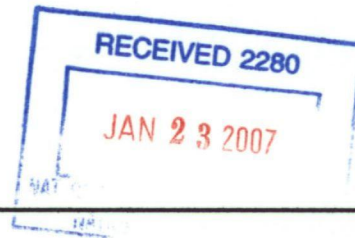


(Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A

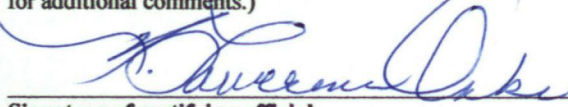
2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 2404 North Grand Avenue  
CITY OR TOWN: Tyler  
STATE: Texas CODE: TX COUNTY: Smith

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A  
VICINITY: N/A  
CODE: 423 ZIP CODE: 75702

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this (☒ nomination) (☐ request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (☒ meets) (☐ does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant (☐ nationally) (☐ statewide) (☒ locally). (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

  
Signature of certifying official

1-9-2007  
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

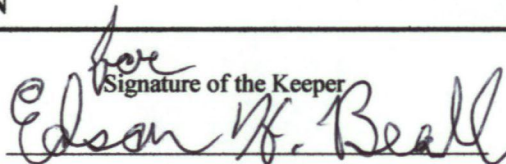
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register  
See continuation sheet  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register  
☐ removed from the National Register  
☐ other (explain):

  
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

3-7-07

---

**5. CLASSIFICATION**

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**OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:** Private

**CATEGORY OF PROPERTY:** Building

<b>NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTING</b>	<b>NONCONTRIBUTING</b>
	1	0 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	0	0 STRUCTURES
	0	0 OBJECTS
	1	0 TOTAL

**NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER:** 0

**NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING:** Historic and Architectural Resources of Tyler, Texas:  
*Community Development in Tyler, Texas, 1846-1950.*

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**6. FUNCTION OR USE**

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**HISTORIC FUNCTIONS:** EDUCATION/library

**CURRENT FUNCTIONS:** EDUCATION/library

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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**ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION:** LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival

<b>MATERIALS:</b>	<b>FOUNDATION</b>	CONCRETE, WOOD
	<b>WALLS</b>	BRICK, WOOD
	<b>ROOF</b>	ASPHALT
	<b>OTHER</b>	GLASS, METAL

**NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION** (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-10).



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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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DESCRIPTION

Built ca. 1948, the D. R. Glass Library at Texas College (**Photo 1**) is a good local example of a Classical Revival influenced education building and is a landmark within the Texas College campus. The D. R. Glass Library is composed of three integrated red-brick building sections: a three-story flat roofed facade section, which houses offices, conference and study rooms, a two-story gabled roofed section in the middle of the building, containing the primary reading room and a second floor mezzanine area, and a rear one-story hipped roof section housing storage and mechanical areas. Erected by Texas College, an African-American institution, from plans and materials of an unknown source, but likely created by the Nashville, Tennessee architectural firm of McKissack & McKissack, or by another firm under the direction of McKissack & McKissack, the library is located on North Grand Avenue, a residential street, near the rear (west edge) of the campus, which lies just north of the intersection of North Grand Avenue and Barrett Street in the northern portion of Tyler. The campus is about two miles northwest of the courthouse square. The Classical Revival influenced building is an imposing, T-plan, red brick building incorporating a formal symmetrical facade, centrally placed, full-height, projecting pavilion featuring four attached piers, a slightly recessed entry, and regular fenestration patterns fronting the less formal, rear sections of the building, which feature regular fenestration and side entries sheltered by low profile, projecting pavilions. The building's focal point is the full-height, concrete-piered pavilion, which features the words "D. R. Glass Library" at the cornice level, and four square piers resting on plinths and topped with unadorned square capitals. Painted white, the pavilion provides visual contrast with the dark red brick of the exterior walls. Concrete sills, also painted white, support slightly recessed window openings containing non-original aluminum frame fixed pane window types within the original openings. The D. R. Glass Library continues to serve the college's library needs and retains its original interior spatial relationships, concrete piers in the main reading room, interior doors and flooring. Exterior alterations are limited to the replacement of original 9/9 and 6/6 double hung wood sash windows with aluminum types installed within the original openings, replacement of exterior entry doors with metal types and installation of side elevation fire escapes. A dropped ceiling with recessed lighting was installed in the main reading room at an unknown date, and the originally open mezzanine was enclosed with glass when central heat and air conditioning was installed sometime in the 1980s. The D. R. Glass Library is one of several institutional/education property types defined in greater detail in the *Historic and Architectural Resources of Tyler, Texas* Multiple-Property National Register nomination. The D. R. Glass Library at Texas College is preserved in good condition, retaining its architectural integrity to a high degree.

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GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

As the largest city (U.S. Census 2000 population 83,650) and seat of government in Smith County, Tyler is about 90 miles southeast of Dallas (**Figure 1**). The surrounding East Texas topography consists of timbered, rolling hills of gray clay and red sandy soils. Intermittent creeks water the area before draining into the Sabine and Neches rivers on the north and west of town, respectively. The D. R. Glass Library at Texas College is near the rear (west edge) of the campus, roughly located between and west of Martin Hall



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D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
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on the northeast and the President's House on the southeast, and is about two miles north northwest of the courthouse square (**Map 1-No. 2**). Facing east onto an internal campus street, the library is a prominent visual presence within the site, which contains a mix of dormitories, classrooms, and other buildings associated with the function of the college. Immediately north of the campus are two-story apartments, built in the 1970s after Texas College sold a portion of its land. The area east of the campus is a residential neighborhood containing a mix of bungalows and other one-story, early to mid-20th century house forms. The areas south and west of the campus also are characterized by neighborhoods of early-to-mid 20th century residences. Just southeast of the library is the 1942 Colonial Revival style President's House (**Map 1-No. 3**), and about two-miles southwest is the Art Deco/Classical Revival influenced 1938 Tyler City Hall (**Map 1-No. 1**). Both of those buildings, and the Glass Library, are currently being individually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

The D. R. Glass Library sits amid the 24.5 acre campus of Texas College (**Figure 2**) and is second in prominence only to Martin Hall (NR 2005) within the campus setting. Sanborn Maps produced between 1919 and 1928 (**Figure 3 and Figure 4**) show the evolution of the campus up to that time. With only a few buildings constructed by 1928, including the 1924 Martin Hall, the then-101.5 acre plus campus at the northern edge of Tyler presented a rural feel. By the early 1940s, additional buildings had been added, and in 1942 the President's House was constructed. Sanborn Maps of the campus do not include the far southern tip, where the President's House is located, and thus do not show that dwelling. About 1948 construction of the D. R. Glass Library began, but the 1938/1949 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (**Figure 5**) does not show it or the President's House, indicating that the maps were not fully updated at that time, as sometimes happened in areas where a limited number of properties were covered by fire insurance. In the 1960s additional buildings, including a student dining hall and two dormitories, were constructed. With the construction of these and other additional buildings, the sale of 77 acres of the original campus and the development of the surrounding neighborhoods, both the campus and the adjacent area has changed. The area around the campus, which was farmland when the college was established in the 1890s, is now a suburban neighborhood with one-story residences dating from the early to mid 20th century. However, the campus is screened on the west and south from the adjacent railroad tracks and the neighborhoods beyond by wooded areas, which continue to separate the campus from its surroundings and lend a somewhat rural feel to the property. The campus includes not only intact buildings from the historic period such as Martin Hall (NR 2005), the President's House, and the Glass Library, but other no-longer-intact historic-era buildings, as well as buildings from the 1960s and later (**Figure 6 and Figure 7**). The intact dining hall dates from 1960 and two intact dorm buildings from 1968, but all are in need of compatible rehabilitation to insure their continued use and the retention of their character-defining design features and materials. The introduction of many new buildings and the alteration of other historic ones preclude the nomination of the entire campus as a historic district. The D. R. Glass Library is the only known library building associated with African American education in Tyler and is significant for the role it played in furthering the educational goals of African American students at Texas College and the educational aspirations of college administration and the larger community. The library is a good example



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of the modest designs produced for educational buildings during the first half of the 20th century. Although the library is a good modest example of the Classical Revival style applied to an institutional/educational building, the 1980s replacement of the original 8/8 double hung wood sash windows and 15-light wood frame doors, prevents nomination under Criterion C. If the original windows and doors are replicated and reinstalled, an amendment to the nomination requesting listing for architectural merit could be prepared.

