

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **SITE FILE COPY**

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Senior Hall

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Stephens College

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

VICINITY OF

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
 #8 - Hon. Richard H. Ichord

STATE

Missouri 65201

CODE  
 29

COUNTY  
 Boone

CODE  
 019

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<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 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Stephens College

STREET & NUMBER

East Broadway

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

VICINITY OF

STATE  
 Missouri 65201

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of Recorder of Deeds  
 Boone County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

8th and Walnut streets

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE  
 Missouri 65201

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

1. Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue

DATE

1963

— FEDERAL  STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
 SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Missouri

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE  
 Missouri 65201

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2. Missouri State Historical Survey  
1976-1977  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

state

# 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

Senior Hall, Stephens College campus, Columbia, Missouri, is a three-story plus full basement, irregular-plan, red brick academic building of High Victorian Gothic design facing north. Overall exterior dimensions are 136 x 112 feet. The gross floor area is approximately 34,000 square feet. The foundation is cut stone.

The present building has resulted from a series of additions to an original, two-story, brick residence, the Parker House, built in 1841. Major enlargements were made in 1870 (east wing) and 1890 (southwest wing). The additions have essentially obscured the 1841 house.

The design and arrangement of doors and windows reflect the various construction periods -- flat, stone lintels in the 1841 section, round-arched, brick lintels in the 1870 section, and flat, stone lintels in the 1890 section.

The hipped roof over the central and southwest sections is surfaced with asphalt shingles. The east wing has a mansard roof, also presently covered with asphalt shingles.

Distinctive architectural features include the square (1870) tower and the round (1890) tower, decorative corbelled brickwork on the upper walls of the 1890 section, and a wooden, front porch with second-story balustrade.

### Interior

The main entrance still gives access to the 1841 house. The north-south central hall floor plan with double parlors to the east and west survives. Numerous refurbishment projects have, however, removed most of the original interior finish and the stairway; the parlor fireplace mantels appear to date from the mid-nineteenth century. An exterior west stairway provides access to the basement. Both the east and southwest wings have wide stairways leading to the upper floors.

### Alterations

Old photographs of the nuclear building reveal that it was a typical, quality, out-state Missouri residence of its day -- a five-bay, two-story, ridge-roofed, classically derived design with a center-bay porch.

The 1870 east addition with its mansard roof and square tower did not blend architecturally with the Parker residence. This incompatibility was dealt with in the 1890 addition which engulfed the original house, extending to the south and west and adding a third story and a hipped roof to the old house.

Further southern additions were completed since 1900 to the point where it was possible to delineate 14 distinctive additions or major renovations. In the summer of 1975, the college removed the post-1900 additions to Senior Hall leaving the earlier construction. South windows and doorways, which had been bricked in to become partition walls when additions were put on, were opened once again and rebuilt.

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The south and east exterior walls of the 1890 section, which had been altered and partially removed as additions were constructed, were reconstructed using dry press red brick salvaged from the demolished sections.

Current status

The college is planning to return the antiquated but structurally sound building to active use by restoring its 1890 exterior appearance and refurbishing the interior making much-needed improvement to the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. Wood trim and doors will be restored where necessary. It is anticipated that the completed structure will contain 30 studio-office spaces and 11 large classrooms.

Site

Located at the center of Stephens College's old campus, Senior Hall is one of nine buildings forming the Quadrangle Campus. While most of the buildings front the streets bounding the quadrangle, Senior Hall and the adjoining Auditorium and Gauntlett Hall (numbers 3, 4, and 5 respectively on the Site Plan Map) sit at the center of the block.

The quadrangle is landscaped with trees and walkways creating a secluded pedestrian area removed from the heavy traffic of Broadway to the north and College Avenue to the east.

# 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 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 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      1841, 1870, 1890

BUILDER/ARCHITECT      C.B. Clarke and M. Frederick Bell

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Senior Hall is an important tangible remain of the founding and early history of Stephens College and its predecessor institutions in Columbia, Missouri. The earliest section of the building is one of the oldest existing structures in Columbia. The additions of 1870 and 1890 were designed by well-known architects and reflect the architectural influence and fashions of the period. The current renovation represents a direct turnabout in the college's attitude toward the building which in the 1960's was all but slated for demolition.

