

PH0693910

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED DEC 18 1978 27 1979

**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 Peabody Hall

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

University of Florida Campus

See Continuation Sheet

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Gainesville

VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Florida

12

Alachua

001

**CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

**OWNERSHIP**

**STATUS**

**PRESENT USE**

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

**ACCESSIBLE**

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund

STREET & NUMBER

Elliot Building

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tallahassee

VICINITY OF

Florida 32304

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund

STREET & NUMBER

Elliot Building

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tallahassee

Florida 32304

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Peabody Hall is in the collegiate Gothic style, with classic cornice and tiled mansard roof. A notable aspect of the exterior is the gray stone trim which provides contrast with the building's red brick fabric. Such trim includes coping on gables; ornamental buttresses at the entrance porches; and lintels, sills and finials.

Peabody Hall's interior is unadorned and functional, as befits the conception of a proper classroom building during the period of its construction. Its main entrance in the west facade originally led to Peabody's only stair. This was removed in 1953, when fire stairs were added on the north and south building ends. Space previously occupied by the original stair was then converted into classrooms and offices.

See Continuation Sheet

# 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/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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES                      1913                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      William A. Edwards

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Peabody Hall is historically significant as the first concrete evidence of partnership between a major philanthropic organization and a state-supported institution of higher learning in Florida. The Peabody grant of forty thousand dollars for construction of a teachers' college was the first major gift bestowed upon the University of Florida after its foundation in Gainesville. During the early years of the twentieth century, many foundations preferred not to endow programs at public colleges and universities because they feared that their support would result in lessened appropriations from penurious state legislatures.

The gift of monies from the George Peabody Foundation was a credit to the persuasive talents of the first president of the University of Florida, A. A. Murphree. He initiated discussions with the Peabody Foundation in 1911 and pursued the project to its completion, the opening of Peabody Hall, in 1913.<sup>1</sup> In return, he aided in the successful attempt to have the Board of Control expend ten thousand dollars yearly for perpetual maintenance of the education school.<sup>2</sup> Thus, Peabody Hall represents a cooperative effort of the George Peabody Foundation and the State of Florida, mediated by Murphree, to construct, then support a visible symbol of commitment to the education of the state's youth.

Peabody Hall remained the home of the education college for many years. It also contained a psychological laboratory, the presses of the Florida Alligator, and the library collection until the completion of a Library Building. In later years the College of Architecture, and the history, political science, economics and sociology departments used Peabody Hall for faculty offices and classes.

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<sup>1</sup>Gainesville Daily Sun, October 19, 1913, p. 2, c. 2.

<sup>2</sup>Brian Paul Bowman, "Historic Buildings Survey, University of Florida Campus," (unpublished report, University of Florida Office of Planning and Analysis), pp. 9-13.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Arnett, William Tobias. "A Study of the Campus Planning Problem at the University of Florida." M.A. Thesis, University of Florida, 1932.

(See Continuation Sheet)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than One, Building Only

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	7
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3	7	0	1	0	0
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3	18	0	56	0
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B 

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C 

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D 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Building Only.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John A. Scafidi, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Florida Division of Archives, History & Rec. Mgt.

DATE

November 1, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Department of State, The Capitol

TELEPHONE

(904) 487-2333

CITY OR TOWN

Tallahassee

STATE

Florida 32304

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

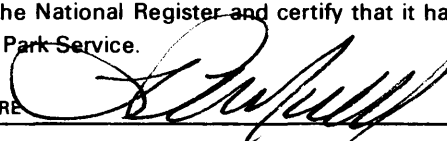
NATIONAL

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



11/9/78

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

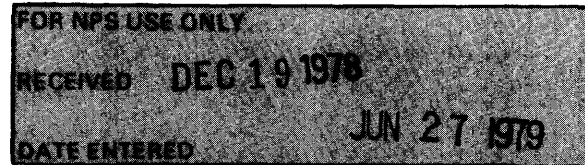
DATE 6-27-79  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:   
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE June 26, 1979

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



Peabody Hall

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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Bowman, Brian Paul. "Historic Buildings Survey, University of Florida Campus." Unpublished report, University of Florida Office of Planning and Analysis, passim.

Florida Alligator, September 24, 1912; October 2, 1913; November 6, 1913.

Gainesville Daily Sun, July 6, 1912; February 6, 1913; October 19, 1913.

"Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Preservation of Significant Buildings and On-Campus Sites, May 24, 1977." Report directed to University of Florida Executive Vice President, Dr. Harold P. Hanson.

University Record, May 1912, VII: 2; May 1913, VIII: 1.

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Item Number 2

Page 1

Located on the University of Florida campus at the southeast corner of the Plaza of the Americas, east of Floyd Hall, south of Library East and north of Grinter Hall.

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DATE ENTERED JUN 27 1979

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

As at other state universities, expressions of the collegiate gothic style of architecture on the University of Florida campus probably constitute a logical response to a felt need for a sense of dignity and timelessness. The founding of the completely new campus in 1905, the necessity for designing and constructing many new buildings in rapid succession, together with constraints imposed by dependence on legislative sources for the major portions of university funds, made for utilitarian expressions of the style. Thus, the architecture of early University of Florida buildings descends in general rather than specific fashion from earlier collegiate gothic designs.

The buildings are of substantial masonry construction, accented by the familiar stone arches and terra cotta trim; gables are steep, particularly for an area which is free of weather which would make steep roof pitches desirable. These elements of the prevailing style of college and university construction were utilized freely to achieve a specific purpose at the new Gainesville campus, to create the impression of age and substance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The University of Florida traces its roots to 1853; however, that early date is significant for the foundation of the East Florida Seminary, only one of several components consolidated in the Buckman Act of 1905. That Act identified and addressed the need for a comprehensive system of higher education for Florida by creating three new institutions from the colleges, seminaries, and institutes which had hitherto received state monies. The new institutions included schools designated for women, blacks, and men. The last became the University of Florida.

After lengthy discussion, the Board of Control, set up under the Buckman Act to superintend higher education, decided to locate the men's institution at Gainesville, home of the East Florida Seminary. Since the Seminary buildings were in rather poor condition, the Board decided to establish a new campus for the University rather than renovate the older Seminary structures. A comprehensive plan for the new campus was designed by William A. Edwards of the South Carolina architectural firm of Edwards and Walter. Edwards later designed most of the campus buildings erected before the Second World War.

Edwards' campus gradually grew to include specialized and multiple-purpose structures devoted to both academic and vocational courses of instruction in the liberal arts, education, agriculture, the sciences, law, and other fields. The University of Florida was the state's earliest concrete symbol of a commitment to comprehensive education for men, and the institution retained that position until 1947, when Florida State College for Women, successor to the Buckman Act's Florida Female College, was designated a co-educational institution, Florida State University.