The D. R. Glass Library is one of two buildings at Texas College along with one central city institutional/governmental building being nominated individually to the National Register. Southeast of the library a few dozen yards is the 1942 President's House at Texas College (**Map-1, No. 3**). About two miles south is the three-story 1938 Tyler City Hall (**Map-1, No. 1**). These buildings represent a variety of historic property types and are among the most significant and intact examples of their types city-wide.

**D. R. GLASS LIBRARY AT TEXAS COLLEGE**

The D. R. Glass Library (**Photo 1**) is centrally located on the 24.5 acre campus of Texas College near the west edge (rear) of the campus facing an internal street. Martin Hall is northeast and the President's House is southeast. The building faces east onto an internal campus street and was built about 1948 under the auspices of the Colored Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church and the direction of college president Dominion Robert Glass from plans and materials of an unknown source, but likely prepared by the noted African American architectural firm of McKissack & McKissack of Nashville, Tennessee, or by a subcontractor working under McKissack supervision. The one-to-three-story building features volumetric massing arranged in a T-plan and is sited and designed to take advantage of the northwest sloping terrain. The three-story portion of the building forms the cross bar of the "T", while the two-story middle section and the one-story rear building section extend back (west) from the front block of the building to create the tail of the "T". Immediately behind the library is an area of lawn bordered by woods along the campus' rear property line.

The front elevation is distinguished by a symmetrical facade arranged around a centrally placed projecting pavilion which reaches the full three-story height of the facade. The centrally placed, slightly recessed entry is reached by a small, low-profile concrete handicapped access ramp, which stretches east from the original single concrete step leading to the double aluminum and glass entry doors (**Photo 1**). The white concrete pavilion features four, square monumental attached piers, which support a concrete entablature that is inscribed at the cornice level with the words "D. R. Glass Library." The entablature rises slightly higher than the raised parapet wall of the flat roof covering the three-story facade section of the building. Original metal and glass lanterns remain on each side of the full height pavilion. Regular fenestration patterns on the front facade reinforce the symmetrical design. Although the original 8/8 wood frame double hung windows and 15-light wood frame doors were replaced in the 1980s with the currently present fixed pane aluminum types, the original windows openings with their cast concrete sills and brick soldier course lintels remain. The white pavilion and window sills provide contrast to the dark red brick exterior walls and lintels. A decorative brick water table encircles the three sides of the front mass of the



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D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
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building and decorative ceramic foundation vents provide airflow under the building. A surviving historic photograph (**Figure 8**) documents the original window and door types, making future restoration possible.

The two-story middle section of the library houses the main reading room, offices and a second floor mezzanine area. Its exterior features a gabled composition roof, symmetrical window patterns on the north and south elevations and the same cast concrete sills, dark red brick exterior walls, soldier course lintels and decorative water table course that are used in the front building section. A small one-story hipped roof pavilion supported by square brick posts shelters side entries on the north and south elevations.

The rear section of the building is devoted to storage and mechanical systems and is one-story in height. Featuring regularly spaced windows of varying sizes, the rear section has a double hipped composition shingle roof, red brick exterior, decorative brick water table, lintels and white concrete sills, which continue the building's basic design elements. An entry pavilion similar to those used in the two-story section of the building provides access into the rear-most portion of the building from the north and south elevations. The rear (west) elevation (**Photo 2**), features a double hipped roof and regular fenestration patterns. Windows in the northern wing of the rear building section are smaller than those in the southern wing. A small, flat roofed boiler room and brick chimney project from the rear of the building. Windows on the rear facade are covered with plywood for security reasons. The same decorative brickwork water table course encircles the north, west and south sides of the building in a continuous band and foundation ventilation is enabled by decorative ceramic and wood and metal types.

The simplicity of the exterior design is characteristic of early to mid-20th century education buildings and although the front portion of the building includes a monumentally scaled entry pavilion, the remainder of the building utilizes a more residential profile, blending with the other one and two-story buildings then on the campus. The building is a good local example of its type and its simple design elements reflect the funding constraints surrounding the building's erection. Occupying a central location within the Texas College campus (**Figure 2**), the D. R. Glass Library is named for college president Dominion Robert Glass, who served Texas College from 1931 until 1961, the longest tenure of any president at Texas College. Under Dr. Glass' able stewardship, the college gained students as well as many new buildings and became a stable institution of higher education. Financed by the college building fund, which included donations from the C.M.E. church, the Tyler Advisory Committee, the General Educational Board of New York City (a Rockefeller Foundation affiliate), as well as by contributions from college alumni and members of Tyler's African-American community among other sources, the Glass library utilizes a concrete and wood foundation and a red brick exterior. Despite an extensive search of city records no building permit was located. A thorough search of Texas College archives also did not reveal the source of the original building plans, the designer or the identity of the contractor who constructed the building. Limited documentation in the college archives documenting the library's construction was found and included a plumbing bill, dated March 1, 1949, for work performed on the library by Quality Plumbing of Tyler. A 1948 reference to the 8,700 square foot library was located in Veteran's Administration application materials completed for college programs by Dr. Glass. However, the former secretary to D. R. Glass and college director of admissions, Margaret Surry-Fingal, attributes



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the library to McKissack & McKissack (Surry-Fingal interview 3/2/2006 and personal communication), a noted African American architectural firm based in Nashville, Tennessee. According to Mrs. Surry-Fingal "the majority of the old buildings constructed on the Texas College campus were under the supervision of McKissack & McKissack, architects." In 1910, McKissack & McKissack became the "connectial" (official or supervising) architects for the C.M.E. Church and its educational facilities (Phillips: 376). The firm likely provided designs that originated within their firm and may have subcontracted C.M.E. Church design jobs to other architects. One of the McKissack partners, Calvin McKissack, established his own practice in Dallas in 1912 and is credited with designing the no-longer-extant 1912 Wiley Hall at Texas College (Herndon: 129), among other buildings in Texas and Oklahoma, before returning to Tennessee in 1915. The McKissack firm may have designed the 1924 Martin Hall at Texas College and was involved in the design of buildings at Texas College in 1940 and again in 1955 (City of Tyler Building Permits). Information provided by Margaret Surry-Fingal further documents the cost to build the library at about \$147,000 and lists partial sources of funding (Surry-Fingal Texas College Papers: "Plans for Progress," fundraising brochure ca. 1951).

The area around the building is landscaped with lawn, trees and shrubs, as is the campus as a whole, creating an oasis effect within the suburban residential area. Alterations to the building's exterior are limited to replacement of the original exterior windows and doors, installation of side elevation fire escapes, and for security reasons, the covering over of rear elevation windows with plywood. A small scale, largely unobtrusive concrete handicapped ramp leads to the front step at the main entry. Metal fire escapes are located on the north and south sides of the building, at the rear of the front building section. Because of the metal's dark color, the fire escapes blend with the dark red brick of the exterior walls and are not highly visible from an oblique or side angle. They are not visible at all when the library is viewed from the front. The front facade, with its monumental white concrete full height pavilion, remains the focal point of the building.

Inside, the D. R. Glass Library consists of three floors (**Figures 9-10**). The first floor houses the entry, main reading room, library stacks, offices, conference and study rooms, restroom, storage and mechanical room areas. Stairs at the southwest and northwest corners of the main reading room lead to the second floor mezzanine, which includes reception, library stacks and conference and study rooms. Now glassed in, the mezzanine overlooks the main reading room (**Photo 3**), which retains its original square piers, linoleum flooring, plaster wall surfaces and spatial arrangements. Original furniture also remains throughout the library. **Figure 11** shows the main reading room in the summer of 1950, when the space was used for a conference. An acoustic tile ceiling and recessed florescent light panels were installed over the original plaster and wood ceiling when central air conditioning was added, sometime in the 1980s. Original spatial arrangements, interior walls and most room functions remain intact.

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D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
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**SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL CONDITION AND INTEGRITY**

With limited exterior and interior alterations since its construction ca. 1948, the D. R. Glass Library is a good example of a late 1940s education building. Built from plans attributed to the Nashville architectural firm of McKissack & McKissack, or another designer working under McKissack supervision, and using materials of an unknown source, the building displays a high level of craftsmanship and detailing reflective of Classical Revival design elements. The building's exterior and interior character-defining elements—massing, brick work, fenestration patterns and entry detailing—are maintained in good condition and retain a high level of integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association within the period of significance.