The nucleus of Senior Hall was the two-story, red brick residence of Oliver Parker built in 1841.<sup>1</sup> Parker, a native of New Hampshire, had established a store and post office at Thrall's Prairie, about seven miles north of Columbia, in 1819. He married Mary Louise Thrall, the daughter of Augustus Thrall. In 1821 he moved to Columbia and opened a general merchandise store.<sup>2</sup>

On August 21, 1841, he bought from Henry Cave for \$800 the eight-acre tract bounded by Broadway, College Avenue, and Locust and Waugh streets, on which he built his home.<sup>3</sup> After his death in 1842, Parker's widow lived in the family home until March 4, 1856, when she sold the property to Moss Prewitt for \$5,000. Prewitt transferred it on April 5, 1857 to the newly-formed Columbia Baptist Female College for the same price he paid for it.<sup>4</sup>

The Columbia Baptist Female College turned over its properties to the Missouri Baptist General Association in 1870 and became the official women's institution in Missouri of that denomination. Its name was changed to Stephens College.<sup>5</sup> The college engaged C.B. Clarke, a St. Louis architect, to prepare plans for the enlargement of the existing building.<sup>6</sup> His design -- published in the Stephens College Catalogue of 1869-1870 -- called for the construction of a three-story, square tower on the east side and a two-story, round tower on the west side of the original Parker residence. The east tower was built in the summer of 1870 according to plan.

In 1890 the college hired M. Frederick Bell of Fulton, Missouri, to design the building of the western portion of the college structure. His plan called for a three-story, round tower at the northwest corner with a three-story ell extending southward for a distance of 80 feet. It also provided for the addition of a third floor to the old Parker House so that the whole edifice between the two flanking towers would have a uniform three-story front.<sup>7</sup> Theodore LaCaff of Nevada, Missouri, was awarded the contract in 1890 to implement Bell's construction directions.<sup>8</sup>

C.B. Clarke planned homes for wealthy clients in the St. Louis area.<sup>9</sup> M.F. Bell was

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the major architect for the rebuilding of the Red Campus, "Francis Quadrangle," of the University of Missouri following the 1892 fire; he also planned a number of other state buildings.<sup>10</sup> LaCaff served on the five-member State Capitol Commission Board, under the chairmanship of Edwin W. Stephens, which supervised the construction of the present state capitol in Jefferson City.<sup>11</sup>

Until 1918 Senior Hall was the only dormitory at the College. Thousands of Stephens students remember it as their college home. Even after other residence halls were built, the upper classman continued to live in the oldest hall. It was the tradition for the president of the Civic Association to occupy the first-floor room just north of the Waugh-Street entrance to the west wing.<sup>12</sup>

Senior Hall is the College's tie with the past. Of all the buildings, it has been most often employed in public relations to represent Stephens.

Many prominent people have been associated with Senior Hall. Mrs. George Caleb Bingham and her daughter Clara lived and taught there during the 1859-1860 school year.<sup>13</sup> Bingham himself lived in Senior Hall in the winter of 1878-1879.<sup>14</sup> Governor Herbert S. Hadley and his good roads party, on a tour of the Old Trails route, were entertained at dinner in Senior Hall on the evening of July 25, 1911.<sup>15</sup> A number of famous journalists and political leaders, on campus to lecture in the Stephens Foreign Relations series, have shared meals with their student hostesses in the Senior Hall dining room.<sup>16</sup>

During the many years in which Senior Hall was a major residence for Stephens College students, many well-known and famous women lived there while attending the college. Among them are two nationally known actresses, Patricia White Barry, Los Angeles, and Tammy Grimes, New York City, both actresses of stage, screen, and television. The late Kathryn Journey, Higginsville, Missouri, with her sister Elizabeth, also a Stephens graduate, was co-owner/manager of one of the state's few modern, continuously growing, independent telephone companies in that town. Peggy Phillips Burris, formerly of Columbia, Missouri, is currently director of information at Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania, and a past director of the news bureau of Stephens College. Jean Clinton Roeschlaub, Los Angeles, is vice-president of the Clifton Cafeteria chain in that city.

