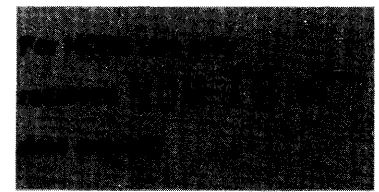


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Young Women's Christian Association Building

and/or common Jacques-Miller Office Building

**2. Location**

street & number 211 <sup>7th</sup> ~~Seventh~~ Avenue North N/A not for publication

city, town Nashville N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Tennessee code 047 county Davidson code 037

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" 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
		<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 Jacques-Miller, Inc

street & number 211 Seventh Avenue North

city, town Nashville N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37219

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register's Office - Davidson County Courthouse

street & number Court Square

city, town Nashville state Tennessee 37201

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined PDIL Tax Act  
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

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located in downtown Nashville on Seventh Avenue North, the 1911 Young Women's Christian Association Building (YWCA Building) is a six-story, ell-shaped structure with steel and concrete framing, limestone and brick veneer and other elements of Georgian Revival. The style may be seen in the pedimented entrance with tabernacle enframing, first floor windows enframed by columns, raised limestone pedestal and subtle cornice and window treatment. In 1982 renovations to the building were completed that included an office addition and an emergency exit stair tower, to return the building to a state of full utility while not damaging the historic building fabric or architectural integrity of the original structure.

Located in Nashville's downtown business district, the YWCA-Building stands detached from surrounding structures on a 149.28' x 147.16' site, 90.0' x 135.0' of which is occupied by the building. Ell-shaped in plan, the original six-story structure has load-bearing exterior brick walls, interior steel and concrete framing with poured concrete floor slabs in the bays, approximately 13' - 16' x 14' each. Considered thoroughly fire proof in its opening days, the building had ample exits.

A cut limestone foundation is terminated at the first floor elevation of the facade, facing east, by a limestone water table. The main facade is of red flash brick laid in Flemish bond with white mortar. Pilasters are used to frame first floor windows on the east facade, rising to arches with brick voussoirs and limestone keystones. The main entrance is flanked by two limestone engaged columns supporting a classical open-bed pediment.

Belt courses of limestone define the second through fourth-floor windows which are outlined in raised brick, with flat arches and limestone keystones. Sixth-floor windows alternate with raised brick panels on the east facade. A limestone course, a cast iron cornice and a brick parapet top the existing structure at the flat roof.

The north, south and west elevations are devoid of ornamentation. Running bond is found in the rear leg of the ell. A two-story brick auditorium with a standing seam hip roof adjoined the main portion of the structure to the rear and was demolished as part of the 1982 renovation program.

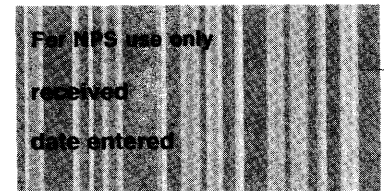
Windows at the YWCA Building were originally wood double-hung with one-quarter inch clear float glazing. During the 1982 renovation, the windows were replaced with the same configuration as original. Fixed semi-circular transoms and narrow sidelights appear at the facade's first floor windows. All windows had an eight over eight light arrangement. The windows of the sides and rear elevation were replaced in the 1982 renovation with one over one light sash. At the main entrance of the facade are a pair of solid wood and glass doors with brass kickplates, latchsets, and hinges.

The main decoration on the interior is on the first floor and is original to the structure. Basement and upper levels were unadorned because of their utilitarian functions: service and dormitory. First floor spaces have terrazzo and wood floors, plaster walls and plaster ceilings, painted. An octagonal plan dominates the lobby with basket arches and engaged columns at the impostes. A brick-faced fireplace with a painted wood mantle is in an alcove off the lobby.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Young Women's Christian  
Association Building



Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page

2

An important aspect of the first floor interior is the Ophelia Clifton Atchison Memorial Library, so named in honor of the mother of the benefactor, Mrs. John Hill Eakin. Decorated by a Chicago interior design firm's personal representative, the library originally had English casement curtains with hangings of green damask, three large library tables and three Oriental rugs.

