United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic	DuBose Memo	rial Church Tra	ining Sch	00]		
and/or common	DuBose Conf	erence Center				
2. Loca	ation					
street & number	Fairmon	t and College S	streets, N	.E. corner	not for pub	lication
city, town Ma	onteagle	vi	cinity of	congressional district	Fourth	
state Te	ennessee	code 047	county	Grundy	code	061
3. Clas	sificatio	n				
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisitio in process being conside	on Accessibl X yes: re	upied n progress e	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museur park private X religiou scientif transpo other:	residence Is lic
4. Own	er of Pro	perty				
name Conv	vention of the	Diocese of Tenn	essee of	the Protestant Epi	scopal Chur	ch
street & number		Building, P.O.				
city, town k	Cnoxville	vic	cinity of	state	Tennessee	37917
5. Loca	ation of L	egal Des	criptic	on		
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc.	Re	gistrar's	Office		
street & number		Gr	undy Coun	ty Courthouse		
city, town		AI	tamont	state	Tennessee	37301
6. Repi	resentati	on in Exis	sting s	Surveys		
title				perty been determined e	legible? y	es no
date				federal sta	te countv	local
donository for a						
depository for su	nvey records				·····	

city, town

L

7. Description

Condition		Check one
excellent _X_ good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered X altered

Check one X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DuBose Memorial Church Training School is located approximately 150 feet east of State Highway 56 and 400 feet north of U.S. Highway 41 in the Cumberland Plateau resort community of Monteagle, Grundy County, Tennessee. A shaded, hard-surfaced driveway encircles the complex of buildings and connects the northwest corner of the 1.4 acres of nominated property to State Route 56.

The nominated property includes the nucleus of the 26-acre DuBose Episcopal Conference Center. Three buildings represent the influence of Mission Style architecture. Claiborne Hall, built in 1924, is located at the southern end of the nominated property and faces U.S. Highway 41 to the south. The Alfred Duane Pell Library, built in 1930, is located to the northwest of Claiborne Hall and faces State Route 56 to the west. These two buildings are connected by an arcade. Located behind the Pell Library in the northeastern section of the nominated property is the maintenance building, constructed This building exhibits similar architectural characteristics to the two earlier in 1948. buildings. In 1975 a lodging unit designed by Holiday Inns was added to the northern end of the Pell Library; in 1978 a new chapel was built in the center of the library's rear (east) elevation. The chapel is sympathetic in overall appearance to the library. A Bishop's residence (1950), a swimming pool and shelter, and cabins are located outside the drive which serves as the boundary to the nominated area.

The DuBose Memorial Church Training School is an excellent example of the Mission Style of architecture. The stuccoed concrete walls and foundations, red clay tiled roofs, iron railed balconets, arcade with impost moulding, curvilinear gable, projecting eaves with exposed rafters, and bell tower are representative features of the style.

Claiborne Hall is the largest building of the complex. The south elevation, or facade, has three sections including: a four-story central section; a two-story left, or west, section; and a three-story right, or east, section. The central section has three asymmetrical bays and a hipped roof. The central bay features a Romanesque-arched entrance, topped by a window, with an ornamental heading and a third story window. All windows are of rectangular casements unless otherwise indicated. An iron-railed recessed balcony extends across the fourth story of the central and right bays. The right bay also has three windows. The left bay has: a first-story window; secondstory French doors with a balconet; a fourth-story round window with a curvilinear surround; and a fifth story square bell tower with curvilinear ornamentation at each corner of the base, round-arched openings, and a hipped roof topped by a ball and cross.

The two-story left section has eight bays, each of which has a single window in each story, and a recessed end porch which also constitutes the north elevation. The threestory right section has: eight bays, each of which has a single window in each story; a gable roof with a stuccoed chimney; and an end porch. The porch has: a round-arched entrance; a second-story, vertical, rectangular opening with a balconet; and a flat roof with iron railing. St. Andrews Chapel, which adjoins the porch, or east elevation of Claiborne Hall, has: one-story; a hipped roof; a Romanesque, arched entrance on the west elevation; and four round-arched windows on both, east and west walls.

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The east elevation of Claiborne Hall has three sections. Individual bays of each section have a single window in each story. The three-story left section, four-story central section and two-story right section have eight bays, three bays, and eight bays, respectively. A glass-panelled lobby, originally a breezeway, connects the central section and a one-story kitchen-dining room unit which is six bays long and has a hipped roof with a stuccoed chimney.

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An arcade with round arches and corner impost moulding connects the west elevation of Claiborne Hall and the south elevation of the Alfred Duane Pell Library. The west elevation, or facade, of the Library, has two stories, five bays, and a gable roof with curvilinear parapet and exposed rafters. The central bay features the main entrance, with an ornamental surround, and a second-story window. Asymmetrically arranged windows compose the remaining bays.

The new chapel projects from the east elevation of the Library. The chapel has a flat roof with exposed rafters, a lit alcove, and four two-story, four light narrow windows on both the north and south elevations. A glass enclosed porch connects the north elevation of the Library and a lodging addition. The two-story lodging addition is eight bays long; each glass bay has floor to ceiling windows on both the north and south elevations. The rectangular maintenance building has stuccoed walls, two doors on the south elevation, and a hipped composition-shingled roof.