In 1975 two prominent alumnae, Kate Stamper Wilhite, of Moberly, Missouri, and Gertrude Buckley Windsor, of Boonville, Missouri, and Tyler, Texas, generously donated funds to finance the renovation of Senior Hall and thus assure its continued usefulness. Mrs. Windsor has restored an 1854 residence in Tyler for which she received the first Texas Restoration Medal from the State Historical Survey Committee.

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The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies in Missouri history as outlined in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan." Senior Hall is, therefore, being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as an example of the themes of "Architecture" and "Education."

Footnotes

1. John C. Crighton, Stephens College: A Story of Educational Innovation (Columbia, Missouri: The American Press, 1970), p. 49.
2. Columbia [Missouri] Missourian, June 12, 1956, p. 4.
3. [Boone County, Missouri] Deed Records, Book L, pp. 163-164.
4. [Boone County, Missouri] Deed Records, Book Z, pp. 567-568.
5. Crighton, pp. 69-70, 85-86.
6. Columbia Baptist Female College, Minutes of the Board of Curators, Meeting of June 3, 1870, p. 74.
7. M.F. Bell's signed sketch, Stephens College Catalogue 1890-1891, p. 1; and Stephens College, Minutes of the Board of Curators, Oct. 16, 1870-May 26, 1917, pp. 140-145.
8. Ibid.
9. John Albury Bryan (ed.), Missouri's Contribution to American Architecture (St. Louis, Missouri: St. Louis Architectural Club, 1928), pp. 51, 58, 63.
10. Ibid., p. 52.
11. Cornelius Roach (comp.), Official Manual of the State of Missouri for the Years 1911-1912 (Jefferson City, Missouri: Cornelius Roach, 1912), pp. 14-15.
12. Information from Mrs. Bernice Williamson (vice-president, Stephens College), March, 1975.
13. Crighton, p. 57; and Weekly [Columbia] Missouri Statesman, October 7, 1859, [p. 2].
14. Columbia Missouri Herald, November 14, 1878, [p. 3].

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15. Columbia [Missouri] Daily Tribune, July 26, 1911, p. 1.
16. Among the famous journalists and political leaders thus entertained were Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt, Clement Atlee, Camille Chautemps, Senator J.W. Fulbright, Henry Kissinger, Ralph Bunche, J. Kenneth Galbraith, Randolph Churchill, Adlai Stevenson, Justice William Douglas, Barbara Ward, Carl Stokes, Owen Lattimore, Lord Caradon, Maurice Hindus, and Madame Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit. Information from Dr. John Decker, March, 1975, former sponsor of the Stephens College Foreign Relations Club, who had responsibility for entertaining these guests while on campus.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- [Boone County, Missouri] Deed Records, Book L, pp. 163-164.
- [Boone County, Missouri] Deed Records, Book Z, pp. 567-568.
- Bryan, John Albury (ed.). Missouri's Contribution to American Architecture. St. Louis, Missouri: St. Louis Architectural Club, 1928.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	5,5,8,6,7,0	4,3,1,1,2,8,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

1. John C. Crighton, Ph.D.

ORGANIZATION

Stephens College (retired)

