

MULTIPLE NOMINATION HISTORIC DISTRICT SUMMARY FORM

MRA/THEMATIC NOMINATION TITLE: Historic Resources of Shelby County Outside Shelbyville

HISTORIC DISTRICT NAME: Lincoln Institute Complex (Site #SH-174)

OWNER OF PROPERTY: Lincoln Foundation, Box 336, Simpsonville, Kentucky 40067

(On Continuation Sheets list all properties by address which are included within the district and provide the names and addresses of their owners.)

DESCRIPTION:

Condition: excellent, good, fair; deteriorated, ruins, unexposed; Check one: unaltered, altered; Check one: original site, moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

(Use Continuation Sheets) SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

SIGNIFICANCE

Period: prehistoric, 1400-1499, 1500-1599, 1600-1699, 1700-1799, 1800-1899, 1900-; Areas of Significance: archeology, agriculture, architecture, art, commerce, communications, etc.

Specific dates: 1910 - c. 1915; Builder/Architect: G. W. Foster & W. V. Tandy/ Lynn Gruber (builder)/ Frederick Law Olmsted

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

(Use Continuation Sheets) SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreege of nominated property: 21.79

Quadrangle name: Simpsonville/Fisherville

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

UTM References

UTM grid coordinates for Fisherville and Simpsonville (Zone, Easting, Northing)

Verbal boundary description and justification

(Use Continuation Sheets) SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

DISTRICT MAPS ATTACHED:

- 1. District Boundary Map Showing Contributing & Noncontributing Properties.
2. District Map Showing Location & Direction of Numbered Photographs.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Historic Resources of Shelby County, Kentucky

Lincoln Institute Complex (Site #SH-174)

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Description

The Lincoln Institute Complex is a historic district consisting of three historic buildings within a designed historic landscape set on a low ridge in rural Shelby County, Kentucky. The rural complex is located one-half mile south of U. S. 60 (Louisville-Shelbyville Road) in an area of gently sloping outer-Bluegrass terrain. The tower of Berea Hall, the focal building in the complex, can be seen from U. S. 60 and Interstate 64 which follows an east-west route immediately south of the campus. Located adjacent to the district is the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Birthplace, a National Historic Landmark.

Berea Hall is a two-and-a-half story, brick academic and administrative building. The building contains a five-story crenellated tower with decorative buttresses and stone belt courses, with the building's stone tudor-arched principal entry in its base. Putlocks on the east and south walls indicate plans for the construction of wings when finances would permit. The gabled, asbestos-roofed west wing has a parapet which extends above the eave line to form the front gable of a projecting end pavilion as well as two intermediate dormers. The three north-facing gables have stepped parapets, while a gable on the south and one on the west have straight slopes. All windows in both floors have one/one sash and transoms. Stone belt courses circle the north and west walls at the levels of window sills and floor lines. The seven-course common bond structure sits on a coursed rubble foundation containing a raised basement with segmentally arched windows. The rear south wall, where additions were planned, is more simply detailed.

The interior has a double-loaded central corridor in the wing which gives access to simply finished offices and rooms with transomed doorways. Ceilings have been lowered and partitions added. The tower contains the building's most impressive room: a brick-walled entrance lobby with a panelled wood ceiling. An arched brick screen shelters a brick-vaulted extension of the corridor in the west wing. Stairs extend to the basement behind brick railings. Wrought iron chandeliers survive (a floor plan is attached).

Berea Hall stands on the crest of Lincoln Ridge. Approximately 500 feet away and slightly forward on either side are dormitory buildings, Norton and Belknap Halls. The buildings are reached by a transverse drive with a flanking row of maple trees.

Belknap Hall, originally a dormitory for girls, is a two-story, twelve-bay brick dormitory building with coursed rubble foundation containing segmentally arched basement windows. It has a parapet on the front (east) and north sides. The original windows openings contain new metal-framed windows. The main entry is a stone tudor-arched opening which is protected by a mid-twentieth century, three-bay porch. Both the foundation and the door are similar to those at Berea and Norton Halls. The second floor of the original block was added early in the history of Lincoln Institute, ahead of the two-story ell on the north side which was added after World War II.

