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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

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

Oklahoma City University

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2501 N. Blackwelder

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Oklahoma City

VICINITY OF

No. 5

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Oklahoma

40

Oklahoma

109

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Board of Regents, Oklahoma City University

STREET & NUMBER

2501 N. Blackwelder

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Oklahoma City

VICINITY OF

Oklahoma

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Oklahoma County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Oklahoma City

Oklahoma

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Oklahoma Landmark Inventory

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Oklahoma Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Oklahoma City

Oklahoma

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

The Oklahoma City University Campus District comprises the original portion of the campus first developed with three major buildings: the Administration Building, the Fine Arts Building, and the Goldbug Building. All three are of the Collegiate Gothic style of architecture, heavily influenced by the Art Deco concepts so popular in Oklahoma in the early decades of the Twentieth Century. The first of these buildings, the Administration Building, was constructed in 1922 and 1923, utilizing the design of the architect, William T. Schmitt of Oklahoma City. The structure is 182 feet long from north to south, fifty-two feet wide from east to west, with four floors, including a basement. The dominating feature is a graceful tower which rises 136 feet above the ground and originally housed the library and stack rooms. Reinforced concrete is used throughout, while the exterior is of red brick of varied shades and tones, with white tone trim (limestone). The roof is of slate. The roofline is broken by jutting wall sections, as well as dormer windows, with the end walls strongly buttressed. The building faces east with the main entrance through a great hall. The Fine Arts Building was completed in 1928 with the same general design configuration and use of materials. It contains an auditorium which will seat 1,400 persons, offices, fifteen music and art studios. An addition was added to the north of the building in 1968, which follows the original form and scale. The Goldbug Building is of steel frame construction with red brick exterior front and back. The sides are brick to the top level of the first floor with the upper side walls covered with white stucco. The original portion is a forty-eight feet by 124 feet structure at ground level. The exterior of the Goldbug Building is unaltered, while the interior space has been re-arranged to accomodate various uses, such as the library. All three buildings rest on the east side of the campus on Blackwelder.

One intrusion exists in the district -- the Main Library, immediately to the south of the Goldbug Building (constructed in 1970).

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 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1911-present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William T. Schmitt & others

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Oklahoma City University was organized on March 19, 1919, under the auspices of the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the Methodist-Episcopal Church. It directly succeeded the Methodist University of Oklahoma, which was maintained under similar control at Guthrie, Oklahoma from 1911 to 1919. The Methodist Episcopal Church withdrew from partnership with the Methodist-Episcopal Church South in Epworth University in 1911. While the process was in keeping with the northern church's Discipline, the southern Church argued that a partnership could not be dissolved without agreement of all partners involved. The Methodist Episcopal Church South then proceeded to sue the University Development Company for its share of the interest in Epworth. A compromise was reached in which the Church of the south received eleven acres of land and the original building of Epworth University.

Property in Oklahoma City was purchased for the present campus in 1920 in the amount of 22 acres at the corner of Northeast Twenty-third Street and North Blackwelder. The first building (the Administration Building) was dedicated December 5, 1922. Much of the credit for the sound renewal of the University goes to Dr. E. G. Green, the President from 1917-1923 who brought the school out of chaos. On May 7, 1923, Dr. Eugene M. Antrim was elected president of Oklahoma City College, as it was known. President Antrim served as the head of the college until 1934. It was under his administration that the major building of the period was constructed and that the southern and the northern Methodist-Episcopal Churches were reunited in this institution of higher learning, pre-dating the successful reunification of the Methodist Church in 1939, after its separation in the Ante-bellum period of the history of the United States.

The College system initially allowed for two divisions -- the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Fine Arts. At the present time additional divisions of the University include Criminal Justice, Education, Law, Management and Business, as well as, a Competency Based Degree Program.

Oklahoma City University is of critical importance to higher education in Oklahoma and within the Methodist history of religious impact in the State and region. As private institutions of higher learning fail, as they have over the past twenty years, this university has become stronger with renewed emphasis upon the liberal arts and the fine arts. The institution continues to have a major intellectual influence in the State. Its close relations with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has allowed growth to be directed in areas of mathematics and science, without losing the strong emphasis upon the humanities and theology.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

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Verbal Boundary Description (con't.)

and the Observatory; east to the center of the intersection of the OCU Division Road and Florida; south to the center of the intersection of NE 25th and Florida; then east to the intersection of NE 25th and Blackwelder.