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## 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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### APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- ☒ **A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- ☐ **B** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- ☐ **C** PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- ☐ **D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

**CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS:** N/A

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:** COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION,  
ETHNIC HERITAGE/Black

**PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:** c. 1948-1956

**SIGNIFICANT DATES:** c. 1948

**SIGNIFICANT PERSON:** N/A

**CULTURAL AFFILIATION:** African-American

**ARCHITECT/BUILDER:** Architect: McKissack & McKissack (attributed)  
Builder: unknown

**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE** (see continuation sheets 8-11 through 8-29).

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## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

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**BIBLIOGRAPHY** (see continuation sheets 9-18 through 9-20).

**PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS):** N/A

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:**

- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other -- Specify Repository: Diane E. Williams, P.O. Box 49302, Austin TX 78765



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D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed ca. 1948 from plans and materials of an unknown source, but likely created by the Nashville, Tennessee architectural firm of McKissack & McKissack, or by another firm under the direction of McKissack & McKissack, the one-to-three-story D. R. Glass Library at Texas College is a good local example of Classical Revival detailing applied to an educational building. The building is significant for its associations with the educational programs and administrative activities of Texas College, an African American institution founded in 1894. Although the building is an important local example of the 1940s interpretation of the Classical Revival style used for education buildings, the D. R. Glass Library is being nominated under Criterion A only because of changes to the building's original windows and exterior doors and installation of metal fire escapes. Built during a period of continued population growth and economic expansion fostered by petroleum exploration and extraction, commerce, manufacturing and the legal and government activities present in Tyler, the building is related to the historic context *Community Development in Tyler, Smith County, Texas 1846-1950*. The D. R. Glass Library is categorized as an institutional/education resource, which is defined in more detail in the *Historic and Architectural Resources of Tyler, Texas* Multiple Property National Register nomination. The library is the only known example of its type associated with African American education in Tyler. The D. R. Glass Library is maintained in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity. It derives its primary significance from its associations with development patterns and the educational programs of Texas College. For these reasons, the D. R. Glass Library is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A in the areas of significance of community development and planning, education and ethnic heritage within a period of significance extending from ca. 1948 to 1956. Although the period covered by the historic context could not be extended beyond 1950 for financial reasons, Tyler's social, economic and development patterns continued unchanged from the late 1940s into the 1950s and 1960s. Thus, the period of significance for this building is extended to the current 50 year mark, which is 1956.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN TYLER

Settled in 1846, when Smith County was created from Nacogdoches County, Tyler incorporated in 1850 and served as the seat of Smith County as well as the site of branches of State and Federal courts. From its earliest settlement in the 1840s, when businesses located around the courthouse square, until the arrival of the railroad in 1873 the marketing and shipping of Smith County agricultural products formed the basis for Tyler's economy. But almost at once this base was augmented by small scale manufacturing such as blacksmithing, milling, logging and tanning as well as legal and government services. As a result Tyler's economy was diversified at an early date, even though the scope was small and the territory served limited. With the arrival of the International & Great Northern Railroad in 1873 and the establishment of the Tyler Tap Railroad in the 1870s and its subsequent merger into the St. Louis Southwestern Railway (Cotton Belt, thereafter), manufacturing, food processing, food distribution, saw and planing mills, and banking and insurance firms became important components of Tyler's economy (Whisenhunt 1983:29).



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The railroad made an enormous impact on Tyler and the surrounding area, more than doubling business (Smallwood 1995:ch.15a, p. 11). In the late 19th century this diverse economy fostered 15 labor unions representing workers in various fields (Smallwood 1999:426). Local bank failure occurred in 1891 and then the nationwide Panic of '93 slowed the economy but by mid-decade economic troubles eased and Tyler's position as a Federal, state and local government and legal services center bolstered the economy and Tyler's influence statewide. "During the last quarter of the nineteenth century Tyler enjoyed a reputation as the political capital of Texas: the so-called 'Tyler Crowd' furnished governors, senators and lesser officials galore, and for more than a generation, its influence in both [Democratic] party and state affairs had to be reckoned with." (White 1940:1245).

From the start, educational, religious and fraternal organizations were an important part of the Tyler community. Before public schools were established fraternal organizations such as the Masons often sponsored private schools for Caucasian children. Among the several fraternal organizations that existed in the 19th and early 20th centuries in Tyler, St. John's Lodge No. 53, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, and the Elks continue to meet and provide service to the community. St. John's Lodge was chartered in 1849, and the Elks in 1891. Early churches included Methodist, Episcopal, Baptist and Presbyterian denominations, and at least two private schools operated prior to the Civil War. After the end of the Civil War many Smith County freedmen and women settled in Tyler seeking education for their children, local employment in domestic and other labor services, in trades catering to the African American population, and in railroad related and manufacturing jobs. As African-American-initiated schools, and later city-supported segregated schools, created more educational opportunities and increased employment prospects, more African Americans moved to Tyler, following a national trend that saw many freedmen and women slowly moving beyond the agricultural boundaries that confined them during slavery. By 1882 the Tyler City Directory listed 87 African Americans. Of these 15 were employed in skilled jobs such as blacksmithing and barbering, and several men worked for the railroad. By the 1890s the county had four African American physicians and 72 teachers (Smallwood 1999:428-32), and a few African Americans were involved in successful mercantile ventures in Tyler. William A. Redwine, a native of Rusk County, came to Tyler by 1890 and in addition to operating a small farm he became an undertaker for Tyler's African American community. About 1900 he wrote *Brief History of the Negro in Five Counties*, which emphasized the progress of African Americans since slavery and focused on individuals successful in teaching, the ministry and business (Williams c).

Shortly after the Civil War Tyler's African American citizens began organizing churches. These churches were created by their congregations in areas where African Americans lived, and in turn, the churches helped those neighborhoods grow and develop as distinct enclaves within the city. The first known Baptist congregation was Bethlehem First Baptist, founded after the war when African Americans who joined the white First Baptist Church during slavery were transferred to their own church. By 1882 the Tyler city directory lists a "colored" Baptist church in the southwest [now west central] portion of the city with a "...good wood church building and about 300 members." This church was undoubtedly central to the African American neighborhood that survives in west central Tyler. A second African American



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Baptist church was founded in 1872 near the railroad tracks between North Bonner Avenue and Oakwood Cemetery, just outside the boundaries of the Short-Line Residential Historic District (NR 2002). This congregation became the still extant True Vine Baptist Church on West Oakwood Street. By 1882 members of the Colored [sic] Methodist Episcopal Church (C.M.E.) were meeting in the "Stringtown" church near the Cotton Belt tracks on land now part of the Short-Line Residential Historic District (NR 2002). This church moved to permanent quarters in 1889 after purchasing land ½ block east of the Short-Line Residential Historic District from W.S. Herndon. Known as St. James C.M.E. Church (NR 2004), this church, along with neighboring True Vine Baptist Church and the no longer extant St. John's Episcopal Church, formed the heart and soul of this African American neighborhood (Williams c). In 1894, under the auspices of the C.M.E. Church in America, Texas College was founded north of the Tyler city limits with assistance from Tyler's C.M.E. congregation at St. James C. M. E. Church.

By 1910 Tyler's African American population had established at least five churches surrounded by African American neighborhoods: [Bethlehem] First Baptist, southwest of downtown; Second Baptist [True Vine], on Line and Liberty and St. James C.M.E. Church on Border and Oakwood adjacent to land that would become the Short-Line Residential Historic District; Miles Chapel Methodist Church at North Palace and West Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard in Northwest Tyler; and St. Paul's Episcopal, at Oakwood and North Poplar in East Tyler. In 1934 there were 16 African American congregations, including Baptist, Methodist, Seventh Day Adventist, Christian, Episcopal and Pentecostal faiths. All these churches were located in African American neighborhoods, serving the geographically restricted population of southwest, north, west central and east Tyler (Williams c).

Although economic progress was slow, with more educational opportunities for African American children, and two local African American colleges--the Methodist affiliated Texas College formed in part with the support of Tyler's St. James C.M. E. Church, and the Baptist supported Butler College (no longer extant)--the children and grandchildren of slaves looked forward to a better life. In the 1920s, Tyler's African American population increased dramatically with 1,270 new residents. This increase reflects continuing migration to cities as the mechanization of farming reduced the need for agricultural labor and Tyler's growing industrial and service base offered better opportunities. Reflecting increased African American population and the growing demand for educational opportunities, in 1924 Texas College added a new combination classroom and administration building known as Martin Hall (NR 2005). At the start of World War II, under the able leadership of Texas College President Dominion R. Glass, the college built a substantial brick residence to house college presidents and their families, which became known as the President's House. Immediately following World War II, the college added a new library building, named in honor of D. R. Glass. From the late 1940s until the end of legal segregation, Texas College also served as the African American campus of Tyler Junior College. During the 1960s and 1970s, Texas College continued to grow and today is regaining academic and athletic programs lost during the 1980s and 1990s. As Tyler's fortunes grew in the 1930s and 1940s resulting from the oil industry, Tyler's African American population continued to increase. In 1940 African Americans represented about 26 percent of Tyler's population, decreasing to about 25 percent in 1950 (U.S. Census).