Facing Belknap Hall from the other side of the campus is **Norton Hall**, built as a dormitory for boys. It is a three-story, eight-bay brick dormitory building on a raised, coursed rubble foundation.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Historic Resources of Shelby County, Kentucky

Lincoln Institute Complex (Site #SH-174)

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The main entry is in the third bay from the north end. The building as constructed is only part of the planned structure. Putlocks on the south end suggest that a three-bay portion, identical to the three-bay entry section, was planned. The three-bay section at the north end projects to the rear (east). The entry in the principal (west) facade is surrounded by a stone segmental arch with the name of the building inscribed above, similar to the door at Belknap Hall, opposite. The entire building is surrounded by stone belt courses, one below the parapet and two between the second- and third-floor windows. The basement is lit by segmentally arched windows in the stone foundation. A fire escape stands on the incomplete south end. All windows have modern replacement sash.

The landscaped open space through which Berea Hall is approached was an important part of the planned landscape developed for the Lincoln Institute by Olmsted firm of Brookline, Massachusetts. The landscape plan enhances the approach to Berea Hall by providing an alley of poplar trees for the last 1,000 feet at the entry drive. Plantings of white pine trees survive on the lawn to either side of the entry drive. A tennis court has been located in the open space in front of Norton Hall for many years. On either side of Berea Hall are non-contributing buildings—a gymnasium/cafeteria built in the 1950s and a story classroom built in the late 1970s. The areas with parking and modern buildings behind Berea Hall, built after the conversion of Lincoln Institute to a job corps training center, have been excluded from the nomination.

The nominated area includes three contributing buildings, one contributing site, and three non-contributing buildings.

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Statement of Significance

Lincoln Institute is significant under Criteria A and C at the state level. Within the context of black educational history, Lincoln Institute was the leading secondary education center for blacks in Kentucky during the period 1908-1938. Lincoln Institute is also significant under Criterion C in the areas of architecture and landscape architecture. Berea Hall, the focal building in the complex was designed by G. W. Foster and W. V. Tandy, who were responsible for other educational facilities for blacks during this period. And the original campus is significant as an excellent example of the work of the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm.

For over fifty years, Lincoln Institute played a major role in the education of blacks in Kentucky. In 1904, the Kentucky legislature passed the Day Law which made integrated education illegal. Berea College, located in Berea, Madison County, Kentucky, which had been a leader in the education of blacks since the Civil War, responded to the Day Law by developing plans for an educational facility where its black students could continue to receive the education previously provided in Berea's classrooms.

The Carnegie Foundation agreed to pay half of the \$400,000 needed to create the new school. A site near an agricultural setting, on a major railroad line, near an urban center was sought. Berea College was able to assemble a 444-acre tract in western Shelby County, on the main east-west line of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, only twenty-five miles east of Louisville. In 1911, Berea Hall was completed and secondary-level classes began.

From its founding in 1911 requiring public school systems to provide high schools for black students, Lincoln Institute played a leading role in black education in Kentucky. It served as a benchmark for the public school systems which had black high schools.

Its facilities expanded significantly after 1935 when Whitney M. Young, Sr., became its director. Young improved the facility, expanded the endowment and convinced counties with small black populations to underwrite the cost of educating students at Lincoln Institute. Young also developed an effective working relationship with Kentucky State College, a state supported college for blacks in Frankfort, and was able to obtain some state funding beginning in 1947.

After a period of growth immediately after World War II, Lincoln Institute quickly became obsolete as Kentucky's public school systems were desegregated in the late fifties and early sixties and the campus closed in 1965.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Bibliography

Dunnigan, Alice A., The Fascinating Story of Black Kentuckians: Their Heritage and Traditions, The Associated Publishers, Inc., Washington, D. C., 1982.

Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, Kentucky's Black Heritage, Frankfort, KY, 1971.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

Beginning at Point A on the east side of the entry drive, proceeding east 630 feet from a fence post to Point B, thence 970 feet south on a line corresponding to the east side of a drive east of Norton Hall to Point C, thence 1360 feet west on a line corresponding to the south wall of Berea Hall to Point D, thence north 460 feet on a line corresponding to the west side of a drive west of Belknap Hall to Point E, thence 735 feet east along a fence to the east side of the entry drive at Point F, thence north 510 feet along the east side of the entry drive to the point of origin. The boundaries are drawn to include the three major contributing buildings and the landscaped, formally planned central campus. Also included are a 1920's gym, a modern concrete block academic building, and a small brick building near the tranverse drive on the west lawn. All three are non-contributing. Not included in the boundaries are modern buildings to the south of Berea Hall and an early residential complex to the east which includes the National Historic Landmark Whitney M. Young, Jr., Birthplace, an early twentieth-century frame foursquare house.

The modern buildings south of Berea Hall are numerous and constitute a new campus which because it is located on terrain sloping away from ridge where Berea, Belknap and Norton Hall are located is practically invisible as one approaches Berea Hall through the Olmsted designed landscape. It is the designed landscape which provides the setting and physical context for the nominated properties (see photographs 5, 6, 7 and 8). Photograph 15 shows the kind of low modern buildings which have been erected behind Berea Hall in the 1970s and 1980s. The houses built behind Belknap and Norton Hall to provide faculty housing have been excluded because they are outside the formally landscaped area. All except the Whitney M. Young, Jr., Birthplace have been extensively remodeled in recent years.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 174 (A)
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource: Lincoln Institute Complex (Berea Hall)

2. Original Owner: Lincoln Institute

3. Other Names: Whitney M. Young Jr. Job Corps Training Center

4. Prehistoric Site Buildings Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: South side U.S. 60 at Lincoln Ridge

6. Owner's Name: Lincoln Foundation [P]

7. Owner's Address: Box 336, Simpsonville, 40067

8. Evaluation: National Register [N]

9. Recognition & Date:
Nat. Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____
Nat. Register _____ HABS/HAER _____
Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory 8-15-80 _____
KY Landmark Certificate _____

10. N.R. Status & Date:

11. N.R. Group:
District Name: []
Mult. Resource Area: Shelby County []
Thematic Name: []

12. Historical Theme:
Primary: Black History [13B]
Secondary: Education [100]
Other: Architecture - Landscape [080]

13. Statement of Significance:

16. Date: Original Building 1910-1912 [4]
Addition []

17. Style: Tudor Revival [53]
[]

18. Architect/Builder: Lynn Gruber - Builder
G.W. Foster and W.V. Tandy - Architects

19. No. of Stories: 2 1/2 [2.5]

20. Original Floor Plan: see plan [00]

21. Single Pile Double Pile N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original
parapet, gable / asbestos Not Original

23. Structural Material: brick [B]
[]

24. Exterior Material: Brick, 7-course common bond [B]
[]

25. Foundation Material: Stone [S]
[]

26. Major Alterations: None
Moved/Rebuilt Other

27. Special Features: Five-story tower

28. Outbuildings: N/A [0]
[]

29. Original Function: Educational - College [05B]
[]

30. Present Use: as above [05B]
[]

31. Condition: excellent [E]
[]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No

The property is significant under criteria A and C as a prominent educational institution for blacks in Kentucky. Berea Hall has architectural significance as an example of early twentieth century academic design. Belknap and Norton

13. History: Halls are significant as part of the original campus design by nationally prominent F.L. Olmstead.

14. History: Lincoln Institute incorporated in 1911 by Berea College as a result of the 1904 Day Law which prohibited Berea's former policy of biracial education. Curriculum focused on agricultural and industrial education as advocated by leading black educator Booker T. Washington. Campus buildings designed by New York firm of black architects G.W. Foster and W.V. Tandy. Former student and teacher Whitney M. Young Sr. became president in 1935. Lincoln Institute closed in the 1960's.

(continued on Sheet 3)

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: Wright, George C. "Whitney Young leads Lincoln Institute through the Depression" typescript in the files of the Kentucky Heritage Council, n.d.

