-story of the southern elevation is lit by three windows. One is composed of eight-over-twelve sash while two are six-over-nine. The two second-story windows are double-hung with an eight-over-eight sash. Shutters flank one window. A brick exterior chimney rises from this facade. A rear hipped-roof wing and garage extends from the eastern elevation of the house. Its southern wall contains a recessed garage door.

The first story of the eastern, or rear elevation is fenestrated south to north by a large bay window with a flared copper roof. The bay contains a twelve-light French door flanked by two pairs of nine-over-nine windows. A single four-over-four window is to the north of the bay. Two gabled dormers with louvers open into the attic level. A brick half-wall surrounds a patio in front of the bay.

The northern facade of the rear wing contains a single door and one-over-one windows. The original gable end of the house is fenestrated east to west by a pair of six-over-six windows and two single eight-over-twelve windows. Two second-story windows are double-hung with an eight-over-eight sash.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local & statewide

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): G

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Ethnic Heritage
Education

Philander Smith College Historic District Pulaski County, Arkansas
Name of Property County and State

Period(s) of Significance: 1948-1952

Significant Dates: 1948-1952

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: John Parks Almand

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and period of significance noted above:

Summary

Philander Smith College Historic District, located in central Little Rock, has enjoyed a notable and lengthy history as a privately supported, historically black, four-year liberal arts college, related to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. Philander's origins stem from the 1877 establishment of Walden Seminary housed at Eighth and Broadway in the Wesley Chapel Methodist Church. The Seminary was designated as the official educational institution of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and served as a preparatory school for negro youth.

Elaboration

In 1845, the Methodist Episcopal Church separated when the Southern Conference found themselves in moral opposition over the issue of slavery with their northern counterparts. This split resulted in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South coming into existence in that year. With the Civil War over, church leaders decided that a separate body was needed to teach the recently emancipated millions.

From 1865 to 1875, the Arkansas Conference united white and black members in the same conference. However; it was split by an act of the General Conference of the northern Methodist Episcopal Church in 1876 thus creating an additional conference along racial lines. The black Methodists became associated with the Little Rock Annual Conference which began the task of establishing conference schools. In 1877 Walden Seminary became the Conference's official educational institution located in Wesley Chapel Methodist Church at Eighth and Broadway in Little Rock. In 1879 the Seminary moved to the second story of Kendrick Hall at Tenth and Center Streets.

In 1882 Dr. D.W. Gray, the president of Little Rock University, the institution for the Arkansas Annual Conference, embarked on a funding campaign. During this time he became acquainted with Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Mr. Philander Smith of Oak Park, Illinois. Mrs. Smith endowed a gift of \$10,500.00 to Walden Seminary, at which time the name was changed to Philander Smith College. Mrs. Smith's gift contributed greatly to construction of new buildings through the late 1880s on the college's new site at Eleventh and Izard Streets in Little Rock. Though these late nineteenth-century buildings have been destroyed, several structures tied to

campus life of 1948-1952 were constructed or incorporated through acquisition and remain as part of the Philander Smith College Historic District.

After the turn of the century the northeast corner of Tenth and Iward Streets was added to the landholdings of Philander Smith. By 1922 the school expanded further with the purchase of forty acres of land in the Fulk Addition of Little Rock. In 1948 one city block adjacent to Philander Smith was purchased from the Little Rock School Board. With the addition of that block the college acquired an administration building and a gymnasium belonging to Little Rock Junior College which had moved to the present site of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock on South University. The buildings are utilized by the Philander Smith campus today and are known as the James Monroe Cox Administration building, (or U.M. Rose Elementary School) and the Old Gym. The former U.M. Rose Elementary School was historically occupied by classrooms, administrative offices, a bookstore, post office, the Bureau of Central Services, recreational rooms and lockers and showers for men and women at Philander Smith. It is used today for administrative offices and classrooms. The Old Gym, north of the elementary school, was used for classes, special presentations and basketball games as well as serving as a set for the movie, The Earnest Green Story, filmed in Little Rock.

Also in 1948, President Marquis Lafayette Harris received a Government surplus building from Camp Robinson Air Force Base in North Little Rock. The building, now known as the Barracks, was used as the former headquarters of the Commanding General at Camp Robinson and was slated for use by Philander as a Student Union building. The Barracks is still active in campus life today as an office for alumni and the United Negro College Fund.