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The area around the courthouse square remains Tyler's commercial core, and retains many pre-1900 buildings. However, most have been altered with facade modernizations dating to the 1950s and 1960s. These changes significantly modify understanding of the original, or historically significant, roles of many buildings. A few downtown buildings have been restored or rehabilitated to reveal underlying historic fabric that once again connects the historical record with the physical artifact. Additional buildings may benefit from future restoration. Among the few unaltered surviving 19th century commercial buildings in Tyler is the one-story brick Kamel Building on East Ferguson Street, just off the square. Surviving, intact early 20th century commercial warehouse buildings include the Moore Grocery Co. and the Tyler Grocery Co. buildings (both NR 2002) on adjacent North Broadway parcels. By the 1940s Tyler's downtown commercial district had spread south along Broadway and was moving east and west along Front Street, displacing older residential properties and marking the steady economic advance of Tyler business.

Throughout the 1890s and for the next 30 years, agriculture, manufacturing, wholesale and retail commerce, banking, insurance and legal services continued to fuel the economy. The Tyler Chamber of Commerce was established in 1900 as the Tyler Commercial Club to promote business interests. Meat processing, storage and shipment, canning, storage and distribution of grain, fruit and vegetables were joined by several wholesale grocery firms in the early 1900s including the Moore Grocery Company, which was established prior to 1900. The wholesale grocery industry expanded in 1903 when John B. Mayfield, a resident of what would become the Charnwood Residential Historic District (NR 1999) started a second wholesale grocery, the Mayfield Grocer Co. By 1914 Mayfield's firm had grown to six branch facilities (Tyler Public Library d:215). Telephone service was established in Tyler in 1896, and Tyler had two phone companies until the 1940s. One was the S.A. Lindsey Telephone Company, which by 1905 had 25 miles of telephone lines in city (Texas State Library b). Samuel A. Lindsey was a prominent attorney, judge and businessman also involved in land speculation in south Tyler including the area that would become part of the Azalea District. In 1932 Lindsey developed the 15-story People's National Bank (NR 2002), a Tyler landmark and testament to the community's economic health during one of the worst years of the Great Depression. A number of other important Tyler buildings were erected in 1931 and 1932 including, respectively, the Woman's Building on South Broadway and St. John's Masonic Lodge on West Front Street.

Better roads throughout Texas facilitated commerce and in 1918 a Tyler-Dallas motor truck service was established to carry freight and passengers. The seven hour, 106-mile trip included several stops (Texas State Library c). As roads continued to improve truck, bus and auto travel became more attractive spurring by the 1920s development of gas stations and vehicle repair garages throughout central Tyler. By the mid 1920s Tyler retail enterprises included 30 businesses involving the automobile, eight auto salesrooms, five hotels, 12 barber shops, four bakeries, 18 cafes and restaurants, eight furniture stores, six hardware stores, 27 grocers, three theaters, eight shoe stores, 10 drug stores, three large department stores, three banks, 24 drygoods stores and many more (St. Louis Southwestern Railway:14). Suburban development included neighborhood grocery stores, dry cleaners and other service establishments. Tyler



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remained a legal center with a U.S. District Court, as well as the various Smith County courts; none of the associated buildings survive. The Blackstone Hotel opened in 1921 and was demolished in 1985; a parking lot now occupies the site. Its companion, the 1938 Blackstone Building (NR 2002), survives on North Broadway. It originally housed Tyler's first union bus station and office space. The Tyler Chapter of the Texas Association of Business was established in 1922 in response to a booming business climate (Whisenhunt 1983:59). In the late 1920s the Minnelee Bus Lines operated from 110 North Broadway (Tyler Public Library d), providing inter-city transit service. In 1929 the Jenkins-Harvey Super Service Station and Garage (NR 2002) was erected to serve the growing number of motorists. Between 1920 and 1930, significant economic growth in Tyler and Smith County occurred in dairying operations. Rose culture remained important and developed more rapidly after irrigation was introduced in 1924. Tomatoes, pecans, and peanuts also became important crops. Two fertilizer plants used a cottonseed meal base to make their product, and the Sledge Manufacturing Co. employed more than 100 people. In 1926 Tyler Junior College was established at the south end of the community. That institution continues to serve Tyler and the surrounding county area.

In 1930, Tyler was on the threshold of its greatest economic era, a 30-year-plus period of unprecedented growth and development. In October 1930 oil was found in nearby Rusk County when Dad Joiner's Daisy Bradford #3 proved to be a producing well. In March 1931 Guy Vernon Lewis brought in the first producing oil well in Smith County, located near the community of Arp, southeast of Tyler. As more wells came in drillers, riggers, geologists, pipers, surveyors and others moved to Tyler, and refineries and exploration companies developed headquarters in Tyler. The boom affected just about every aspect of life in East Texas, and oil added greatly to the Tyler and Smith County economy (UT, Austin PCL:a). While the population increased from 9,255 in 1920 to 13,009 in 1930, Tyler received a huge influx of people between 1930 and 1950. In the early days of what would prove to be the city's most prosperous era, St. John's Lodge No. 53 erected a new lodge building on West Front Street (NR 2005), about four blocks southwest of the courthouse square. In 1930, the City of Tyler purchased land at the corner of West Ferguson and North Bonner in anticipation of building a new city hall, and city fathers took advantage of Federal grant programs to fund construction of a new hospital, to pave streets and build railroad overpasses throughout the community (Tyler City Council Minutes 1935-1941). In 1938 work began on the Art Deco influenced Tyler City Hall. By 1940 the population reached 20,879 and in 1950 it had grown to 28,854 (U.S. Census). The population continued to increase through the 1950s and 1960s.

Tyler benefited greatly from the discovery of the East Texas Oil Field. As the largest town in the five county oil field area before the oil boom, it provided the most developed infrastructure and a wide range of business and professional services. At the junction of several state and U.S. Highways, Tyler had good communications, rail and truck service, a number of banks and related financial institutions, hotel and office space, a system of paved roads, and a variety of neighborhoods offering housing types to people of all income levels. As a result Tyler became the East Texas headquarters for many oil companies beginning with the discovery of the Van gas field west of Tyler in the 1920s. With the discovery of the East Texas field in 1930-31, 33 companies established offices in Tyler and almost all of the larger



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independent operators in the field set up land-leasing headquarters. Although Tyler had several office buildings and two large hotels, the Tyler and the Blackstone, neither existing hotel rooms nor the office space would prove adequate to meet new demands. In 1931 in response to increased population and demand for legal services the Federal government began planning a new post office and Federal courthouse building for downtown Tyler, and purchased a lot held as an investment by Tyler's Masonic lodge for improvement with the new building. Shortly thereafter, the Masons purchased a lot on West Front Street and commenced construction in early 1932 of a permanent lodge building. In 1932 Samuel A. Lindsey, Chairman of the Board of People's National Bank, financed the construction of a 15-story bank and office building immediately west of the county courthouse. In 1932 "the Blackstone [Hotel] added nine stories to accommodate the newcomers" (Clark:131), and in 1938 Edmond P. McKenna, owner of the Blackstone Hotel, and a group of investors active in the Chamber of Commerce financed the Blackstone Building, which originally included a union bus terminal on the first floor and five floors of office space.

The East Texas Field fostered construction of refineries, and a rail network around the field made it possible to move the oil efficiently. The field's crude oil was of good quality needing only minimal equipment to make gasoline. At least 95 small refineries were initially built, but after a few years as production evened out, that number dropped to 76. One of these was just east of downtown Tyler. Called LaGloria, the refinery turned out gasoline and originally was known as the McMurrey Refinery. It remains in operation. Trucking also became big business, with big rigs hauling refined gas from local refineries.