DATE

April 3, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

601 Manor Drive

TELEPHONE

314-445-7277

CITY OR TOWN

Columbia

STATE

Missouri 65201

## 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

TITLE

Director, Department of Natural Resources,  
and State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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4. Columbia Baptist Female College. Minutes of the Board of Curators. Meeting of June 3, 1870.
5. Columbia [Missouri] Daily Tribune, July 26, 1911, p. 1.
6. Columbia Missouri Herald, November 14, 1878, [p. 3].
7. Columbia [Missouri] Missourian, June 12, 1956, p. 4.
8. Crighton, John C. Stephens College: A Story of Educational Innovation. Columbia, Missouri: The American Press, 1970.
9. Decker, John. Information. March, 1975.
10. Roach, Cornelius (comp.). Official Manual of the State of Missouri for the Years 1911-1912. Jefferson City, Missouri: Cornelius Roach, 1912.
11. Stephens College. Minutes of the Board of Curators. Oct. 16, 1870-May 26, 1917.
12. Stephens College Catalogue 1890-1891.
13. Weekly [Columbia] Missouri Statesman, October 7, 1859, [p. 2].
14. Williamson, Mrs. Bernice. Information. March, 1975.

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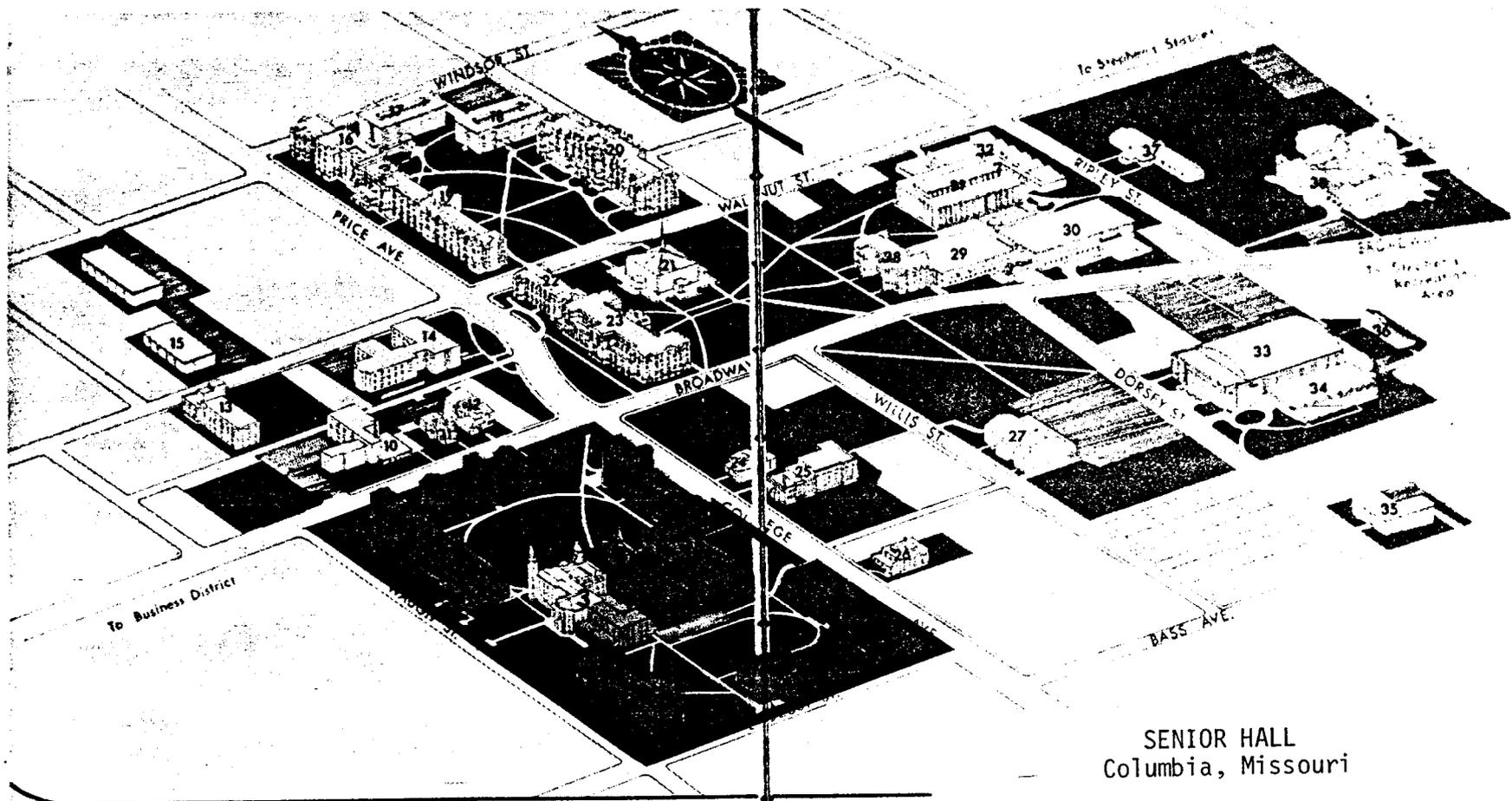
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2. Marion Henley, Director of Buildings and Grounds  
Stephens College  
Columbia, Missouri 65201  
Telephone: 314-442-2211
  