Kelly Hall on Iward Street on the Philander Smith campus was constructed in 1951 as housing for the President of the college and quarters for guests. The President's house is the only building included in the district that was constructed specifically for the use of Philander Smith College. The Hall, U.M. Rose Elementary School and Wesley Chapel at State Street were all designed by John Parks Almand. Mr. Almand was a prolific architect from Lithonia, Georgia, who came to Little Rock in 1912 to work with the Charles L. Thompson firm. After producing an impressive bounty of architecture in Arkansas, he was selected in 1934 as one of twenty-one architects across the country to become a part of the Supervising Architect's Office of the U.S. Treasury Department in Washington D.C. From 1935 to 1936, Mr. Almand served as a consultant on the Greenbelt Housing Project in Maryland, after which he returned to his private architectural practice in Little Rock, turning out several graceful residential designs. He left for Michigan in 1942, and later Texas, to serve as construction engineer for those state's naval air stations. After World War II Mr. Almand returned yet again to his private practice and kept up a busy pace turning out commissions across the United States until he suffered a stroke in 1963. In 1969 a massive heart attack claimed his life.

One of John Parks Almand's first commissions was the U.M. Rose School but he is probably best known for the 1926-1927 National Historic Landmark, Central High School or Little Rock High School. Mr. Almand is noted for his church designs, among which the 1927 Wesley Chapel Methodist Church at 1109 State Street, Philander Smith College is included. This Gothic/Romanesque building is one of four church structures that were erected at this location since

1883 and has been tied to African-American education in Little Rock since the mid-nineteenth century. Wesley Chapel first began as a plank structure in 1854 at Eighth and Broadway and is considered one of the first Methodist organizations in the city used exclusively for African-American worship. The church also became home to the first school for children of Freedmen in 1863. The school was maintained by Reverend William Wallace Andrews until it was taken over by northern missionary teachers affiliated with the Freedmen's Aid Society in that same year. The forerunner of Philander Smith College, Walden Seminary was organized in the Chapel in 1877 for the education of negro youth. The Seminary moved with the church to Tenth and Center Streets in 1879. Educational operations were suspended at the Chapel due to lack of funds until 1881 when the Seminary resumed business as usual. In 1883 land at Eleventh and State Streets was purchased for the relocation of Wesley Chapel. A year earlier the Seminary had been renamed Philander Smith in memory of Mrs. Adeline Smith's husband, Philander of Oak Park, Illinois. Classrooms were moved in 1883 to a new brick (since destroyed) building west of the chapel, but the church was and has been continuously used by the college in its many forms for worship services and community programs. The original brick chapel was destroyed and replaced with a larger brick structure in 1905. A fire inflicted heavy damage on the building in 1924 and reconstruction, which resulted in the present building was not completed until 1927. As the campus extended to the east the Chapel was incorporated into its landholdings and remains a vital element in campus life.