Legal services became even more important after the discovery of oil as related law suits and corporate activities surged; the need for office space grew. Throughout the 1930s agriculture, especially dairying, continued to be important to Tyler's economy. By the mid 1930s, 48 dairies had permits to retail or wholesale dairy products in Tyler. Roses, blackberries, peaches, pecans, and vegetables also were important local crops. Lumber and related milled wood products significantly contributed to local prosperity with 25 saw mills county-wide in 1937 (UT, Austin PCL:a). Additional principal industries in the county in the 1930s included canning factories, foundries, machine shops, a rail car factory, a grist mill, peanut products, and the manufacturing of crates, boxes mattresses, work clothing and house dresses. Services included 16 passenger auto agencies, six commercial auto agencies, 19 auto tire dealers, seven bakers, 33 cigar stands, 36 confectioners, 13 delicatessens, 15 department stores, 26 druggists, 38 dry goods stores 134 independent grocers and seven chain grocers, seven lumber companies, and 59 restaurants, and a pottery, among many others (Tyler Public Library:f).

In the 1940s oil and gas production and services related to that industry were the primary economic engines. In February 1940, the East Texas Industrial Exhibit Association sponsored the second annual Industrial Exhibit to showcase Tyler manufacturing, distribution and service capabilities. In addition, a number of local industries expanded in 1940, adding more space and personnel. Prominent among these are Sledge Manufacturing Company and Tyler Iron and Foundry Company. Both had government contracts associated with pre-World War II mobilization activities. Surveys were made of plant and tool capacities in Tyler to assist local firms in securing national defense contracts. To attract business and support local companies seeking government work, the Tyler Chamber of Commerce's



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Industrial Committee prepared facts and statistics for certain defense industries sending briefs to government bureaus and agencies reporting the advantages of Tyler including its large supply of surface water and underground water available from reservoirs at Blackburn Dam on the Neches and Prairie Creek Reservoir in Smith County (Tyler Chamber of Commerce b).

Writing in the early 1940s, Tyler's business boosters could boast of the community's great economic advantages. The Chamber of Commerce described Tyler as the "Center of the East Texas Oil Industry," a statement well founded. "The people of Tyler and of all other cities and towns within or adjacent to the oil field have been told that they have not known what the late depression meant" (Tyler Public Library d). As a result of the boom, Tyler school population increased from 4,261 students in 1930 to more than 6,000 in 1936. In this era, as Tyler's business community continued to grow and the city became more densely developed, the West Front Street area between Broadway and Glenwood Boulevard began to change from a largely residential street to a commercial one. Assessed valuations for 1930 were \$17,477,254, for 1935 they were \$28,679,113 (Tyler Chamber of Commerce b). While prosperity was a reality for those involved in the oil business, other aspects of the economy were affected, with minorities, unskilled laborers and tenant farmers largely by-passed by the boom.

As important as the East Texas field was to the local and regional economy, it proved vital to the success of the Allies in World War II. Texas oil fields produced 80 percent of all oil needed by the Allies, and the East Texas Field provided the major portion. As World War II began, oil producers and the government realized overland transit of oil was the only safe way to ship oil from the fields to east coast ports, from where it would be transferred to the battlefield. To secure transit, two pipelines were laid, one from the East Texas Field to the refineries of New York and the Philadelphia area, stretching about 1,400 miles. Called Big Inch, it measured 24 inches in diameter and every day during the war it delivered almost 300,000 barrels of crude oil. The other pipeline was known as Little Inch, and it measured 20 inches in diameter. It ran from Beaumont to Big Inch near Little Rock, Arkansas. From there it paralleled Big Inch eastward. Every day of the war it delivered almost 200,000 barrels of aviation gasoline, motor gasoline and other refined products for use by the Allies (*New Handbook of Texas*:774). U.S. military presence also fueled the Tyler economy through the local Signal Corps Radio Operator Training School, the U.S. government's lease of the Tyler airport for use as a government field, and the establishment in 1943 of Camp Fannin (Whisenhunt 1983: 69-78), an infantry training center northeast of Tyler with 2,500 civilian employees. In 1945, the camp became a military separation center and the airport returned to civilian use.

By the mid 1940s Tyler had three banks, two large hotels--the Blackstone with 200 rooms and the Tyler with 75 rooms--offices of more than 30 oil companies, refineries, garment factories, box and crate factories, canning plants, an airport, two commercial colleges, a public junior college, two colleges for African Americans--Butler College and Texas College--one daily and one weekly newspaper, two rail lines, four bus lines and several truck freight lines (Tyler Public Library d:235). Residential development boomed with new areas of substantial brick dwellings in revival styles appearing in south Tyler and northwest Tyler. One of the city's most visible neighborhoods from this era is the Azalea District (NR 2003), in south central Tyler, which contains a large concentration of Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival



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brick dwellings. This area was Tyler's elite address between the 1930s and early 1960s, housing oil company executives, oil entrepreneurs and others associated with the oil industry or made wealthy by it. It remains one of the community's most prestigious residential neighborhoods.

Oil and gas, industrial and manufacturing enterprises and the machine shops of the St. Louis and Southwest Railway (Cotton Belt) were Tyler's primary post-World War II businesses. The railroad was the largest industrial employer in the city in 1947 with 523 employees and an annual payroll of more than \$1,000,000. Other large firms included the Sledge Manufacturing Co., the Woldert Company, the Tyler Pipe and Foundry Company, and the McMurrey Refining Co., Delta Drilling Co., Thompson Manufacturing Co., the Richardson Co., the Bryant Heater Co., American Clay Forming Co., the East Texas Cotton Oil Co., and the East Texas Crate and Basket Manufacturing Co. The Mayfield Grocery Co., still in business with four branch offices, was joined by two competitors. The Wadel-Connally Co., a wholesale hardware distributor, had nine branch offices (Woldert 1948:148-149). In the late 1940s the State of Texas located a tuberculosis sanitarium at former Camp Fannin (later the Tyler Chest Hospital and now University of Texas, Tyler Health Center), and the McMurrey Refinery announced plans to build a \$40,000 plant in Smith County. Both facilities added to Tyler's economic diversity and created new jobs. Business and residential development continued as new office buildings were erected in the late 1940s and the 1950s. One of the most visible is the 1953 modernist Petroleum Building on South Broadway. Another important building from this era is the 1954 Cotton Belt Building (NR 2005), erected as the new corporate headquarters for the St. Louis Southwestern Railway Company. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, a prominent social and service club present in Tyler since 1891 erected a Modernist lodge building (NR 2002) in 1949 on South Broadway, opening their doors to the community for dances, private parties and other social activities. Residential construction continued as in-fill in established neighborhoods throughout south Tyler, including the Azalea District and in northwest Tyler. New neighborhoods of tract-type housing also appeared in southeast Tyler and northwest Tyler.

By the end of 1931 there were 3,607 wells in the East Texas field, and more than 109,000,000 barrels of oil were produced. Members of the Texas Geological Society met in Tyler December 17, 1931, and 59 geologists gave papers estimating the field's potential barrels. The average estimate was 2.1 billion barrels. In time the field proved to have far more oil than these experts predicted. "Cumulative production of crude oil and natural gas liquids in northeastern Texas through 1950 was approximately 4 billion barrels. By January 1, 1993, when the Texas Railroad Commission calculated the field at 100 percent production, it had produced more than 5 billion barrels of oil" (*New Handbook of Texas*:774). After more than 60 years, some wells still operate.

**TEXAS COLLEGE AND THE CA. 1948 D. R. GLASS LIBRARY**

The D. R. Glass Library was built ca. 1948 on the campus of Texas College for the sum of about \$147,000 (Surry-Fingal Texas College Papers: "Plans for Progress," fundraising brochure ca. 1951), including furniture, books and equipment, as a modern library and classroom facility. The campaign to raise funds and construct the building was headed by Texas College President Dominion R. Glass, a highly



