

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received FEB 12 1980
date entered MAY 1 1980

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Knoxville College Historic District

and/or common Knoxville College

2. Location

street & number 901 College Street, N.W. not for publication

city, town Knoxville vicinity of congressional district Second

state Tennessee code 047 county Knox code 093

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u> </u> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<u> </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
		<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Board of Trustees, Knoxville College

street & number 901 College Street, N.W.

city, town Knoxville vicinity of state Tennessee 37921

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Knox County Courthouse, Registrar's Office

street & number Knox County Courthouse, Main Avenue and Gay, S.W.

city, town Knoxville state Tennessee 37902

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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 Knoxville College Historic District is located on the Knoxville, Tennessee hilltop campus of Knoxville College, two miles northwest of the Knox County Courthouse. The district is composed of ten buildings, eight of which contribute to the district, located on a tract covering the south and east ends of the campus, which generally possess the features--massive elevations, symmetrical wings, extensive use of bricks, functional utilization of windows, stylish main entrances--characteristics of the turn of the century (20th) college or campus style of architecture.

CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS (Keyed to enclosed campus map)

1. McMillin Chapel--has a rectangular plan, a brick foundation, one-story common bond brick walls, a perimetric stepped frieze and cornice, and a flat tar roof. The facade, or south elevation, has eight Greek Doric columns supporting a pedimented portico, and the main entrance with a single panel transom and decorative line. Each of the east and west elevations has three six-panel and one two panel stained glass windows. A one-story wing projects from the northwest corner. Built in 1913, McMillin Chapel serves unofficially as the "college chapel."
2. President's Residence--has a rectangular plan, a brick foundation, two-story common bond brick walls, and a composition shingle hipped roof. The facade, or south elevation, and north elevation are identical. Each of the two elevations has three bays, an entrance with side lights and an elliptical-arched transom, two pedimented dormers, and a brick patio and stairwell. Each of the identical east and west elevation has three bays and a pedimented dormer. Built of wood during 1886-89, the President's Residence was rebuilt, or bricked, in 1905 with bricks made by the students on campus.
4. Elnathan Hall--has a rectangular plan, a brick foundation, four story common-bond brick walls, and a standing seam metal hipped roof with end gables. The facade, or east elevation has five divisions. The offset left division has a balustraded brick stairwell and porch, a second-story Romanesque main entrance, and a pedimented dormer. Each of the far left, central, and far right divisions has a broken bed pediment. The remaining elevations are one-dimensional. The crescent arched window is a common feature of the building. A one-bay foyer and a one-story store room adjoin the west elevation. Alterations include the additions of the present front porch and south end, or division. The building is 128 feet long and 40 feet wide. Built in 1898 in honor of the school's benefactors and altered in 1905 and 1971, Elnathan Hall has served as the women's residence, a dining room, classrooms, and offices.
5. McKee Hall--has a rectangular plan, a brick foundation, two story common bond brick walls, and standing seam metal hipped roof with end gables. The facade, or east elevations, has five divisions. The central division is a four-story brick bell tower with a Romanesque main entrance and twin Romanesque arches on each elevation of the fourth story. Each of the far right and left divisions has a Neo-classical closed-bed pediment with a Palladian window. The remaining elevations are one dimensional. First story crescent-arched windows and second-story round-arched windows are common features of the building. Each of the north and south elevations has a pedimented dormer. A one-story original wing projects from the west elevation. Alterations include the replacement of the original slate roof and the end stairwells. Built in 1895 and altered in 1954, McKee Hall has the Music Department, major administrative offices, and classrooms. The building is 119 feet long and 75 feet wide.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In 1862, the Reverend J. G. McKee, under the auspices of the Freedmen's Mission of the United Presbyterian Church, founded the McKee School in Nashville, the first organized school for Negroes in Tennessee. The church soon established similar missionary schools for blacks in Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, and Georgia.

In 1872, the General Assembly of the church resolved to discontinue support of the schools in order to establish a college where blacks might prepare for ministerial and teaching careers. Two years later, the church selected Knoxville to be the site of the college as the black residents of the city expressed interest in education and the city was strategically located between existent centers of black education, Nashville and Atlanta.

In 1875, Knoxville College began operation in a former freedmen's elementary school. The following year, the college moved to a permanent location on a hill northwest of and overlooking downtown Knoxville. In 1878, only 17% of the student population studied on a level equivalent to or above that of a college freshman.

During the 1880s, black legislators obtained state scholarships for military cadets at the college. During 1890–1909, the college served as the Industrial Department for black students of the University of Tennessee in order to acquire funds for the scientific and industrial education of blacks, authorized by the Second Morrill Act.

In 1914, the College of Arts and Sciences was established. During 1920–50, the normal school was emphasized giving to the school the distinction of being the leading supplier of teachers to black schools in East Tennessee. Since 1950, the College of Arts and Sciences has been emphasized including the implementation of community service programs and dramatic productions.

In 1954, the college charter was amended in order to allow the admission of white students, although the children of white faculty members previously attended the college. In 1957, the college was one of the first group of predominantly black institutions admitted to full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In 1979, the church deeded the title for the college property to the Board of Trustees of the college.

