

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**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 George Peabody College for Teachers

AND/OR COMMON

George Peabody College for Teachers

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Edgehill Avenue and Twenty-first Avenue South

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Tennessee

CODE

047

COUNTY

Davidson

CODE

037

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Office of the President, George Peabody College for Teachers

STREET & NUMBER

Edgehill Avenue and Twenty-first Avenue South

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Tennessee

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Registry of Deeds
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

Davidson County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Nashville

STATE

Tennessee

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 present campus of George Peabody College for Teachers, the fourth to be occupied by that institution and its predecessors (Davidson Academy, Cumberland College, and the University of Nashville), covers approximately 50 acres of land southeast of the intersection of 21st Avenue South and Edgehill Avenue in Nashville, Tennessee. The plan for the campus, which Peabody first occupied in 1914, was prepared by the firm of Ludlow and Peabody. Its core is a grassed and tree-line quadrangle or mall, consisting of a main north-south section with a shorter section at right angles on its eastern side (see accompanying campus guide map). At the northern end of the main mall is another large grassed area defined by Magnolia Circle. Though development of the college has continued throughout the present century, roads and parking areas have been confined to the edges of the campus and, as a result, it retains the character of a park-like, pedestrian-oriented space.

LEWIS
While the 22 major buildings on the Peabody campus range in date from 1914 through the 1960's, most of them follow or at least harmonize with the pattern set for the original buildings by Ludlow and Peabody. Those first buildings include the Industrial Arts Building (1914), the Home Economics Building (1914), the Psychology Building (1915), and the Social-Regligious Building (1915). All are two or three stories in height and consist of a concrete frame with brick exterior and white limestone trim. Variety is shown only in the combinations of Classical Revival details applied to the buildings: pedimented porticoes of various orders, entablatures, window caps, balustraded roofs, etc.

Equally representative of the Classical Revival style are the Library (1919), designed by Edward Tilton, East Hall (1924, dormitory) by Henry Hibbs, and the Administration Building (1925) and Cohen Art Building and Museum (1928), both by the firm of McKim, Mead and White. Later buildings such as the Student Center (1959) and the Child Study Center (1967), though different in architectural style, reflect the massing and material of their older neighbors. The northeastern corner of the campus is occupied by the president's residence and a group of smaller two-story buildings, originally single-family houses but now used for a variety of purposes by the college. None of the buildings on the Peabody campus has been substantially altered since its construction and all appear to be in good condition.

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 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 checked="" 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		

SPECIFIC DATES 1875, 1909, 1914 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ludlow & Peabody; McKim, Mead, & White; Edwin Tilton; and others

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Peabody Education Fund, created in 1867 by financier and philanthropist George Peabody to rebuild the shattered public education system of the post-Civil War South, had a dual goal: the promotion of primary and common-school education and the furtherance of normal school work for the professional preparation of teachers. The first college to receive aid from the Fund was the University of Nashville, organized in 1826. With Peabody support, the University began to function as a state normal school in 1875. After 1889 it was known as Peabody Normal College and in 1909 incorporated as the George Peabody College for Teachers. Now internationally recognized as an institution for the training of professional educators, Peabody College is an appropriate memorial to George Peabody and to the contributions to Southern education made by the Peabody Fund.

Peabody College moved to its present campus, at the intersection of 21st Avenue South and Edgehill Avenue, in 1914. The earliest of the 22 major buildings grouped around the college mall were designed in Classical Revival style by the firm of Ludlow and Peabody (which also prepared the college plan) and constructed of brick with white limestone trim. Later additions to the campus, and particularly those designed during the 1920's by McKim, Mead, and White, reflect both the style and material of the original buildings. Though development has continued throughout this century, the campus retains the character of park-like, pedestrian-oriented space. Visitors are welcome on campus but are restricted to public areas.

LEBOVICK

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

George Peabody was born in South Danvers (now Peabody), Massachusetts, on February 18, 1795. Though given only a rudimentary education and apprenticed to a grocer at the age of eleven, he became eminently successful as a merchant and financier and in 1837 settled permanently in London where he had already established his own firm, specializing in foreign exchange and American securities. The fortune which he amassed was devoted to various philanthropies and in particular to public education. In 1867 Peabody created the Peabody Education Fund to rebuild and expand the shattered educational system of the post-Civil War South. To administer the Fund, Peabody appointed a board of trustees, which selected Barnas Sears, president of Brown University, as its director.