Philander Smith College has survived and flourished for one-hundred-twenty-one years in Little Rock. The college provided an education for Freedmen in the post-Civil War era when few educational opportunities for African-Americans existed. In the state of Arkansas, Philander Smith attained several landmarks in higher education. It was the first black institution to become a four year college, the first black institution to be accredited by a regional association and the first black institution to offer a major in art. For these contributions to African-American education, the Philander Smith College Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A with statewide significance. The district is also being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with local significance for its diverse collection of architectural styles. Three of the five contributing buildings in the district representing Colonial Revival, Romanesque/Gothic Revival and Federal Colonial Revival styles, were designed by noted architect John Parks Almand whose career left many impressive structural marks on the state. Two of the contributing buildings, the Barracks and the Old Gym represent more simplistic utilitarian styles. The Barracks, moved from Camp Robinson military base in Jacksonville displays simple Craftsman architecture as was common to military structures found at the Air Base. The Old Gym, constructed for Little Rock Junior College by the Works Progress Administration displays Plain/Traditional styling with slight decorative embellishment in the brickwork and porches.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Almand, Colonel A.J. "John Parks Almand." *The Pulaski County Historical Review* 37 (Summer 1989): 36-44
- Arkansas Architectural Resources Form(s) for 1998.
- Gibson, De Lois. "A Historical Study of Philander Smith College, 1877-1969." M.Ed. diss., University of Arkansas. 1969.
- Ginocchio and Cromwell, Architects. Survey of Little Rock Junior College, June 25, 1947.
- Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1998.
- "Here We Stand: Celebrating 143 years of God's Service." Wesley Chapel's 143rd anniversary celebration publication.
- Lester, Jr. James E. *The People's College: Little Rock Junior College and Little Rock University*. Little Rock, August House, 1987.
- McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, fourteenth printing, 1997.
- McDonald, Erin L. "Philander Smith Observes Centennial." *Arkansas Democrat*, 27 February, 1977, 16A.
- Philander Smith College Bulletin* 82 (March 1959) No. 6
- Philander Smith College Catalog for 1997-1998/1998-1999.
- PHilander Smith College History. Found in the M.L. Harris Library's vertical files on the campus of Philander Smith College.
- Philander Smith College President's Annual Reports for Tuesday, April 5, 1949; Tuesday October 23, 1951; Tuesday, March 25, 1952.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Map(s) for 1950.
- Vernon, Walter N. *Methodism in Arkansas, 1816-1976*. Little Rock: Joint Committee for the History of Arkansas Methodism, 1976.
- 1998 nomination of the U.M. Rose School to the National Register of Historic Places found at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.
- Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

- ```

- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

```

Primary Location of Additional Data:\_\_\_\_\_

- ☒ State historic preservation office  
☐ Other state agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Approximately eight acres.

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

|   |           |               |                |   |           |                |                |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| A | <u>15</u> | <u>565700</u> | <u>3844200</u> | B | <u>15</u> | <u>565910</u>  | <u>3844160</u> |
| C | <u>15</u> | <u>565860</u> | <u>3843920</u> | D | <u>15</u> | <u>5656600</u> | <u>3843980</u> |

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point located at the west boundary of the district on Eleventh Street, proceed eastward along 11th for 660 feet. Then proceed south 250 feet along Gaines Street to 12th Street. Proceed west along 12th Street for 264 feet, then proceed south for 225 feet to West 13th Street. Proceed west for 328 feet on West 13th, turn north and proceed 393 feet along Izard Street. Turn west for 65 feet along the southern boundary of the Army Barracks, then proceed north 82 feet to point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the Philander Smith College Historic District which retains its integrity and is associated with the functioning of Philander Smith College. The boundary excludes, where possible, properties that have lost integrity and/or have no significance.

Philander Smith College Historic District      Pulaski County, Arkansas  
Name of Property      County and State