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effective and long-term leader who served as president of the college from 1931 to 1961. The library was named in his honor. Fundraising for the library and other campus improvements in general was undertaken in 1946 by Dr. Dominion Robert Glass under the banner of "Plans for Progress," a \$1,000,000, 10-year expansion program intended to rehabilitate existing buildings on campus, erect new facilities including a library and student union, expand home economics, athletic and administration facilities and raise teacher salaries. By 1951, the program had raised and spent \$419,000 for a variety of new buildings, upgrades and improvements and had raised and spent \$100,000 toward the construction of the new library (Surry-Fingal Texas College Papers: "Plans for Progress," fundraising brochure ca. 1951). At that time, additional funding in the amount of \$47,000 was needed to finance the purchase of furniture, shelving, books and complete the library building (Surry-Fingal Texas College Papers: "Plans for Progress," fundraising brochure ca. 1951). Due to terms of different funding sources associated with the library's construction, and this final amount was required to be raised and spent and the library completed by January 21, 1952. Funding for the library came from a variety of sources, including local banks and lending institutions that Dr. Glass regularly solicited (Surry-Fingal interview 3/2/2006). Among the donors for the library were the five annual Texas conferences of the Colored (sic) Methodist Episcopal Church, which donated \$37,500; the Tyler Advisory Committee, a group of Caucasian bankers, businessmen, clergy and educators, which gave \$37,500, and the General Education Board of New York City, a philanthropic affiliate of the Rockefeller Foundation, which donated \$25,000. Despite an extensive search, no building permit was located for the library building, no mechanic's liens or other public documentation was found to precisely date the building, and no board minutes or other official records of college administration were located during research. No records concerning the identity of the building contractor or the brick mason were found. However, correspondence in the D.R. Glass archives at Texas College confirmed that the library was planned and under construction as early as 1948. A 1948 application to the Veteran's Administration for approval as a qualified educational facility for African American veterans receiving educational benefits under the G.I. Bill, lists the 8,700 square foot library as part of the campus facilities, although it was not then complete. A March 1, 1949 plumbing bill, prepared by Quality Plumbing of Tyler, for pipe, sinks, toilets, faucets and related items further confirms that the library was underway by that date. By the summer of 1950, the library was mostly completed and was in use, as seen in **Figure 11**, although not all the furniture, books, or equipment were in place.

The possibility that the Nashville, Tennessee firm of McKissack & McKissack were the designers of the library, or at least supervised its design, is supported by the involvement of the McKissack firm in projects at Texas College in 1940 and again in 1955 (City of Tyler Building Permits) as well as the 1912 design of no-longer-extant Wiley Hall by McKissack partner Calvin McKissack. Further, in 1910 the McKissack firm was designated the "connectial" (official or supervising) architect for the Colored (sic) Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church (Phillips: 376), the entity that owned Texas College. Finally, Margaret Surry-Fingal, a Texas College graduate, and retired administrator at Texas College also attributes the design of the library to the McKissack firm (Surry-Fingal interview 3/2/2006 and personal communication).



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In planning for and building the D. R. Glass Library, Texas College President D. R. Glass sought an architecturally appropriate building that would provide quarters for library and classroom activities. The Classical Revival influenced library incorporates important hallmarks of the style including symmetrical facade design and fenestration patterns and the use of a monumental entry pavilion detailed with attached columns and an imposing entablature. Located on lot 1 of Block 686, the D. R. Glass Library is part of the Texas College campus, originally a 101 acre parcel, now containing about 24.5 acres. The D. R. Glass Library faces east onto an internal campus street, and the campus fronts North Grand Avenue, a secondary residential street that carries local traffic from north Tyler neighborhoods to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and connecting thoroughfares leading to the courthouse square and other points within and beyond Tyler. The Texas College campus is at the north edge of present-day Tyler, and when the campus was established in 1894, it was outside the city limits and the surrounding area was largely rural and undeveloped. Because Tyler's African Americans were restricted in where they could own property, and the African American neighborhoods within Tyler were small, confined areas without sufficient undeveloped space for a new school facility, Texas College was sited outside the city limits. The area containing Texas College was finally annexed to the City of Tyler in 1936, as a result of the city's explosive growth during the oil boom.

The campus evolved slowly. The earliest Sanborn Map showing the campus dates to 1919 and records three wood instructional buildings—Wiley Hall (built in 1912 by Calvin McKissack), a manual training building, and the English Hall—three wood dwellings, a masonry girls' dormitory (Phillips Hall, built in 1909) and two small wood buildings of unidentified use (**Figure 3**). By 1928, Martin Hall filled in the open space between the wood frame president's house and Wiley Hall, the English Hall was converted to a shed, and the manual training building had been demolished and replaced with a shed (**Figure 4**). The 1949 Sanborn Map (**Figure 5**) shows that Wiley Hall by that date was serving as a boy's dormitory, the old English Hall was made into rooms, and a new building, McKinney Hall, constructed. A laundry building also was present as were five residences, built for teachers. A number of garages were on campus and two of the older dwellings converted to new uses as a club and rooms. The President's House, built in 1942 at the south end of the campus is not shown on the 1949 Sanborn Map, but building permits and the testimony of Margaret Surry-Fingal, who lived in the house with Dr. and Mrs Glass from 1942 to 1946 confirms its existence. The presence of so many small dwellings and the use of older buildings as rooms suggests a critical housing shortage at a time when enrollment was growing and the general population of Tyler and the African American population was steadily increasing.

At the end of World War II, D. R. Glass and his administration undertook a major capital improvement campaign, in the amount of \$1,000,000, to improve campus facilities, build needed new classroom and library space and raise teacher salaries. To fill the housing and classroom space gap that arose as returning veterans sought higher education through the G. I. Bill, Texas College purchased surplus military buildings and equipment for college use including no-longer-needed temporary buildings erected during the war at nearby Camp Fannin and surplus equipment obtained from Camp Bowie. As the college completed its expansion and improvement programs these temporary facilities were removed. None



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remain. Dr. Glass also obtained help from the Federal government to pave campus sidewalks and undertake other site improvements. The 1948 annual report for Texas College shows \$82,170.35 spent for new buildings, of which \$46,996.14 was from the college building fund (Texas College Archives, *Annual Report* May 29, 1948). Construction continued through the 1950s and into the 1960s. A new student union building was built in this period, but was destroyed by fire shortly after completion. It was replaced in 1960. In 1954 a new home economics building was added, now modified for another use. A new home economics building was built sometime after 1975. In 1968 two new dormitories were built. Other campus improvements (**Figure 6**) in the post-World War II period included an athletic field and grandstand. Interestingly, the 1942 brick, Colonial Revival style President's House, located some distance south of the main portion of the campus is not shown on the 1948 or the 1970 Sanborn maps, but does appear on a ca. 1952 site plan (**Figure 7**). Since 1970 new buildings have been added to the campus, despite the sale of the north end of the campus property in the late 1950s. Since the 1970s the construction of new instructional buildings and the erection of a welcome center near the main gate from North Grand Avenue have occurred. Other changes include the incompatible alteration of McKinney Hall and the gymnasium and the removal of Wiley Hall, Phillips Hall and other historic-era buildings. The Glass Library and the President's House, along with Martin Hall (NR 2005) remain the college's only intact historic buildings.

Texas College is a small, church-affiliated, coeducational liberal arts college founded in 1894 on 101.25 acres of land "...by a group of ministers under the auspices of the Colored Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church..." (Smith County Historical Society j) for the purpose of providing education at all levels for African American students. The campus parcel was purchased from Frank L. Deshong and Charles Moore in 1894 for \$2,000 in cash and notes. Tyler was selected for the site of a new educational facility, in part because of its location, which was within a 200-mile radius of more than half of the African American population of Texas (*Student Handbook* 1951-952:6). By 1901, Texas College had paid for the property in full (Smith County Deed Records). The Colored [sic] Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church, like other African American denominations, developed shortly after the end of the Civil War when social change and racial divisions created tensions within the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the white branch of the Methodist faith in the southern United States. Separated from the northern branch of Methodism in 1845 over the issue of slavery, at the end of the Civil War the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, underwent upheaval as the leadership sorted out the issues of possible unity with the northern church (not undertaken until 1939), and the status of African Americans who became members of the Methodist Episcopal South church during slavery. At the 1866 Methodist Episcopal South conference "...white and black leaders planned for a new denomination for colored members" (Vernon:130) under the name Colored Methodist Episcopal Church (C.M.E.), which today is known as the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend William Taylor, a local elder and the pastor of the Tyler Colored Charge of the M. E. Church, South, was elected to attend the December 1870 organizing conference of the C.M.E. Church in Jackson, Tennessee. By 1868 the 42 African American Methodists in Tyler had left the mother church and began organizing their own congregations, one of which became St. James C.M.E. church. In a limited way, members of Tyler's Marvin Methodist Church (NR 2000) assisted the early efforts of



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Tyler's African American Methodists to secure property on which to build a church. In 1878 Marvin member John B. Douglas sold a lot to the C.M.E. church. Located along the I&GN tracks on the east edge of downtown, the congregation sold this property back to Douglas within a few years. In 1884 W.S. Herndon, a Marvin member, sold another lot to the C.M.E. church, and E.S. and P. W. Rowland are listed in the deed as "defenders of the title," (Smith County Deed Records). This parcel is thought to be the site of current St. James C.M.E. Church (NR 2004). In 1894 Marvin Methodist member Frank L. Deshong sold a 101 acre parcel to Texas College, and that site became the location of the new African American college campus. The Methodist Episcopal Church, South's, involvement with the C.M.E. church and Texas College demonstrates early efforts of Marvin's congregation to assist other Methodists. It should be noted, however, that Marvin members donated lots to their own church and to other white congregations, but sold land to African Americans. Despite the double standard, in an era when African American schools and churches were under attack by racist factions in American society, Marvin members' willingness to sell land was something of a show of support for local African Americans.

