

(NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARKS)

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee	
COUNTY: Davidson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.12.47.0028	DATE 12/9/91

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fisk University, Jubilee Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:
same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
17th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN:
Nashville,

STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47 COUNTY: Davidson County CODE: 037

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Fisk University

STREET AND NUMBER:
17th Avenue, North

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register's Office for Davidson County, Tennessee

STREET AND NUMBER:
Metro Courthouse, Public Square

CITY OR TOWN: Nashville STATE: Tennessee CODE: 47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D. C. CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

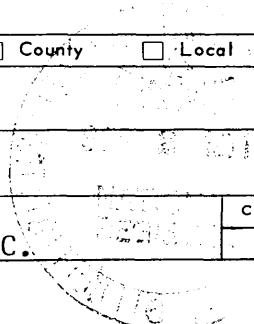
STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Davidson

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fisk University. History, Building and Site, and Services of Dedication at Nashville, Tennessee, January 1st, 1876 (New York, 1876), provides a contemporary description of the building when it was first completed:

"The massive proportions of Jubilee Hall strike one pleasantly as he approaches it. The building is in the form of an "L", and has an east front of 145 feet, and a south front of 128 feet. Including basement and cellar, it is six stories high, and is supplied with all the conveniences of water, steam, and gas. It is heated throughout by steam, and each room has a radiator. The entire building contains 120 rooms The building is made of the best pressed brick, with stone trimmings. The style is modern English [Victorian]. The main entrance is on the south front, and is composed of a stone stairway with pillars supporting a small stone balcony. The front door is composed of black walnut, of massive proportions, and having complete bronze trimmings. On the right of the hall are the reception rooms and parlor . . . connected by large folding doors. On the other side of the hall is the office, and . . . the assembly room Opposite this on the cross hall is the library, adjoining it the music room The dining room is in the eastern portion of the building. It is 38 by 90 feet, and will seat 300 persons. It has two rows of columns through the centre The three upper stories are fac similes one of the other. All are divided into bed chambers and all furnished exactly alike. Each floor has bath-rooms with hot and cold water, water closets and wash closets. Three tanks in the attic, holding thirty barrels each, supply the entire water convenience, and they are in turn supplied from five cisterns in the cellar, holding 25,000 barrels of water. . . the basement [houses] the entire steam heating apparatus . . . the laundry department . . . the kitchen . . . pantry, the oven room, and the bakery. . . . The basement also contains rooms that have been fitted up as recitation rooms, having a black-board extending all around The front halls and stairways are wainscoted with beautiful wood, alternated in dark and light, brought from the Mendi Mission, West Africa. The rest of the wainscoting throughout the entire building, together with doors, door facings, cornices, etc., is made of white pine, which is varnished" [pp. 8-10].

The building underwent substantial remodeling in 1965. At that time, the interior was completely rebuilt to provide modern dormitory facilities. The exterior, on the other hand, was substantially preserved insofar as fabric is concerned. A number of the dormer windows on the attic story were bricked in, as were a few others. Fire escapes were removed from the north, west, and east facades. New stone porches with brick parapets were built for the north, east, and west entrances; part of the stone was taken from the foundation of the porch at the rear, or north entrance, which was demolished at the time.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

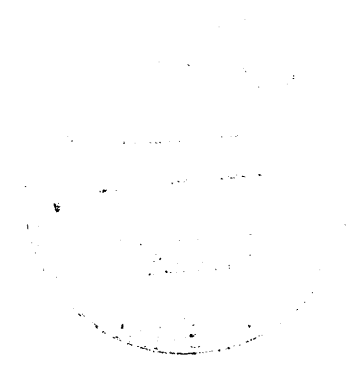
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The American Missionary Association of New York City and the Western Freedmen's Aid Commission of Cincinnati, assisted by Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, then in charge of the Freedmen's Bureau in Tennessee, founded Fisk University. The institution was opened in 1866 as Fisk School and was chartered as a university in 1867.

The imposing Jubilee Hall, an L-shaped six-story Victorian Gothic dormitory, is the oldest and largest building at Fisk University and the oldest permanent building for the higher education of Negroes in the United States. Designed by the New York architect Stephen D. Hatch, the handsome building was erected from 1873 to 1876 with part of the money made by the first group of Jubilee Singers. In 1871 the chorus of seven women and four men students made an extensive tour of the larger northern American cities, as well as of Europe and the British Isles. Proceeds of the tour proved sufficient to purchase land for the university campus and build Jubilee Hall, named in honor of the Singers.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Federal Writers' Project, Tennessee. A Guide to the State (New York: Viking Press, 1939), 203-204.
 W. W. Clayton, History of Davidson County, Tennessee (Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis, 1880), 260-262.
Fisk University. History, Building and Site, and Services of Dedication at Nashville, Tennessee, January 1st, 1876. New York: Trustees of Fisk University, 1876.
 M. E. Strieby, "Jubilee Hall," American Missionary, XVII (March, 1873), 50-52.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Anatole Senkevitch, Jr., Architectural Historian & Architect for the

ORGANIZATION: **HABS-Nashville Project for Summer, 1970** DATE: **8 July 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Instructor, Department of Architecture, Cornell University

CITY OR TOWN: **Ithaca** STATE: **New York 14850** CODE: **36**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name Herbert L. Harper
 Herbert L. Harper
 Acting
 Title Executive Director
 Tennessee Historical Commission

Date July 14, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
DEC 9 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:
William J. Hunt
 Director of the National Register
 Date _____

Handwritten notes and signatures in the top right margin.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS