

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received DEC 20 1982
date entered

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

1. Name

historic DeLand Hall

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Stetson University Campus N/A not for publication

city, town DeLand Hall N/A vicinity of

state Florida code 12 county Volusia code 127

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name John B. Stetson University

street & number Stetson University

city, town DeLand N/A vicinity of state Florida

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Volusia County Courthouse

street & number New York + Indiana Streets

city, town DeLand state Florida 32720

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DeLand Hall is a 2½ story wood frame building completed in 1884. It is constructed in the Stick Style, an architectural style rarely found in Florida. It is sited facing Woodland Boulevard, the main road in the city of DeLand, at the corner of East Minnesota Avenue. It has served as a religious and educational building since its completion. At present, it retains ^{neatly} all of its original exterior architectural features and most of its original interior features.

The plan of the building is in the shape of a Latin Cross. The building is a two-story structure with a projecting bell tower. The tower is located not at the crossing but above the projection of the main entry, at the upper portion of the cruciform. The rooms were laid out originally, and remain, flanking a central corridor. At the lower floor, the central corridor is anchored by the board room which runs perpendicularly to the hallway at the opposite end of the main entry.

The main body of the building is covered with clapboard siding. Windows are panelized by the use of vertical wood trim at each side with ornamental wood roses above and beaded siding set diagonally below. A continuous band of cypress shingles of fish scale design extends around the building between floors. The main entry is oriented west toward a major throughfare with the "heavier" arms of the cruciform parallel to the road (north-south). Main offices and the ornate stair are located in this wing. Minor offices are located in the longer but narrower (east-west) leg of the cruciform. A secondary entry exists on the south elevation constructed on the inside corner under the arm of the cross.

The roof form is a modified Gambrel with hipped ends. The modification is a very low pitch in the upper portion which apparently was originally covered in standing seam sheet metal. The remainder of the roof was originally covered with cypress shingles.

At the front and rear of the building the Gambrel ends are pitched back at the same angle as the cypress clad portion. They form a handsome hipped end. Projecting gabled dormers occur over each double window panel to each side of the main entry enhancing the articulation of this elevation. A gabled porch roof extends out over the main entry steps and serves as a stabilizing feature of the entry elevation massing. Several gabled dormers occur in the roof of the leg of the cruciform which projects perpendicularly to the main entry. The dormers admit light and ventilate the attic area.

The main facade, at its second level, has two single windows on each side of a double window which has recently been stained glassed by a local artist. All the windows of the structure, on both levels and all sides, are encased with green shutters. On the lower level, there is an arched porch that shields the main entrance to the building. Two single windows sit at each side of the porch. At the top of the structure, facing the boulevard, sits a cupola which at one time housed a bell.

The structure contained no basement, but was supported by four wooden beams. In 1971, a foundation of steel girders was placed under the building to insure lasting security. Beige paint with brown trimming covers the exterior walls of the building, including the back porch and south side porch facing East Minnesota Avenue. The white shingled roof has been repaired in recent years.

The cloverleaf exterior designs located at each peak of the structure have been repaired, as needed, with one hundred year old wood found in the vicinity. Two oak bookcases were constructed from the remaining wood. Most of the furniture within the building is over one hundred years old and was part of the Henry A. DeLand or John B. Stetson estates. Display cases, in the main hall of the building, are filled with artifacts and donations concerning the University's founder and supporters.

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1982 ALTERATIONS

The building interior was re-designed to house the offices of President and Provost on the first floor and Development/Planning on the second floor.

Although there was extensive relocation of interior partitions to accommodate modern office layout and mechanical and electrical systems updating, care was taken to retain existing detailing, high ceilings and the mood of the building by using both finishes and furnishings of the era in which it was constructed.

The original stair was located near its present position but was constructed as a single run from floor to floor. The new stair was constructed as two equal runs with a landing using all the balusters, rails, and newels of the original stair.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<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 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 +1884 **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

DeLand Hall is significant for its association with Henry DeLand, the founder of what presently is Stetson University. It is also significant as the oldest building in Florida, thus far documented, which has been continually associated with an institution of higher education. Finally, it is significant as an example of the Stick Style, an architectural style rarely found in the state.

DeLand Hall is the only structure in the city of DeLand left bearing Henry A. DeLand's name. It is also the oldest and first educational building in DeLand as well as the oldest existing higher educational structure still in use in the state of Florida.¹ The primary significance of the building is that it is the product of Henry A. DeLand's dream of an educational, academic, and collegiate institute equal in breadth and thoroughness to that given in the best New England schools of the time.² Established in the delightful climate of Florida, DeLand College was issued a special charter by the Florida Legislature when for one dollar DeLand Hall and four acres of land were deeded by Mr. DeLand and his brother-in-law, Mr. Parce, to the Board of Trustees, who later named the structure DeLand Hall in honor of Henry A. DeLand.³ The site has been in educational and academic use since its construction in 1884. The shifts in the building's use reflect the growth and diverse educational opportunities which the building has provided. Having been built during the early stages of the town's development, it reflects the early settlers hopes and encouragement for a town of great educational and religious development. For almost ten decades people have come to DeLand Hall, blacks and whites alike, to pray, learn and interact socially.

Henry A. DeLand, the founder of Stetson University, came from Fairport, New York where his family was in the chemical business.⁴ While vacationing in South Carolina at the home of his sister and brother-in-law, he and his brother-in-law visited Florida and became enamoured with its towering pines. At this time he purchased several homesteads which became the groundwork for the city of DeLand. Mr. DeLand also became a member of the Old Settler's Society, an organization of neighboring homesteaders. In 1880 he gave up his home in Fairport and devoted all his time to building a town.⁵ Mr. DeLand spent much of his own money advertising the DeLand area throughout the north before his return in 1880. After settling in the area of vast pines, Mr. DeLand donated even more of his own money as matching funds for the money the Old Settler's Society raised to create a town in the social, educational and religious framework he had in mind. Mr. DeLand personally planted orange groves, cut sown forests, financed town enterprises, and on October 31, 1880, he started the First Baptist Church of DeLand which later moved to the structure of DeLand Hall to accommodate growing numbers of townspeople.⁶ For his great contributions, which could not be ignored, Henry A. DeLand was made the President of the Old Settler's Society for life. He was also an honored trustee of Stetson University, formerly DeLand College and DeLand University, until his death in 1908.⁷

DeLand Hall, the building that made Henry A. DeLand's dream come true, has had many functions over its long history. From 1884-1892 it housed the entire college under the auspices of the Florida Baptist State Convention. In 1892 when Elizabeth

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than 1 (.69)

Quadrangle name DeLand 7.5 Min. 1964 (PR 1970)

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

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4	7	0	4	6	0
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Begin at the North East intersection of North Woodland Boulevard and East Minnesota Avenue. These move north 150', thence easterly 200', thence south 150', thence west 200' to the of beginning. The boundaries correspond to lot 2, block number 14 of DeLand Subdivision,

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

DeLand, Florida.

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul L. Weaver, III (Historic Sites Specialist)

organization Florida Division of Archives History and Records Management

date December 8, 1982

street & number The Capitol

telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee

state Florida

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title L. Ross Morrell, State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12/10/82

For NPS use only

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

Albous Byers
for Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register

date 1/27/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Hall was completed, dormitory rooms were added to DeLand Hall along with a kitchen and a dining room. In the academic year 1886-87 when Stetson Hall was built and became the residence hall and the President's home, DeLand Hall resumed its academic and administrative functions. In 1911 all departments of the University and Academy were moved to other buildings and only the kindergarten remained in DeLand Hall. The historical building took on a totally new mode of existence in 1913 and a radical one at that! The dainty DeLand Hall became a fraternity house, the home of Phi Kappa Delta for seven years. In the Spring of 1920, Dr. Lincoln Hulley, President of the University, decided to remodel DeLand Hall and use it as a women's residence hall. In 1937 DeLand Hall became an educational structure once again. The School of Music moved in at this time and remained for thirty-two years until the completion of Presser Hall in 1969. At this time the Speech and Theatre Department moved in to DeLand Hall. Its walls absorbed many debates, including the one concerning its future use. A decision was reached by President Duncan in the late seventies for it to become the principle administrative building of the University. The complete restoration of this great and grand old building soon began.

Architecturally, DeLand Hall is a rare example of the Stick Style in Florida. Its high steep roof and its facing with vertical boards are among several features associated with the Stick Style. It is said to have resembled Mr. DeLand's home in New York. The intent of the renovation, which was completed in the fall of 1981, was to capture and preserve the original integrity of the building.⁸

On Presentation Day, September 18, 1981, Stetson's staff, students and faculty paid tribute to that hardworking, formidable grand old building of Stetson University in recognition of its survival throughout the long years as the oldest existing higher educational structure in the State of Florida still in use.

FOOTNOTES

¹ "Stetson Tree Planting," Daytona Beach Morning Journal, February 28, 1981.

² A Famous Resort (DeLand, Fla.: Florida Agriculturist, 1887-1888), p. 38.

³ Deed on DeLand Hall, p. 1.

⁴ Reflections, West Volusia County (Madison, WI: J. J. Stoner), p. 10.

⁵ Reflections, p. 11.

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⁶ Helen Parce DeLand, The Story of DeLand and Lake Helen, Florida (Norwich, Conn: Louis H. Walden, 1928), p. 35.

⁷ Reflections, p. 12.

⁸ DeLand Hall, 1884-1981. (DeLand, FL: Stetson University, Sept. 18, 1981), p. 4.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bowen, Olga. History of Stetson. Olga Bowen, Stetson Univ., 1967.

DeLand, Helen Parce. The Story of DeLand and Lake Helen, Florida. Louis H. Walden Publishing, 1928.

DeLand Hall, 1884 - 1981. Stetson Univ., DeLand FL: Sept. 1981.

DeLand Hall Deed.

A Famous Resort.

Photographs, Fred Cooper, Public Relations, Stetson Univ., 1981.

Rogers Map of DeLand. DBI, p. 201.

Stoner, J. J., Reflections, West Volusia County. Madison, WI: 19.

Wolff, W. W., The Florida Teacher, Miami: Miami Post Publishing Co.,
Nov. 1939.

All information concerning repairs and the architecture of DeLand Hall was furnished by the Maintenance Engineer at Stetson University.