Educational opportunities for freedmen and women were a major focus of African American churches in the late 19th century. Opportunities for public education were extremely limited and teachers difficult to find. Although the Freedman's Bureau and private white institutions and white churches worked to establish educational facilities and denominational colleges for African Americans in the post 1870 period, state funding was absent. The African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.), the Colored [sic] Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church and the African American Baptist Church were leaders within the African American community in developing schools and colleges. "From their inception, black church bodies were deeply committed to the Christianization and education of their race. These denominations realized that if blacks were to overcome the illiteracy, poverty and degradation imposed upon them by two hundred years of servitude, a variety of educational opportunities had to be provided (Heintze:20)." According to C. D. Coleman in *The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church: The Rationale and Policies upon which support of Its Colleges is Predicated*, quoted by Heintze, the C.M. E. colleges were founded on the idea that Christianity has an obligation to the intellectual life of humankind and that freedom, dignity and humanness are Christian ideals that must be supported by a Christian structured education (Heintze:20). The A.M.E and C.M.E. churches as well as a number of white, church-affiliated groups founded a number of schools in Texas in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The first was Paul Quinn College in Austin in 1872, established by the A.M.E. Church. In 1873 Wiley College was established in Marshall by the Freedman's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Tillotson College (now Huston-Tillotson) was established in 1877 in Austin under the auspices of the white American Missionary Association. Bishop College, also in Marshall, was created in 1881 by the American Baptist Home Mission Society. Guadalupe College was established in 1884 by a group of black Baptists in Seguin. Mary Allen College in Crockett dates from 1886. The Presbyterian Board of Missions for Freedmen of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. created that college for African American women. Texas College was organized in 1894 in Tyler and received its official charter in 1907 under the auspices of the C.M.E. Church (Heintze:20-35). Texas College was the third black institution in Texas



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to be founded by an African American denomination. Other colleges for African Americans were founded between 1898 and 1912, including the 1905 Butler College, a Baptist institution, also in Tyler, which is no longer extant.

Throughout the late 19th century as St. James C.M.E. Church gained members, it remained involved in the affairs of its membership and of the African American community in Tyler. Having succeeded by the late 1880s in building a permanent church in which to worship, the congregation turned its attention to the issue of education. As no public education was available at that time for African Americans it was incumbent upon the African American community to create such opportunities for its youth. Working with the leadership of the C.M.E. Church, St. James Church, as a representative of the C.M.E. Church in Tyler raised \$75 toward the development of an educational institution, which was founded in 1894 in Tyler and known as Texas College. The link between St. James and Texas College remains strong and since that time St. James Church has consistently contributed to the support of Texas College (Gary interview 2003).

An excerpt from a 1967 address to Texas College alumni by college president Allen C. Hancock describes the founding of the college and the role of St. James Church in it.

In the year of 1894 a mental picture which had been developing in the minds of a few clerical members for quite some time was ready to give birth to the bright and brilliant idea of housing and educating the youth of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in a Christian institution. A committee of enthusiastic ministers responded to the call for giving financial assistance and set out to find a suitable location for the institution. The final decision was centered upon 101 1/4 acres of land about two and one half miles north of the city of Tyler. Upon the set day and hour for surveying of the acreage obtained, Reverend I.S. Persons requested that a young girl [Frances Edwards Redwine], be placed at the very point of the beginning of the survey holding in her hand a donation of \$75 from the St. James Sunday School, St. James C.M.E. Church, Tyler, Texas. It took time to raise a sufficient amount of money to erect and equip buildings for school use (St James C.M.E. files).

Just 29 years after the end of slavery, the school represented not only educational opportunities for African American youth of the day, but the progress of African Americans in a very short time and within the constrictions of a segregated society. Despite limited funds, in January 1895 school began in a four room house with professor Samuel Allen Caffin (aka Coffin) serving as principal and head teacher. Assisted by his wife Mrs. Bessie Caffin and Reverend I. S. Person of St. James C. M. E. Church, the school initially had six students: Sandy McKinney of Swan, Texas, Josie Jones of Tyler, William A. Redwine of Henderson, Malinda Francis of Tyler, R. K. Price of Tyler and T. K. Price of Denver Colorado (*A Brief Summary About the Texas College Story 1893-2004:5*). By 1900 the school had three full time teachers and had built two dormitories, and by 1905 enrollment reached 266 and six teachers



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were on staff. Until 1905, Texas College offered basic educational courses for all grades as was, or would be taught in common public school districts, with the goal of preparing students for four years of college work. In 1905 the first college level class was organized and in 1907 the college formally incorporated. College and C.M.E. Church officials amended the school's charter in 1909 to provide for a "university of first class..." (Smith County Historical Society j). That same year, the school was renamed Phillips University and a new brick girls dormitory was erected and named Phillips Hall, all in honor of C. H. Phillips, an outstanding church leader and influential bishop, who wrote a definitive history of the C.M.E. Church in 1925. In 1912 a dormitory, designed by African American architect Calvin McKissack of Dallas, was added to the campus. In 1919 the name Texas College was restored to the institution and in 1924, the college added a new brick classroom and administration building named Martin Hall in honor of Joseph C. Martin, another important leader in the C.M. E. Church and the then-current bishop of Texas. In 1924 the college, under president W. R. Banks, a former Texas College professor who served as president from 1915 to 1926, was accredited as a Class A Junior College by the State Board of College Examiners of the State Department of Education (*Student Handbook* 1951-1952:6). By 1928 the leadership of the C.M.E. Church realized the need for teacher training at Texas College and added a normal school to the basic education and college programs. The Texas State Board of Education recognized Texas College in 1930 as a three-year college (Smith County Historical Society j), and in 1932 increased the college's recognition to that of a four-year school.

During the 1930s Texas College gained enrollment and continued as a successful institution. Dominion R. Glass (1895-1968) was named president of the college in 1931. For the next 30 years, D. R. Glass proved an enthusiastic, able and visionary leader, expanding college facilities, improving college programs and forging important links between the white leadership of Tyler and the African American educational circles. In 1934 the school was placed on the approved list of African American colleges by the Southern Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, and in 1939 a home economics program was added. The first degree in that new program was given in 1941, and a new building for home economic instruction was constructed in 1954 (Smith County Deed Records). In 1944 Texas College became a charter member of the United Negro College Fund, and in 1946, Texas College was established as the African American unit of Tyler Junior College. Texas College served in this role until 1965 when legal segregation came to an end after passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Texas College also incorporated an extension program of the Perkins School of Theology of Southern Methodist University and offered training to in-service African American ministers (Texas College b). The reputation of Texas College continued to grow through the 1940s and 1950s and the school received an "A" rating in 1948, within the list of African American colleges, by the Southern Association. A graduate program in education was created in 1951 and approved by the Texas Education Agency, but was discontinued in 1959, along with the football program, to provide more funding for undergraduate education. In 1957 the school received a 50 year extension on its charter.

The building program of the 1940s and 1950s coincided with positive changes in opportunities



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for African American education through increased funding available from foundations and other philanthropic organizations, through the establishment of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) by the Rockefeller Foundation, and the membership of Texas College in that program, through the increasingly high standards for state education certification and Veteran's Administration approved facilities, and the demand within the African American community for more and better educational opportunities. Texas College also benefitted from the alliances D. R. Glass forged with Tyler's white leadership, including Dr. H.E. Jenkins of Tyler Junior College, and the heads of Tyler banks including Gus Taylor and Sam R. Greer. According to Margaret Surry-Fingal, Dr. Glass regularly called upon local bank presidents for donations to the building fund and academic programs of Texas College, and he developed an important alliance with H. E. Jenkins of Tyler Junior College that helped further Dr. Glass's goals for his students. Texas College trained many teachers for service in Texas' segregated African American schools, as well as providing basic education for students wishing to enter professions or become educational administrators. Texas College faculty and staff was ever supportive and involved in the lives of the students, beyond what is the norm today. Margaret Surry-Fingal, who entered Texas College as a freshman in 1942, credits D. R. Glass and his wife Willie Lee Glass (1910-1999), and Mrs. E. W. S. Harris, Dean of Women at Texas College at that time for providing support, encouragement and counsel during her college years, and thereafter. After Mrs. Surry-Fingal graduated in 1946, she left the state, returning to Texas College in 1948 to become secretary to the college registrar. Next she became secretary to D.R. Glass and then moved up to assistant registrar. In 1961 she became Registrar and Director of Admissions, serving until 1970. The investment in students by faculty and staff was an important part of the Texas College experience, and assisted students away from home for the first time in gaining the confidence and determination to succeed in a segregated world of limited opportunity.