33. Attach Photos:
Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:
11 32-36A 7 4-19
12 2-17

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

35. Organization: Shelby County Historical Soc

36. Date: April, 1986

37. New Survey _____ Resurvey

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
 Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 174(A)

38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Quadrant: <u>Simpsonville</u>	Zone <u>16</u>	Easting -----	Northing -----	39. G.I.S. Mod. []	40. Coordi.Accuracy []
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41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A. -----	D. -----
B. -----	E. -----
C. -----	F. -----

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 400.5 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: 21.79

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

see attached site plan

Beginning at point A on the east side of the entry drive, proceeding east 630 feet from a fence post to point B, thence 970 feet south on a line corresponding to the east side of a drive east of Norton Hall to point C, thence 1360 feet west on a line corresponding to the south wall of Berea Hall to point D, thence north 460 feet on a line corresponding to the west side of a drive west of Belknap Hall to point E, thence 735 feet east along a fence to the east side of the entry drive at point F, thence north 510 feet along the east side of the entry drive to the point of origin. The boundaries were drawn to include the three major contributing buildings and the landscaped, formally planned central campus. Also included are a 1920's gym, a modern concrete block academic building, and a small brick building near the tranverse drive on the west lawn. All three are non-contributing. Not included in the boundaries are modern buildings to the south of Berea Hall and an early residential complex to the east which includes the National Historic Landmark Whitney M. Young Jr Birthplace, an early twentieth-century frame foursquare house.

Description of Campus:

The grounds at Lincoln Institute still bear strong signs of the original Olmstead plan for the campus. The tower of Berea Hall is centered at the end of a 1/2-mile entry drive, entered between brick gate posts on the south side of U.S. 60. The last 1000 feet of the drive is lined by poplar trees. It slopes up to Berea Hall, which stands on the crest of Lincoln Ridge, through a graded rectangular lawn between widely spaced flanking academic (continued on rear of form 174(B))

45. Description and House Plan:

Exterior: Berea Hall is a two 1/2-story brick academic and administrative building. The building consists of a five-story crenellated tower with decorative buttresses and stone belt courses, with the building's stone tudor-arched principal entry in its base, and one of the two originally-planned flanking wings. Putlocks on the east and south walls indicate the planned construction of east and south wings when finances would permit. The gabled, asbestos-roofed west wing has a parapet which extends above the eave line to form the front gable of a projecting end pavilion as well as two intermediate dormers. The three north-facing gables have stepped parapets, while a gable on the south and one on the west have straight sloped eaves. All windows in both floors have one/one sash and transoms. Stone belt courses circle the north and west walls at the levels of window sills and floor lines. The seven-course common bond structure sits on a course rubble foundation containing a raised basement with segmentally-arched windows. The rear (south wall, where additions were planned, was more simply detailed.

Interior: Double-loaded central corridor in wing gives access to simply finished offices and rooms with transomed doorways. Ceilings have been lowered and partitions added. The tower contains the building's most impressive room: a brick-walled entrance lobby with a panelled wood ceiling. An arched brick screen shelters a brick-vaulted extension of the corridor in the west wing. Stairs extend to basement behind brick railings. Wrought iron chandeliers survive.

see attached plan

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 174(B)
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource: Lincoln Institute Complex (Belknap Hall)

2. Original Owner: Lincoln Institute

3. Other Names: Whitney M. Young Jr. Job Corps Training Center

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: south side U.S. 60 at Lincoln Ridge

6. Owner's Name: Lincoln Foundation [P]

7. Owner's Address: Box 336, Simpsonville, 40067

8. Evaluation: National Register [N]

9. Recognition & Date:
 Nat.Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____
 Nat.Register _____ HABS/HAER _____
 Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory _____
 KY Landmark Certificate _____

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:
 District Name: []
 Mult.Resource Area: Shelby County []
 Thematic Name: []

12. Historical Theme:
 Primary: Black History [13 B]
 Secondary: Education [100]
 Other: Architecture-Landscape [180]

13. Statement of Significance:

See Sh-174 (A)