Claiborne Hall retains the original interior design including administrative offices, lodging quarters, a classroom, an oratory, and a refectory. The Alfred Duane Pell Library retains its original interior design, except for an enlarged entrance to the new chapel, including the library and assembly hall, a reading room, and study rooms. St. Andrews Chapel retains much of its original interior woodwork including; a Romanesque-arched, cross-membered door; an altar; pews; and a wooden cross brace supporting carved figures.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications		Iandscape architectur Iaw Iterature Ititerature Ititary Iti philosophy Iti politics/government	e X religion Science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1924, 1930	Builder/Architect	Multiple	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The DuBose Memorial Church Training School has made significant contributions in the areas of religion, education, and architecture. DuBose School was the first Episcopal institution in the United States to train older men for the ministry; it served this function from 1921 to 1945. DuBose School was one of the few institutions in Tennessee designed in the Spanish Mission style. The Mission Style flourished primarily in the Southwestern United States between 1890 and 1920. In 1920, Rev. Dr. William Sterling Claiborne, archdeacon of Sewanee and East Tennessee for the Protestant Episcopal Church, wrote:

We hope to develop a Missionary College to take men of mature life, who have not had the opportunity of college and seminary, and give them intensive work along the lines that will fit them to meet our rural problems. This undertaking will meet the requirements of a canon passed by the last General Convention, (1919) providing for a localized ministry. We have the canon and we have the men, so we have been informed, and I believe it is true, but we have no place in America to train these men. We have been thinking over this problem for some years, and now have on foot a plan to meet this demand.

In 1921, Rev. Dr. Claiborne and Rev. Dr. Mercer P. Logan fulfilled the plan when they founded the DuBose Memorial Church Training School in the Cumberland Plateau community of Monteagle in Grundy County, Tennessee. They located DuBose School in an area with an existing rich Episcopalian educational heritage. The original building was occupied by the Fairmount School for Young Ladies, or the unofficial "female branch of Sewanee," from 1872 to 1917. Sewanee, or the University of the South is located five miles southwest of DuBose School. Claiborne and Logan named the institution in honor of the Very Rev. William Porcher DuBose, founder and Dean of the Theological Department of the University of the South in 1878 and from 1893 to 1908; chaplain of Fairmount School from 1877 to 1917; and a planner of DuBose School. Episcopalian Historian, W. Norman Pittenger called DuBose "the only important creative theologian that the Episcopal Church in the United States has produced."

The original two-story frame building burned beyond repair in 1924. Strickland, Bladgett, and Law, a national architectural firm, designed a new building with administrative, educational, religious, and lodging quarters, in the Spanish Mission Style. Architect Charles A. Bearden of Chattanooga supervised the construction of the building, which cost \$100,000, during the same year. The building was named Claiborne Hall in honor of Rev. Dr. W. S. Claiborne.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Claib	orne, W.S., T <u>wenty</u>	-One Years in t	he Mountains of	Tennessee, Sewanee: The Univers	ity
DuBos	ss, (1920). e, William Porcher Seabury Press, 19		Pittenger, <u>Uni</u>	ity in the Faith, Greenwich, Conn	•
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state		code	county	code	
11.	Form Prep	ared By	· · ·		
name/titl	e Britt Cas	teel, Research	Assistant		
organiza	tion Tennessee Hi	storical Commis	sion dat	te August 15, 1980	
street &	number 4721 Trousda	le Drive	en solo e constata tel e	ephone 615/741-2371	
city or to	wn Nashville		maa saa ta sta	ate Tennessee, 37219	
12.	State Histo	oric Pres	ervation C	Officer Certification	
The evaluation	uated significance of this	property within the	state is:		_
	national	state	X local		
665), l he	reby nominate this prope	erty for inclusion in the	ne National Register a	ric Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89– and certify that it has been evaluated tion and Recreation Service.	
State His	toric Preservation Office	r signatu re 📈	what I the	ypu	
title E	xecutive Director,	Tennessee Hist	orical Commissi	ion date 9/29/80	•
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Architect William Crutchfield of Chattanooga, an associate of Bearden, designed and supervised the construction of the Alfred Duane Pell Library, in the Spanish Mission Style, in 1930. Mrs. Pell, of New York City, funded the construction of the Library in honor of her late husband, also a benefactor of DuBose School. The Alfred Duane Pell Library contained 20,000 volumes in 1939, some of which were removed to the library at the University of the South after DuBose School closed.

Students, who numbered 50 in 1939, worked on the 60 acre school farm, which included a dairy, in order to defray expenses. Married students lived off campus in schoolowned housing. DuBose Memorial Church Training School produced "some outstanding priests and bishops" until it closed in 1945 due to the assumption of the responsibility of training older men for the priesthood by conventional seminaries. The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee has since utilized Claiborne Hall and the Alfred Duane Pell Library as the nucleus of the DuBose Conference Center. FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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Rutter, J. R., Managing Director, DuBose Conference Center, Interviews, 11-13-79, 2-26-80, 7-28-80.

Yoe, Della, "DuBose Memorial Church Training School," Federal Writer's Project, 1939, Tennessee State Library and Archives, Nashville. FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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(Claiborne Hall and the Pell Library). The later buildings [a lodging unit (1975) and chapel (1978)] are included since they are structurally attached to the older buildings. The maintenance building (1948) is adjacent to Claiborne Hall and is designed to complement it. Those buildings (the Bishop's residence, swimming pool, cabins and shelter) outside the drive which encircles the nominated tract were constructed after 1930 and are scattered over the 26 acre site owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee.