---

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

---

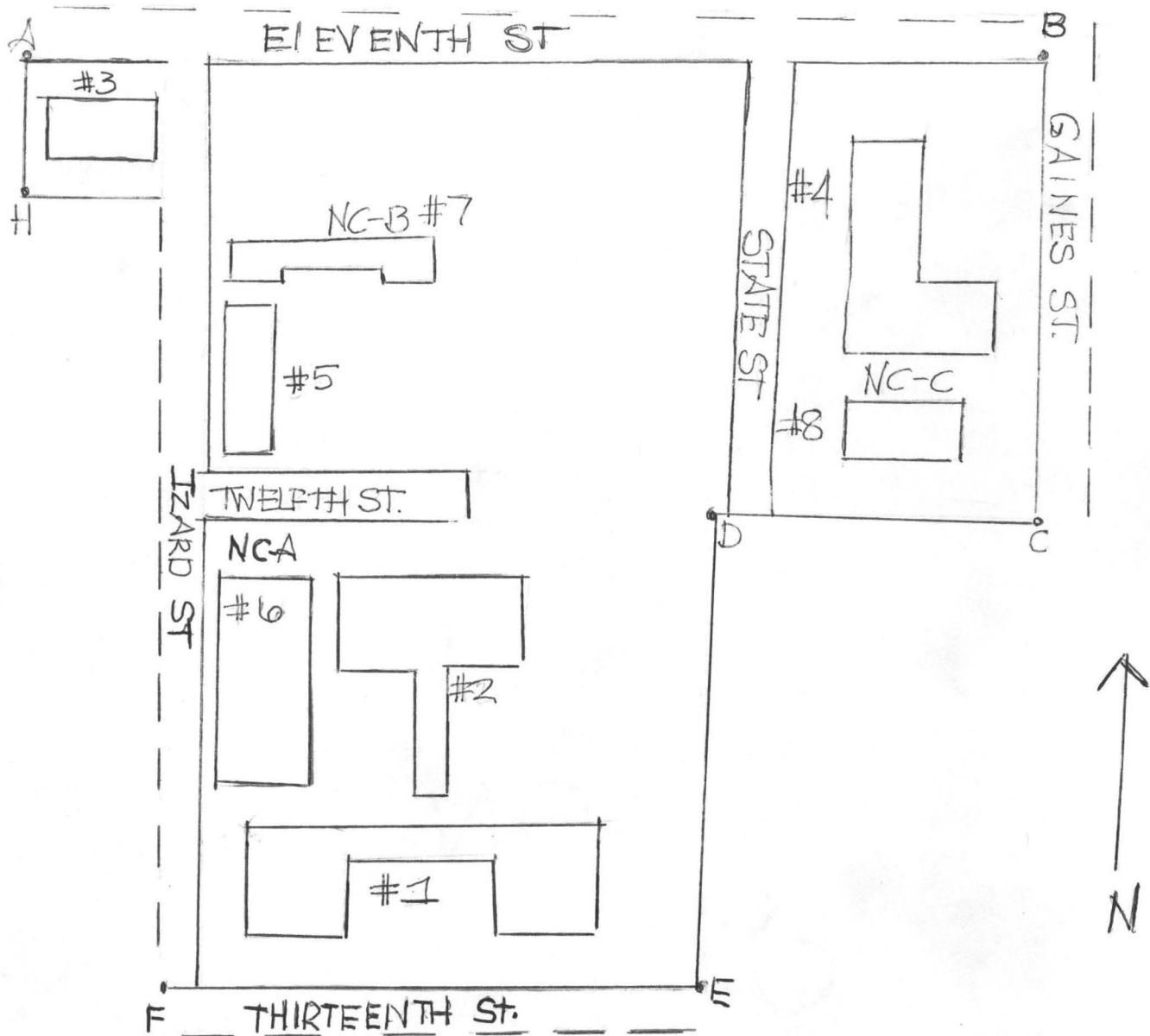
Name/Title: Holly Hope/Survey Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 07/08/99

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock

State: AR ZIP: 72201



PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE

HISTORIC DISTRICT

BOUNDARY

NC - NONCONTRIBUTING

1. PU1670 - U.M. ROSE SCHOOL

2. PU1675 - OLD GYM

3. PU1673 - BARRACKS

4. PU1666 - WESLEY CHAPEL

5. PU1672 - KELLY HALL

6. NC-A - KRESGE-MABEE SCIENCE BLDG  
PU1676

7. NC-B - M.L. HARRIS LIBRARY PU1668

8. NC-C - WESLEY CHAPEL PARSONAGE  
PU1667

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Philander Smith College Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 7/30/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/13/99  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99000229

DETAILED EVALUATION:

\_\_\_ACCEPT \_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

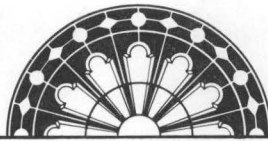
The Philander Smith College Historic District is significant under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Education, Ethnic Heritage-Black, and Architecture. The district buildings represent the oldest extant facilities associated with Philander Smith College, an important Arkansas educational institution providing educational opportunities for African Americans students in the region. The school was originally established in the 1870s; the current buildings reflect the period from 1948 to 1952 and represent the significant efforts of the institution to provide a modern professional academic campus for its students during this period. Architecturally, the district contains several notable examples of local period-revival design, most significantly the previously listed Rose School.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criteria A+C

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignan DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 9/13/99

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



ARKANSAS  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
PROGRAM

July 15, 1999

Carol D. Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United State Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20002

RE: Philander Smith College Historic District – Little Rock, Pulaski County.