Monumental stairs adjacent to the lobby have cast iron newels and balustrade, wood handrails and marble treads. Most remaining hardware is brass. Few light fixtures remain except one in the lobby which is an eight lamp, electric pendant fixture.

Minor deterioration before the rehabilitation of the YWCA Building included cracked plaster, broken glazing, rotted window sills and other cosmetic defects. Alterations include demolition in areas of little architectural and historical importance such as the old sleeping room partitions and plumbing of floors two through six. The auditorium was torn down for the office addition and emergency exit stair tower.

The Jacques-Miller Building was adopted as the new name for the YWCA Building after the renovation program was completed in June 1982. A new aluminum curtainwall office addition and cement plaster stair towers were added in a sensitive manner so as not to damage the original building. Existing masonry was restored including tuckpointing of mortar joints, repair of defective masonry units and cleaning exterior exposed surfaces with mild chemical cleaners. Existing windows were replaced to match the originals in size and general muntin and mullion proportion and configuration on the front elevation. A one over one configuration was employed on the remaining elevations, replacing the original eight over eight. Site work included new planting, walks and terraces. The upper floors have been broken up into offices, secretarial spaces, storage, conference rooms, elevators, and other areas. The basement has rest rooms, computer rooms, locker rooms and a training gym. The interior was disturbed very little on the first floor with the lobby, vestibule and library areas being preserved and enhanced by the renovation.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" 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 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** 1911 **Builder/Architect** Shattuck and Hussey, Chicago, Illinois

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criteria A and C**

The Young Women's Christian Association Building is significant because of the contributions made there to the physical, social, intellectual and spiritual needs of the women of Nashville. The YWCA Building is the last remaining of a group of Christian athletic buildings built in the early 1900's in Nashville. It was the first real home of the YWCA in Nashville. Contributing to the significance are the people associated with the construction of the YWCA Building. Furthermore, the YWCA Building is an outstanding local example of the skillful use of the Georgian Revival style in an institutional building.

Business women of good moral character could board at the YWCA dormitory for one dollar per night, including breakfast and dinner. Facilities included a cafeteria, dining room, rest rooms, library parlors, classrooms, gym, and a pool. One could attend classes in English, penmanship, spelling, arithmetic, literature, travel study, parliamentary law, mental hygiene, Bible study and health. There was also an employment bureau for those in need of a job.

The original organizational meeting of the YWCA was held at the Maxwell House Hotel on November 8, 1898, presided over by the Reverend James I. Vance of the First Presbyterian Church. The Nashville YWCA achieved national affiliation on March 24, 1899. The YWCA moved from building to building until 1910, when a campaign was begun to collect the funds necessary for a new building to be built on the site donated for the purpose back in 1903. From April 1 to April 10, 1910, \$90,000.00 was raised.

Many prominent Nashvillians participated in the construction of the YWCA Building. Mr. Percy Warner (after whom the auditorium had been named and President of the Nashville Railway and Light Company) served as Chairman of the Building Committee. Warner's efforts were described as unceasing until the project was accomplished. Major Christopher T. Cheek (owner of a wholesale grocery and cousin of Joel O. Cheek, founder of Maxwell House Coffee) served on the Executive Committee also.

Major E. B. Stahlman ( a successful businessman and principal stockholder in the Mecklenberg Realty Company) had a large part in the work and was interested deeply in its success. Ground was broken for the YWCA Building by the President, members of the Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, Executive Committee and campaign workers.

Designed by the architectural firm of Shattuck and Hussey, Chicago, Illinois, the YWCA Building was completed for approximately \$125,000.00. Contracts were let in every instance where possible to Nashville firms and included Bush Building Company for the brick, and Foster Herbert Stone Company for the stone. Mr. Thomas L. Herbert, a principal of both firms, served on the YWCA Board of Trustees. Other contractors were George Moore and Sons for the carpentry, Foster Creighton-Gould for the steel, Braid Electric and Otis Elevator Company, all firms still in business today in Nashville.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