3. M. Patricia Holmes, Research Associate  
Office of Historic Preservation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
  
4. Nancy B. Breme, Architectural Historian  
Office of Historic Preservation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101  
Telephone: 314-751-4096



SENIOR HALL, Stephens College  
Columbia, Missouri  
UTM REFERENCES  
15/558670/4311280

USGS 7.5' Quadrangle  
"Columbia, Mo."  
1967 Scale: 1:24000



SENIOR HALL  
Columbia, Missouri

SITE PLAN MAP

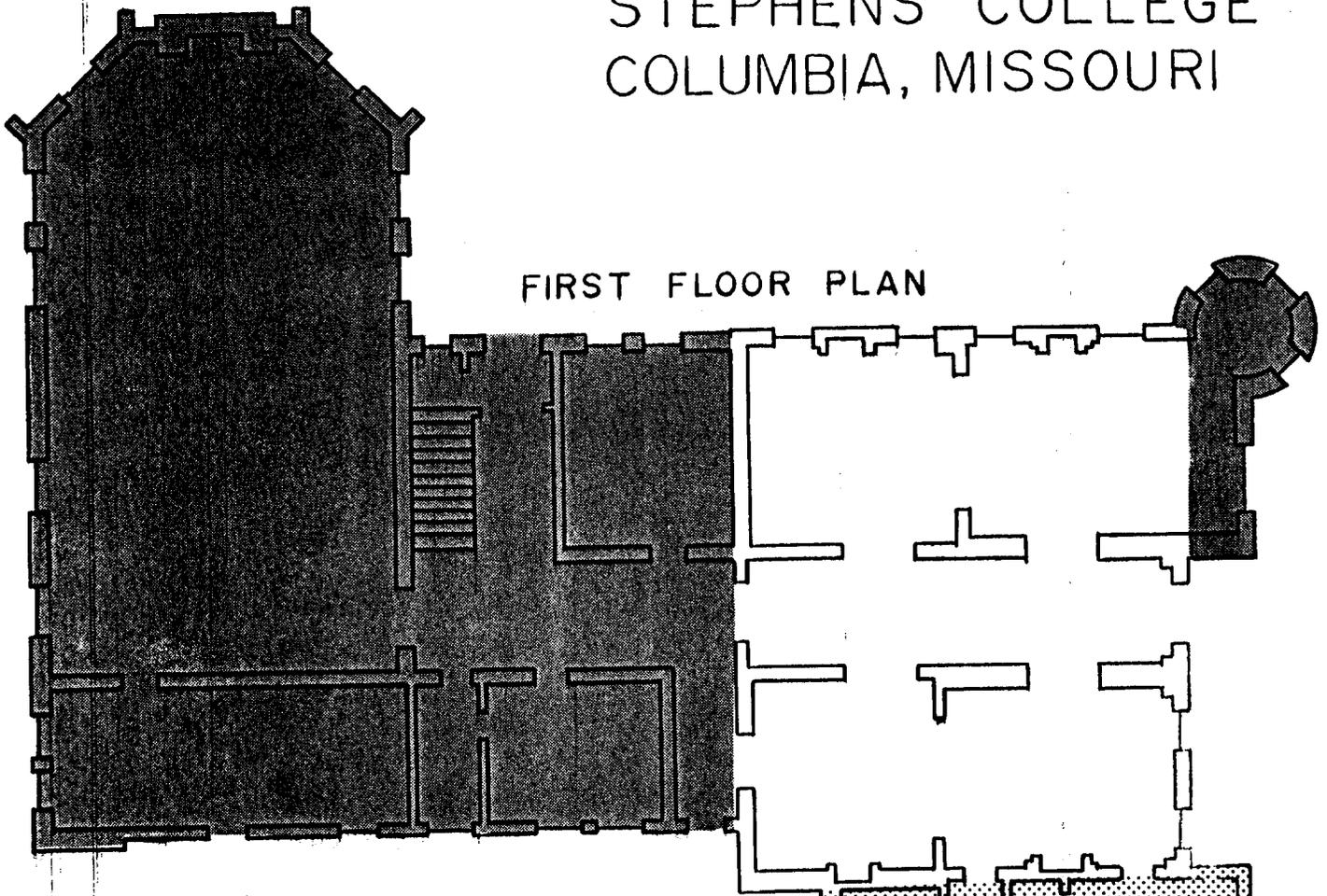
-  Quadrangle Campus boundaries
-  Senior Hall
-  Additions removed in Summer, 1975
-  Other quadrangle buildings