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures





W.M. Rose Building #1  
Phulader Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative of file at AHPP  
View from South



W.M. Rose Building #1  
Philander Smith College Historic  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Patton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

detail of front door - South



W.M. Rose Building #1  
Philasdel Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative of file at AHP  
View from west



N.M. Rose Building #1  
Philander Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from east



U.M. Rose Building #1  
Plattville Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

Sutton

09/24/98

Negative of file at AHPP

View from North



Old Gymnasium # 2  
Pulaski Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from South



Old Gymnasium #2  
Pulaski Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

Sutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from East



Old Gymnasium #2  
Pulaski Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative of file at AHP

View from west



Old Gymnasium # 2

Pulaski South College Historic District

Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from north



Old Gymnasium #2

Philander Smith College Historic District

Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Putton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from east



The Barracks # 3

Philadelp Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Sutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHAP

View from east



The Barracks #3  
Philander Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Sutton  
09/24/98  
Negative of Ric at AHPP  
View from North



The Barracks #3  
Philander Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative on file at AIAA  
View from South West



Wesley Chapel # 4  
Pulaski Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View from west



Wesley Chapel #4

Plumville Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Putton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View of Tower - west



Wesley Chapel #4  
Philade Smith College Historic District  
Litter Rock, Pulaski Co

J. Patton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP  
detail of door surround



Wesley Chapel #4  
Philadelp Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from east



Wesley Chapel # 4  
Pulaski Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View of trees cotta door surround



Wesley Chapel # 4  
Philadelph Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of window detail



Wesley Chapel #4  
Princeton Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Dutton

09/24/98  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View Room South



Kelly Hall #5  
Philander Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative on file at AHP  
View from west



Kelly Hall # 5  
Philade Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHAP  
View from east



Kelly Hall #5

Phyllis Smith College Historic District

Little Rock, Pulaski Co

Sutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from east - Bay window



Kelly Hall #5  
Plunder Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co  
S. Dutton  
09/24/98  
Negative of file at AHP  
View from South