(CONTINUED)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

George Peabody College for Teachers. "Historical Bulletin: George Peabody College for Teachers" (Nashville, n.p., n.d.).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	5,18	3,00	3,9	9,9	7,1,0	B	1,6	5,1,8	2,5,0	3,9	9,9	2,2,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING
C	1,6	5,1,7	9,5,0	3,9	9,9	2,8,0	D	1,6	5,1,8	0,0,0	3,9	9,9	7,5,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

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 Polly M. Rettig, Historian, Landmark Review Project; original form prepared by staff historian, 1965

ORGANIZATION Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service	DATE 7/20/76
STREET & NUMBER 1100 L Street NW.	TELEPHONE 202-523-5464
CITY OR TOWN Washington	STATE D.C. 20240

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.

Landmark Designated: Dec. 21, 1965
Boundary Certified: Jan 16, 1979

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE 4/24/79
ATTEST:	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

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George Peabody College for Teachers

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The Peabody Fund had a dual goal: to promote primary and common-school education through agencies then in existence or that might be created in the South, and to further normal school work for the professional preparation of teachers by providing scholarships in Southern institutions and by giving aid to normal schools. The Fund would not be used to originate schools, and no private or sectarian schools would be aided. Instead, the trustees felt that the Fund could be most effectively employed in aiding schools already in operation and under the stabilizing control of governmental agencies. Many city school systems got their first strength from the Peabody Fund. The Board expended \$35,400 during the first year of its existence (1868). Its highest annual expenditure was \$136,850 in 1873. The amount allocated by Peabody to the Fund ultimately totaled \$3,500,000.

The first college to be aided by the Peabody Fund was the University of Nashville, which traced its origins to Davidson Academy, founded in 1795. In 1806 the Academy was succeeded by Cumberland College, which in turn became the University of Nashville in 1826. Financial support for the University had never been adequate and it was about to suspend operation when, in 1875, the Peabody grant allowed it to reorganize as a state normal school. Direct state support for the institution was not received until 1879, however, and in 1889 the name was changed to Peabody Normal College in recognition of the continuing aid received from the Peabody Fund. In 1903 Dr. J. L. M. Curry, Dr. Sears' successor, urged the Peabody Board to endow the college with the residue or principal of the Education Fund, which it was empowered to do after the Fund had been active for thirty years. The Board appropriated \$1,000,000 of its principal. The college was incorporated under the name George Peabody College for Teachers in 1909.

In order that Peabody might have the advantages of proximity to Vanderbilt University, the original campus was sold, and the college was relocated on grounds adjacent to Vanderbilt. The idea was that this institution would supply the general classical, literary and scientific training for the students, and Peabody, the professional and technical training, the students of either institution having access to courses offered in the other. The plan for the new Peabody campus, prepared by the firm of Ludlow and Peabody, consisted of a landscaped quadrangle or mall surrounded by brick buildings with white limestone trim in Classical Revival style. The first three buildings were completed in 1914 and first occupied for the summer session that year. Since that time, Peabody College has extended its influence to public school systems throughout the United States and has earned an international reputation for its training of professional educators.

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Beginning at the intersection of Twenty-First Avenue South and Edgehill Avenue, proceed east along the south curb of Edgehill Avenue to the western curb of Magnolia Circle; thence due north to a point in line with the rear of the Demonstration Building; thence east along this line to the western curb of 19th Avenue South; thence south along the western curb of 19th Avenue South to its intersection with the south curb of Edgehill Avenue; thence east along the southern curb of Edgehill Avenue to the eastern curb of Appleton Place; thence south along the eastern curb of Appleton Place and continuing south in a straight line to the southern curb of South Drive; thence west along the southern curb of South Drive to the eastern curb of 21st Avenue; thence north along said curb to the point of origin.

The Human Development Lab, Mental Retardation Lab, Student Teachers Building and Gillette Hall, although included in the NHL boundary, do not contribute to the national significance of the landmark. They are all modern structures.

**NON-PROGRAM, AND
RESTRICTED USE BUILDINGS**

-  Non-college program use buildings.
-  Restricted use buildings.