4. AUDITORIUM

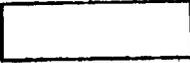
- 19. ROBLEE HALL
- 20. TOWER HALL
- 21. THE CHAPEL
- 22. LAURA STEPHENS HALL (Post Office, lower level)
- 23. LELA RANEY WOOD HALL (Student Center, lower level)
- 24. SLOAN HALL

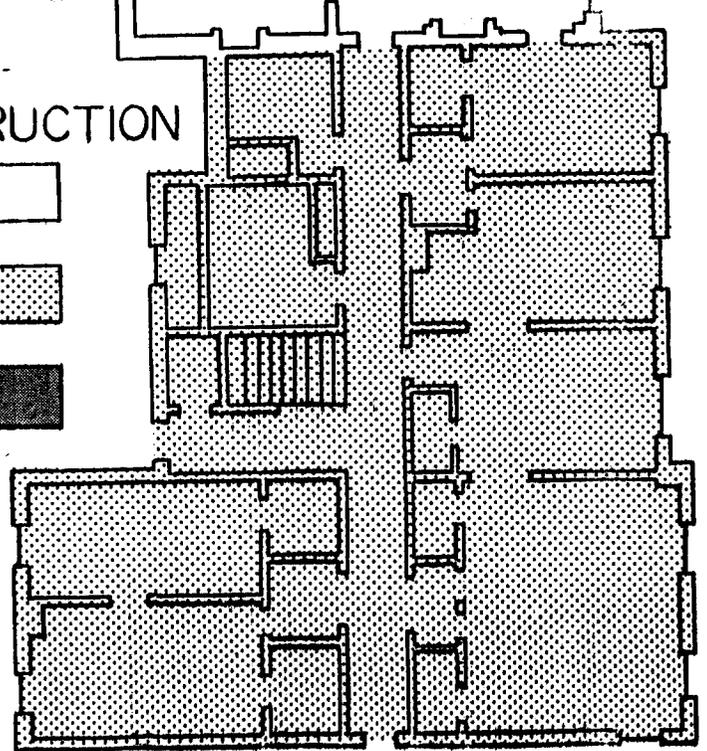
# ENIOR HALL STEPHENS COLLEGE COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