Kelly Hall # 5

Philander Smith College Historic District

Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

Negative on file at AHPP

View from North



M.L. Hurre's Library #7

Philander Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, Pulaski Co

S. Dutton

09/24/98

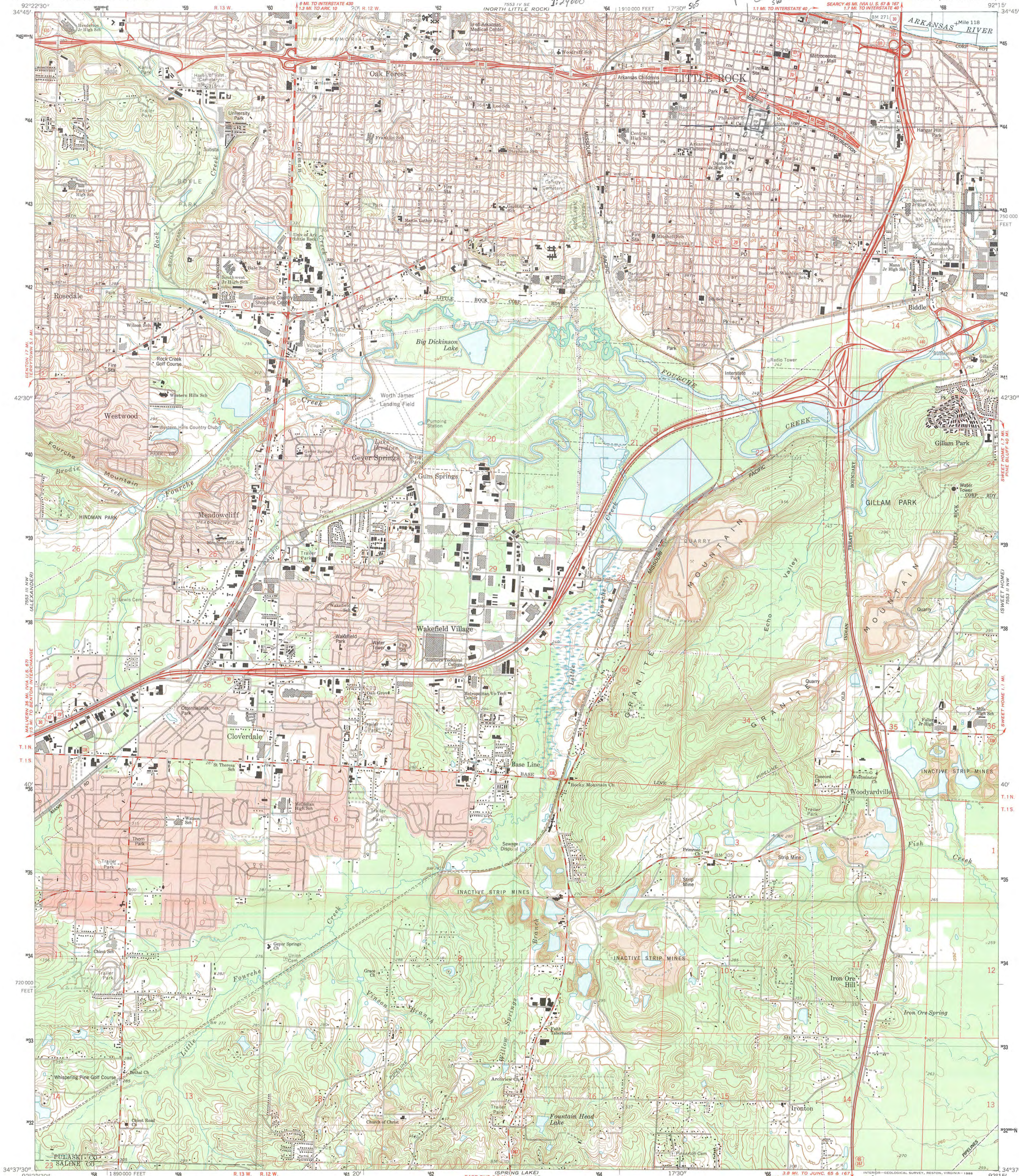
Negative on file at AHPP

View from South

Philander Smith College Historic District  
Little Rock, AR  
Pulaski County  
A) 15/565700/3844200 B) 15/565910/3844100  
C) 15/565860/3843920 D) 15/565660/3843980  
1:24000

Boundary of District  
Philander Smith College Historic District

LITTLE ROCK QUADRANGLE  
ARKANSAS  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



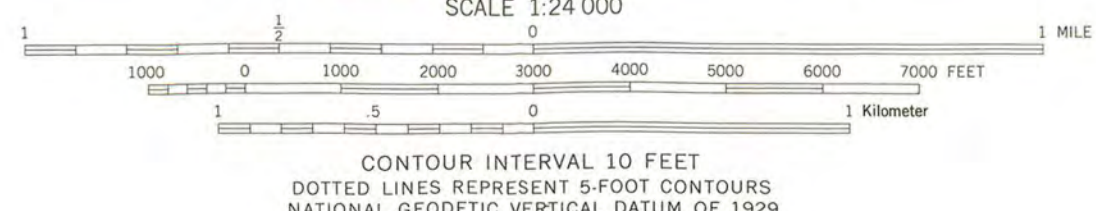
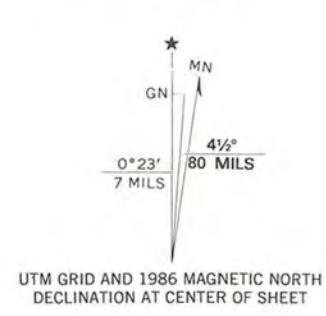
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1960. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1984  
Field checked 1985. Map edited 1986

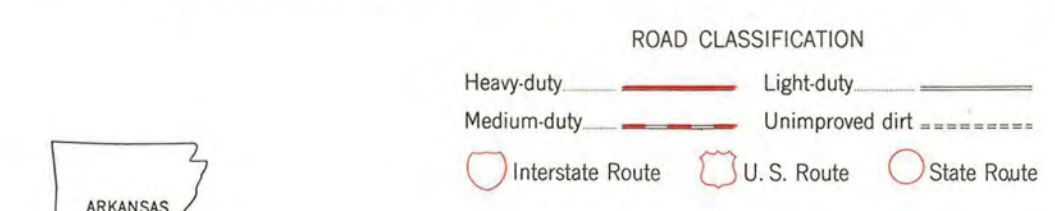
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate  
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15  
1927 North American Datum

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,  
move the projection lines 7 meters south and  
14 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



LITTLE ROCK, ARK.  
34092-F3-TF-024

1986  
DMA 7503 III NE-SERIES V884