 [A, C]

16. Date:
 Original Building 1910-1912 [4]
 Addition ca. 1950 [2]

17. Style: Tudor Revival [53]

18. Architect/Builder: Lynn T. Gruber-Builder (partially)

19. No. of Stories: 2 [2.0]

20. Original Floor Plan: N/A [00]

21. Single Pile _____ Double Pile _____ N.A.

22. Roof Form & Material: Original
parapet /not visible Not Original

23. Structural Material:
Brick [B]

24. Exterior Material:
Brick - 7-course bond [B]

25. Foundation Material:
stone [S]

26. Major Alterations: None
 Moved/Rebuilt _____ Other _____
 Additions x mid 20th c

27. Special Features:
None

28. Outbuildings:
N/A [0]

29. Original Function:
Educational/College [05B]

30. Present Use:
as above [05B]

31. Condition:
Good [G]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
 No

33. Attach Photos:
 Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:
 11 32-36 A
 12 2-17

14. History:

 It became the Lincoln School, and is now the Whitney M. Young Jr. Job Corps Training Center, named for the son of the former president, who was a prominent black leader and director of the National Urban League in the 1960's. His birthplace and boyhood home is located east of the nominated property and is a National Historic Landmark.

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

35. Organization: Shelby Co. Hist. Society

36. Date: April 1986

37. New Survey Resurvey _____

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
 Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 174

38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.I.S. Mod. []
 Quadrant: Simpsonville 16 40. Coordi. Accuracy []

41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A.	---	D.	---
B.	---	E.	---
C.	---	F.	---

42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 400.5 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary:

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

see attached plan and form 174(A)

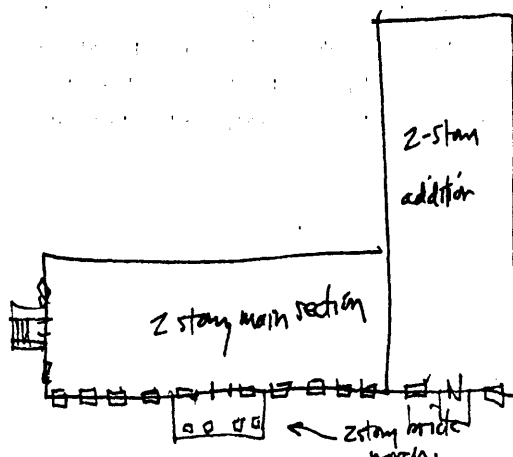
Description of Campus:(continued from form 174(A))

buildings, Norton and Belknap Halls, approximately 1000 feet apart. The buildings are reached by a transverse drive with a flanking row of maple trees, which passes directly in front of Berea Hall and its semi-circular approach drive. In the center of the drive stands a cannon. Plantings of white pine trees survive on the lawns to either side of the entrance drive, while a tennis court has been placed in front of Norton Hall for many years. A 1920's gymnasium (non-contributing) stands to the west of Berea Hall, while a pair of modern concrete block academic buildings (non-contributing) stand in a similar position to the east. A small modern brick building stands on the west lawn in front of the gym. Behind Berea Hall numerous shop buildings and modern structures complete the complex.

The nominated area contains three contributing buildings and four non-contributing buildings

45. Description and House Plan:

Two-story twelve-bay brick dormitory building with coursed rubble foundation containing segmentally-arched basement windows. Parapet around front (east) and sides. Replacement windows. Three-bay mid-twentieth-century porch shelters central three bays, including stone Tudor-arched main entry. Foundation and door are similar to those on Berea and Norton Halls, while the upper floors seem to have been constructed later in the present century. Mid-twentieth-century two-story brick addition to north end forms L shape to west.



KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 174 (C)
Shelby County

1. Name of Resource: Lincoln Institute Complex(Norton Hall)

2. Original Owner: Lincoln Institute

3. Other Names: Whitney M. Young, Jr. Job Corps Center

4. Prehistoric Site Building Object
Historic Site Structure Other

5. Location: south side U.S. 60 at Lincoln Ridge

6. Owner's Name: Lincoln Foundation [P]

7. Owner's Address: Box 336, Simpsonville, 40067

8. Evaluation: National Register [N]

9. Recognition & Date:
 Nat.Landmark _____ Local Landmark _____
 Nat.Register _____ HABS/HAER _____
 Highway Marker _____ KY Inventory _____
 KY Landmark Certificate _____

10. N.R.Status & Date:

11. N.R.Group:
 District Name: []
 Mult.Resource Area: Shelby County []
 Thematic Name: []

12. Historical Theme:
 Primary: Black History [13B]
 Secondary: Education [100]
 Other: Architecture - Landscape [180]

13. Statement of Significance:

 See Sh-174 (A)

 [A, C]

14. History:

16. Date:
 Original Building 1910's [4]
 Addition []

17. Style: Tudor Revival [53]
[]

18. Architect/Builder: Lynn T. Gruber (?)

19. No. of Stories: 3 [3.0]

20. Original Floor Plan: N/A [00]

21. Single Pile Double Pile N.A. x

22. Roof Form & Material: Original x
parapet/not visible Not Original

23. Structural Material: Brick [B]

24. Exterior Material: Brick [B]
[]

25. Foundation Material: Stone [S]

26. Major Alterations: None
Moved/Rebuilt x Other: windows re-
Additions placed

27. Special Features: none

28. Outbuildings: N/A [0]

29. Original Function: Educational/College [05B]

30. Present Use: as Above [05B]

31. Condition: Good [G]

32. Endangered: Yes _____
No x

33. Attach Photos:
 Roll: Photo Nos: No. of Slides:
 11 32-36A
 12 2-17

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person:

34. Prepared by: C. Worsham

35. Organization: Shelby Co. Hist. Society

36. Date: April 1986

37. New Survey x Resurvey

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES
 Individual Inventory Form

Resource # 174(C)

38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Zone Easting Northing 39. G.I.S. Mod. []
 Quadrant: Simpsonville 16 40. Coordi.Accuracy []

41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):

A.	-----	D.	-----
B.	-----	E.	-----
C.	-----	F.	-----

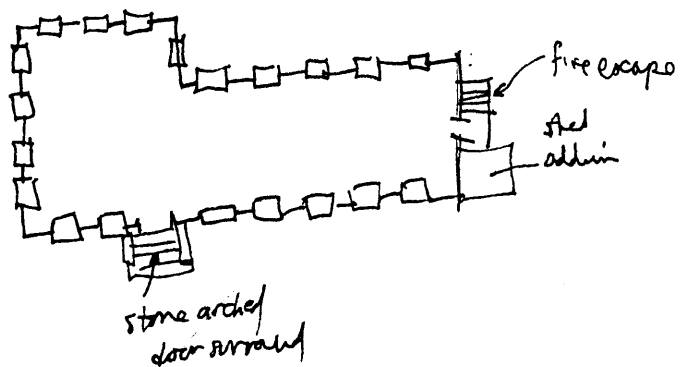
42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 400.5 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary:

44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):