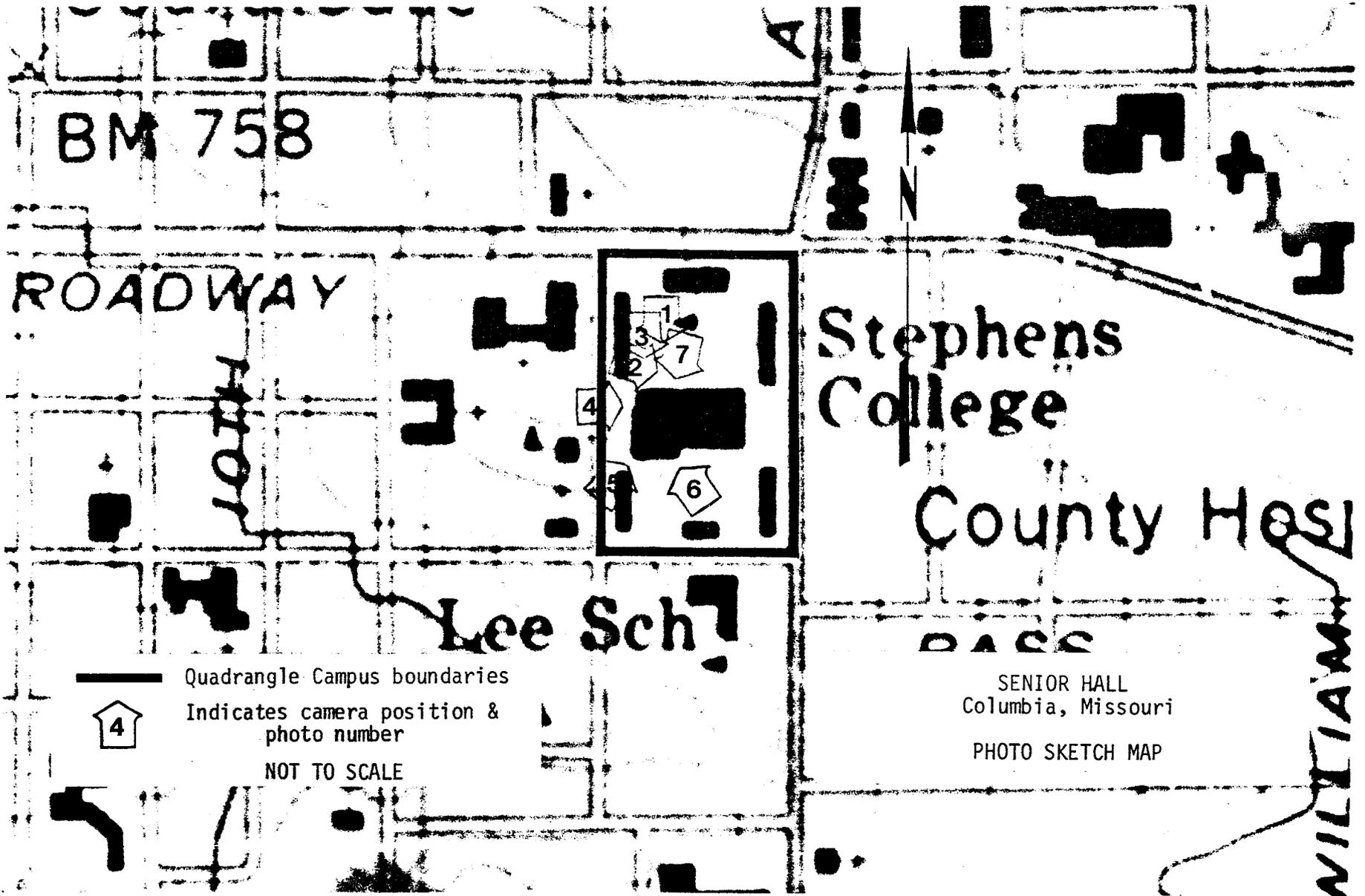
FIRST FLOOR PLAN



## CHRONOLOGY OF CONSTRUCTION

- 1841 PARKER HOUSE 
- 1870 EAST WING 
- 1890 SOUTHWEST WING 





BM 758

ROADWAY

WYOMING

Lee Sch

Stephens College

County Hosp

SENIOR HALL  
Columbia, Missouri

PHOTO SKETCH MAP

WILLIAM

— Quadrangle Campus boundaries



Indicates camera position & photo number

NOT TO SCALE



















**WELCOME  
UWW  
STUDENTS!**