The Knoxville College Historic District has significantly contributed to the educational and spiritual welfare of the black population of Tennessee since 1890, particularly in the fields of industrial and normal education.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Campbell, Constance, Interview, Knoxville, 12-11-79.
 Cartwright, Joseph H., The Triumph of Jim Crow, Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1976.
 Creekmore, Betsey Beeler, Knoxville, Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1958.
 Deaderick, Lucile, Editor, Heart of the Valley, Knoxville: East Tennessee Historical Society, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 14.5
 Quadrangle name Knoxville, Tennessee Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7					
2	3	4	8	4	0	
3	9	8	4	5	4	0
Zone	Easting			Northing		

 C

1	7					
2	3	4	4	5	0	
3	9	8	4	2	6	0
Zone	Easting			Northing		

 E

Zone	Easting			Northing		

 G

Zone	Easting			Northing		

B

1	7					
2	3	4	8	8	0	
3	9	8	4	3	5	0
Zone	Easting			Northing		

 D

1	7					
2	3	4	4	0	0	
3	9	8	4	4	5	0
Zone	Easting			Northing		

 F

Zone	Easting			Northing		

 H

Zone	Easting			Northing		

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the district are shown on the enclosed campus map and tax equalization map, and include all the buildings associated with the early development of Knoxville College. Scale of map is 100' = 1 inch. - K.O.C (tel. call from Paul Cross, 4/23/80)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Britt A. Casteel
 organization Tennessee Historical Commission date December 1979
 street & number 4721 Trousdale Drive telephone 615-741-2371
 city or town Nashville state Tennessee 37219

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hager
 title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 2/4/80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Sally G. O'Connell date 5/1/80
 Keeper of the National Register
 Attest: Kristin O'Connell date 4/23/80
 Chief of Registration

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DATE ENTERED	MAY 1 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

6. Wallace Hall--has a rectangular plan, a brick foundation, three-story common bond brick walls, and a composition shingle hipped roof. The face, or east elevation, has five bays. The central bay has a columned prostyle portico supporting a balustraded balcony, the main entrance, and a pedimented dormer. The crescent-arched window is a common feature of the building. Each of the north and south elevations has three bays and a pedimented dormer. The five-bay west elevation has an interior brick chimney. Alterations include the addition of the facade portico and the replacement of the original main entrance with a double-wide window. The building is 60 feet long and 40 feet wide. Built in 1890 as a home for orphan boys, Wallace Hall was altered during the 1920s and has since housed the Domestic Science Department, the Literary Society, teachers' offices, and the Basic Skills Learning Center.

10. The Giffen Alumni Memorial Building--has a T-shaped plan, a concrete block foundation, two-story common-bond brick walls, and a standing seam metal stepped-gable roof. A one-story flat-roof addition, or cross bar of the T, with the main entrance and wide multi-paneled windows project from the original facade, or south elevation. Each of the identical east and west elevations has first-story crescent-arched windows and recessed second-story adjoining trabeated windows. The one-dimensional north elevation has two first-story windows and an offset left brick chimney. Built in 1929 and altered in 1955, the Giffen Alumni Memorial Building has housed offices, classrooms, and the gymnasium.

19. Faculty Residence, 1005 College Street--has a bungalow plan, a brick foundation, one and one-half story common-bond brick and wood shingle walls, and a composition-shingled gable roof. The facade, or south elevation has the main entrance, complimentary two over one windows, a shed dormer, and tapered piers supporting a verandah. The building was constructed in 1906.

21. Faculty Residence, 1009 College Street--has a bungalow plan, a brick foundation, one and one-half story common-bond brick walls, and a composition-shingled, center-gable roof. The facade, or south elevation, has a broken-bed pediment, two crescent arched windows, and three wooden tiers supporting a balustraded, recessed porch. The building was constructed in 1906.

NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

20. Faculty Residence, 1007 College Street--has a pavilion plan, a brick foundation, common-bond brick walls, a composition shingle hipped roof and five apartments. It was constructed in 1953.

3. The Alumni Library has a rectangular plan, a brick foundation, common-bond brick walls, a flat tar roof, and a full height portico with round arched entrances. It was built in 1966.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Federal Writers' Project, 1941, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville.

Knoxville College 1978-80 Catalog.

Knoxville College Rehabilitation Feasibility Study, 1979, University of
Tennessee School of Architecture, Knoxville.

Rule, William, Editor, Standard History of Knoxville, Tennessee, Chicago:
Lewis, 1900.

KNOXVILLE COLLEGE
25 AC^c



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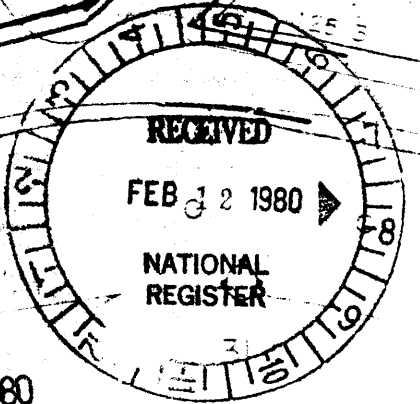
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MAY 1 1980

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BOOKER

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FEB 12 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER

MAY 1 1980

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Knoxville College Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TENNESSEE, Knox

DATE RECEIVED: 4/03/98 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/18/98
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80003841

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4.30.98 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AD
REVIEWER Beall DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 4.30.98

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service


National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Knoxville College Historic District
Knox County, TN

In the Knoxville College Historic District (NR 5/1/1980) McMillin Chapel - inventory number 1- should be identified as First United Presbyterian Church. The name of the church has always been First United Presbyterian Church. However, since the building sits on the Knoxville College Campus, it served as the chapel for the students during the week. It is from that use that First United Presbyterian Church became identified as McMillin Chapel in the Knoxville College records and thus carried forward off campus. McMillin Chapel is a single section of the First United Presbyterian Church.


Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

3/26/98
Date