- "Builders of the Buildings." Nashville Banner, ca. June, 1910.  
 "Interesting Ceremonies Mark Beginning of Work on Handsome New Building." Nashville Banner, ca. May, 1910.  
 "Programme of the Opening of the New Building of the Young Women's Christian Association." Young Women's Christian Association, Nashville, Tennessee, May 4, 1911.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.5  
 Quadrangle name Nashville West Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>5</u> <u>1</u> <u>9</u> <u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>2</u>	<u>4</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>8</u> <u>5</u> <u>3</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The boundary of the YWCA Building is shown as the broken line on the accompanying survey plat map. The nominated property includes only the land on which the original building and the recent additions are located. The landscaped garden area is not included in the nomination.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>	county	<u>N/A</u>	code	<u>N/A</u>

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rex Garton  
 organization N/A date July 23, 1982  
 street & number 141 Neese Drive, Apt. G-29 telephone 615-834-2762  
 city or town Nashville state Tennessee 37211

## 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.

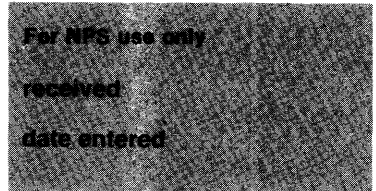
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hays

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 11/16/82

For HCPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the National Register
<u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of the National Register	date <u>12/16/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet    Young Women's Christian Association Building    Item number    8    Page    2

---

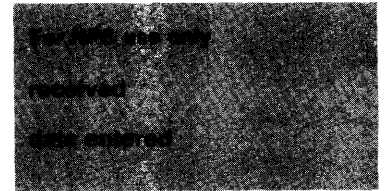
Opening ceremonies were held May 9, 1911, and included a program of receptions, vocal solos, speeches and prayers. A newspaper of the day described the YWCA and the now-demolished YMCA as two of the best Christian Association buildings in North America. The building remained in service until February 1978, when newer quarters were found.

The YWCA Building is the only survivor of other related structures. The Black YMCA Building, the YMCA Building and the Young Men's Hebrew Building of roughly the same age, have been demolished.

The YWCA Building provided a home for many of Nashville's women from 1911 to 1978, and will continue to serve Nashville's business community for years to come.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet    Young Women's Christian Association Building    Item number    9    Page    2

---

"Prospectus, 1910-1911." Young Women's Christian Association, Nashville, Tennessee, ca. 1911

"Story of Nashville's Y. W. C. A. Work." Nashville Banner, ca. 1922.

YWCA BUILDING  
 211 Seventh Avenue, North  
 Nashville, Davidson Co., Tennessee  
 Survey Plat Map