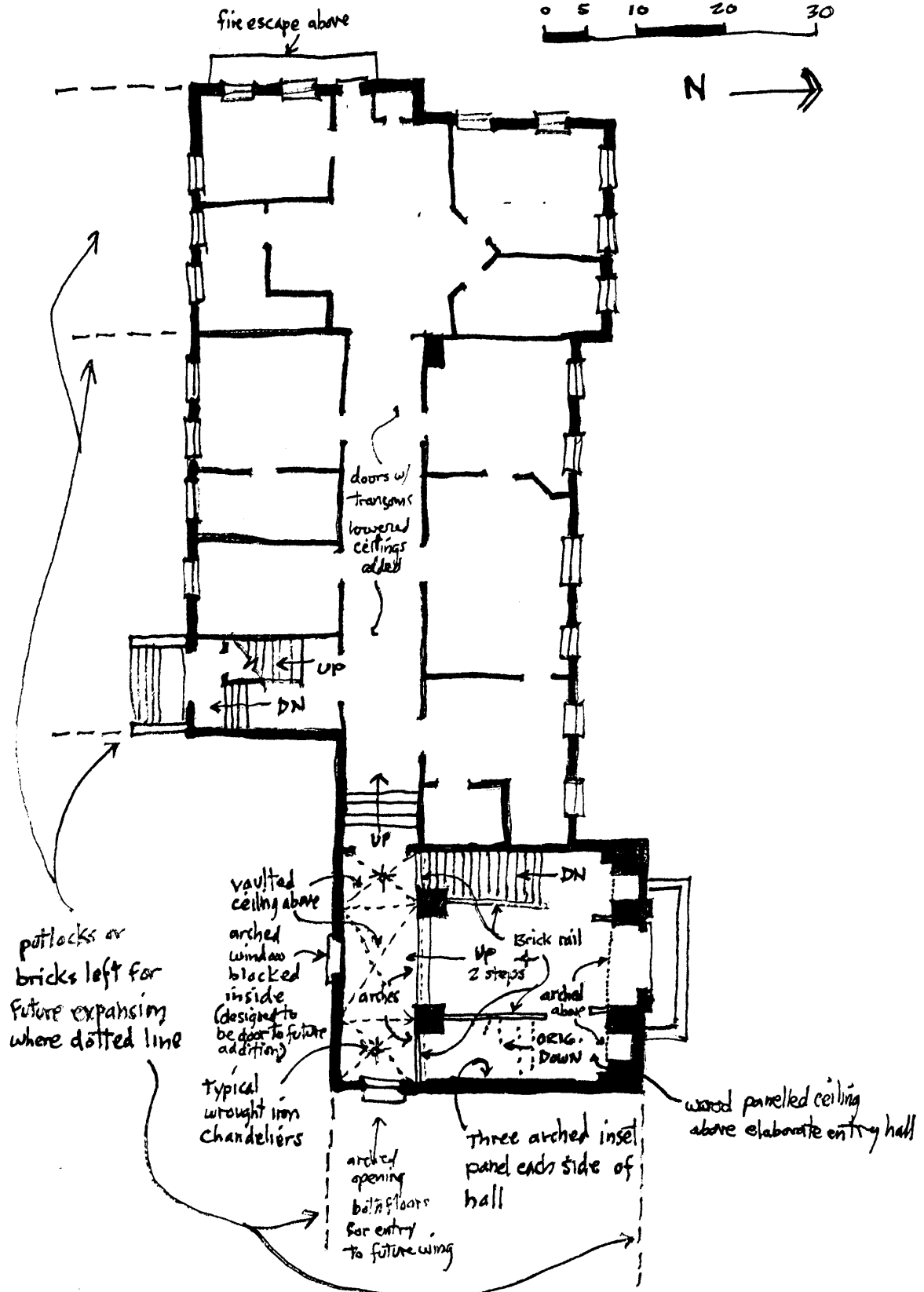
see attached plan and form 174(A)

45. Description and House Plan:

Three-story eight-bay brick dormitory building on raised coursed rubble foundation. Main entry is in third bay from north end. The building as constructed is only part of the planned structure. Putlocks on the south end indicate possibly a three-bay portion identical to the three-bay entry section at the opposite end was planned. The three bay section at the north end projects to the rear (east). The entry in the principal (west) facade is surrounded by a segmentally arched stone arch with the name of the building inscribed above, similar to the door at Belknap Hall opposite. The entire building is surrounded by stone belt courses, one below the parapet and two between the second and third-floor windows. The basement is lit by segmentally-arched windows in the stone foundation. A fire escape stands on the incomplete south end. All windows have modern replacement sash.



BEREA HALL SH-174-A LINCOLN INSTITUTE



SITE PLAN LINCOLN INSTITUTE

SH-174-1986

Charlotte Worsham.

□ contributing bldg.
▨ noncontributing bldg.