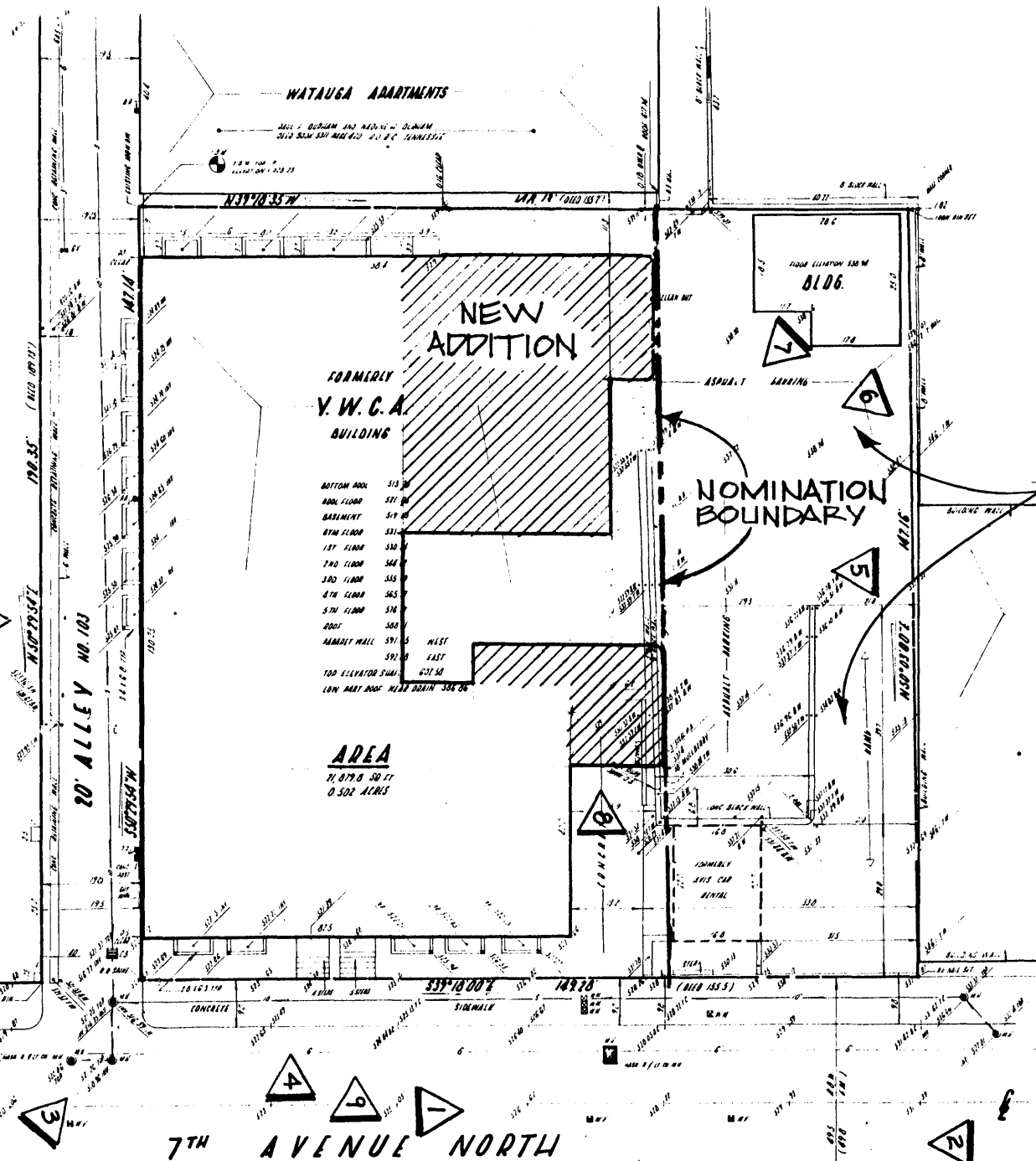
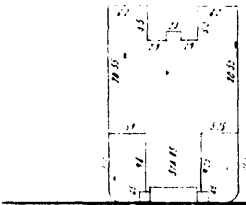
PHOTOGRAPHS

AREA  
 1,883.4 SQ. FT.  
 0.0426 ACRES

BARKING GARAGE

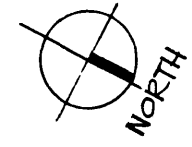
22 WALLS 53.44 CONCRETE  
 10 WALLS 560.77 BRICK

ALIGNMENT	53.40
1ST FLOOR	53.40
2ND FLOOR	53.42
3RD FLOOR	54.40
4TH FLOOR	54.38
5TH FLOOR	54.32



NOTES

1. PROPERTY SUBMITTED BEING LOTS AND PART OF LOTS 10, 11, 12, 13 AND 14 ON THE MAP OF THE ORIGINAL TOWN OF NASHVILLE AND 7th AVENUE.
2. ALLEY WIDTH - METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PLANS SHOW TO ALLEY NO. 103 THIS ALLEY WAS MEASURED 1925.
3. CONCRETE BEARING WALL AND WINDSON WALLS ENCLOSURE IN TO ALLEY NO. 103.
4. NO TITLE GUARANTY FURNISHED TO THIS SURVEY. THIS SURVEY IS SUBJECT TO THE FINDINGS OF AN ACCURATE TITLE SEARCH.
5. PROPERTY ZONED C-1 - COMM. COMMERCIAL FRAME DISTRICTS.
6. BENCH MARK ELEVATIONS FURNISHED BY METRO GOVERNMENT.



BOUNDARY AND TOPOGRAPHIC  
 JACQUES-MILLER BLDG.  
 211 SEVENTH AVE NORTH