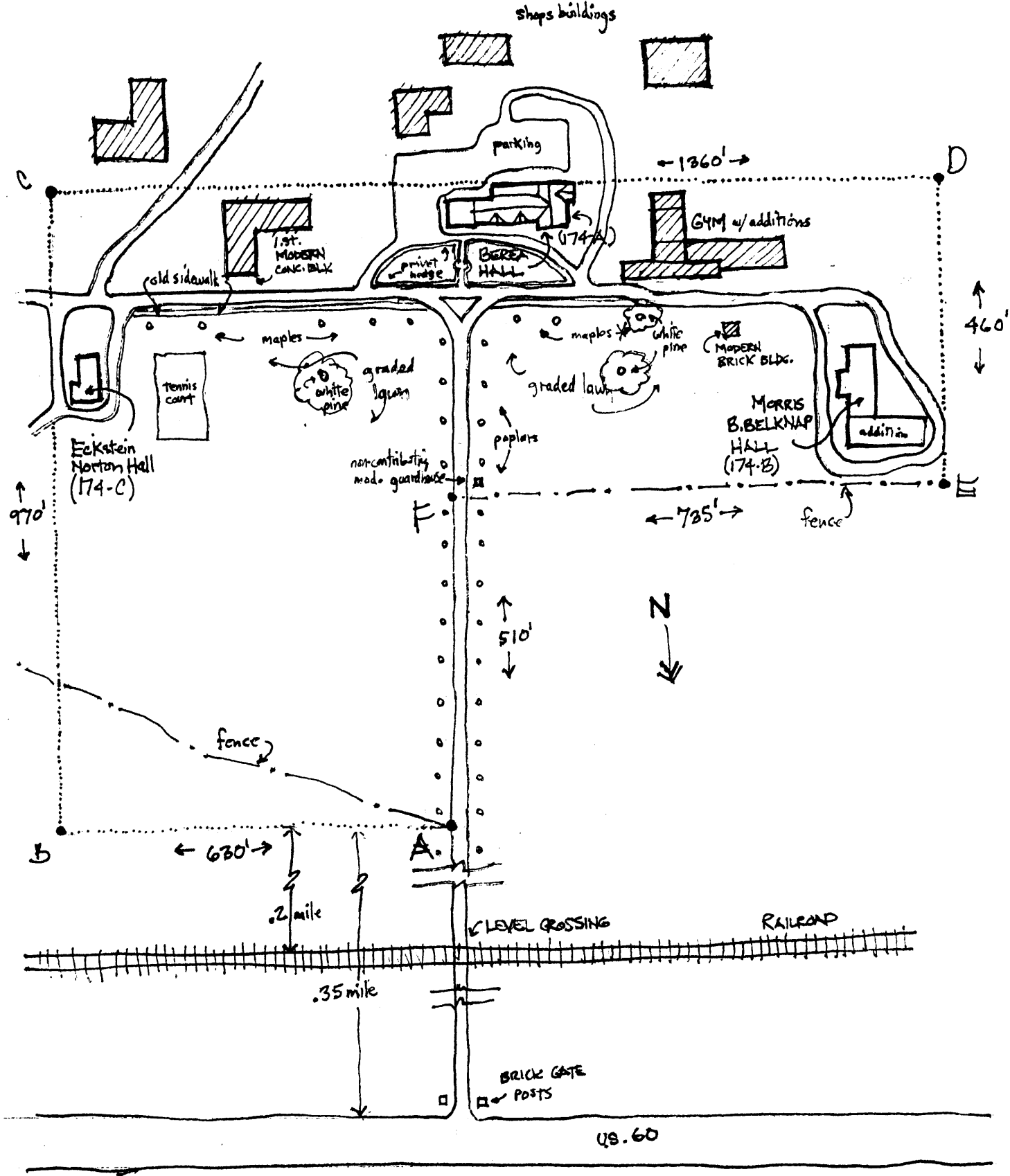


PHOTO KEY

SITE PLAN
LINCOLN INSTITUTE

Sh-174-1986

Charlotte Worsiam.

□ contributing bldg.
▨ noncontributing bldg.