According to a 1953 address given by Dr. Lindsey F. Kimball, vice president of the Rockefeller Foundation, in 1900 only 2,624 African American students were enrolled in college. By 1950 the number had risen to 89,000. Of these, 15,000 were enrolled in white institutions in the north and west. The remainder were in African American schools (Glass Archives, Texas College), fairly evenly divided between segregated state run schools, such as Texas' Prairie View, and private schools, such as Texas College, supported by the United Negro College Fund. Since the end of segregation, African American schools have continued to offer educational opportunities to those choosing not to attend integrated public or private institutions. The success of African American schools in educating African American youth during segregation is evidenced by the careers of graduates. Texas College alumni represent leadership roles in business, education, religion and the professions. Among the graduates of the college during the period of significance were Bishop Joseph A. Johnson ('38), presiding Bishop of the Fourth Episcopal District; Bishop Norris S. Curry ('42), presiding Bishop of the Eighth Episcopal District; Dr. Allen C. Hancock ('32), president of Texas College, Weldon Berry ('41), an attorney; Dr. Lillian Bradley ('38) professor of math at Texas Southern University; Dr. Lectoy Johnson ('52), a physician, and many others.

Texas College remained an important and successful institution of higher learning through the 1980s with new capital improvements, programs and full accreditation by the Southern Association of



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Colleges and Schools in 1970. Since the 1980s the college fell on harder times, in part because of improved opportunities for African American students at public and private universities nationwide. After losing accreditation, Texas College regained it in 2004, and resumed its football program in an effort to build pride and visibility. Between its 1894 founding and 1986 Texas College was served by 14 presidents. D. R. Glass 1931-1961 served during the library's period of significance.

During an October 2004 interview Loretta Mosely Dewberry, a 1955 graduate of Texas College, who now works at the school, recalled her experiences at Texas College and as a youngster in the Tyler community. Beginning classes at Texas College at age 15, Mrs. Dewberry majored in physical education and minored in biology, with a view to becoming a teacher. She credits exceptionally good teachers and an interested community and church for the success of Texas College students at that time. Football, basketball, track, volleyball, women's drill team and a marching band provided additional activities for the interested student. Mrs. Dewberry, who graduated from Emmett Scott High School, Tyler's soon-to-be-demolished segregated African American High School, at age 15, completed her student teaching there. She recalls that it was not uncommon in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s for students to be enrolled at Texas College at age 15 and 16, and occasionally younger, at age 14.

Loretta Dewberry's connection to Texas College extended back at least one generation to her mother, Ophelia L. Mosely, who attended Texas College Normal School in the 1930s. At that time, the state certified teachers upon completion of the 8th grade and passage of a written test, which Mrs. Mosely achieved. But instead of teaching, she married, as so many women did at that time. Her husband, Lemmie B. Mosely attended Paul Quinn College in Austin, but left before graduating. By 1930 the couple had settled in Tyler, leaving rural areas of Smith and Cherokee counties, as so many African Americans did during the 1920s. They had seven children, all of whom attended Texas College, and five of whom graduated. Mrs. Dewberry's father worked as a shipping clerk for Brookshire Bros. Grocery Co. in Tyler, and into the 1930s continued the family farm growing corn, potatoes, peas, watermelon, beans, okra, cabbage and squash. Mrs. Dewberry recalls that enrollment at Texas College in the early 1950s was between 1,200 and 1,500 students, and while students were free to select a career of their choice, the school emphasized teacher training. Students in the home economics program were required to live on campus for a portion of their schooling time. Housing for teachers was provided on campus, probably because of the cost of housing and its limited availability to African Americans. The acreage north of the campus that now contains apartments was, in the 1950s, the school's athletic field, and prior to that it was the "teachery" where faculty lived. The school also provided amenities for social activities such as a club house and a tea house, where receptions were held. Both of those buildings are now gone. Sororities and fraternities also were present and honor societies sponsored scholarships. The campus dorms maintained a curfew and a dress code. The 1951-1952 *Student Handbook*, which shows the newly completed library on its cover, specifies the type of clothing required by students at different events (Figure 12). Classes began early, ended late and included Saturday sessions.

Erected ca. 1948 during a time of growth and development as African Americans sought improved educational and economic opportunities in Tyler's strong economy, the D. R. Glass Library at Texas



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College is significant for its associations development trends within Tyler and for the role it played in the administration of college programs, and the education of African American students during the period of significance. Although the D. R. Glass Library is nominated only under Criterion A because of changes to the windows (which could be restored), exterior doors and the installation of metal fire escapes, architecturally, the building is an important local example of a 1940s library building and the only such building in Tyler associated with African American education.

SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS

While many factors and individuals contributed to the successful development of Texas College and Tyler as a whole, the community's major architects and builders had a highly visible impact on the character of the city, and similarly, designers of college buildings have had a major impact on the campus. However, the most significant individual associated with the D. R. Glass Library is the person for whom the building is named, and whose vision, and leadership led to its construction and the implementation of important academic and physical improvements at Texas College.

**Dominion R. Glass (1895-1968)**

Dominion Robert Glass (**Figure 13**) was born April 19, 1895 in Forsyth, Georgia, to Minnie J. Calloway Glass and Benjamin J. Glass. D. R. Glass graduated from Atlanta University in 1917, did graduate work at Harvard University and received his LL.D. degree from Miles College in Birmingham, Alabama. He served as a teacher in various schools in Georgia and Arkansas and was registrar at Prairie View College (now Texas A&M Prairie View) from 1928-1931. In 1931 he was named president of Texas College in Tyler, Texas, and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1961. In 1936 he married Willie Lee Campbell (1910-1999) (**Figure 14**) of Nacogdoches, Texas. During his tenure at Texas College he brought the school out of debt and established financial stability. He attained accreditation for Texas College and fostered a \$1,000,000, 10-year building program beginning in 1946 that included the construction of the ca. 1948 library. The 1942 President's House also was built during his administration. Aided by his wife Willie Lee, a home economics teacher and community leader in her own right, the learning and physical environment of Texas College was immeasurably strengthened. D. R. Glass died in 1968 (Fleming:213).

**McKissack & McKissack Architects, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee**

Established in 1909, when founder Moses McKissack III began to formally advertise his architectural services in the Nashville City Directory, McKissack & McKissack, an African American architectural firm, has since designed thousands of facilities. The first Moses McKissack, an Ashanti from West Africa, became the slave of William McKissack sometime prior to 1822. Moses learned carpentry and construction from William McKissack and continued in that trade throughout his life. In 1822 Moses McKissack married a Cherokee woman named Mirian. The couple had 14 children, one of which was Gabriel Moses McKissack, who was born in 1840. Gabriel Moses learned the construction trade from his



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father, who died in 1865, and became a master builder. Moses McKissack III, son of Dolly Ann and Gabriel Moses McKissack, was born in 1879 in Pulaski, Tennessee, and went into the building trade. He received his formal training at the Pulaski Colored High School. In 1890, Moses III worked for an architect in Pulaski, drawing, designing and assisting with construction. From 1895 to 1902 he worked as a construction superintendent and built houses in Pulaski, and other Tennessee towns. In 1905, Moses III went to Nashville to build a house for the Dean of Architecture and Engineering at Vanderbilt University. Moses III went on to design and build houses in Nashville' West End. In 1905 he opened his first office in Nashville. Thereafter, he built the Carnegie Library at Fisk University, and in 1908 Secretary of War William Howard Taft laid the cornerstone of the building, which was one of the first major buildings in the United States designed by an African American architect. By 1920 McKissack was designing for clients in all areas of Nashville and his reputation was growing statewide. Moses III was assisted by his younger brother Calvin Lunsford McKissack, who was born in 1890. Calvin spent three years at the Barrows School in Springfield, Massachusetts, and attended Fisk University from 1905 to 1909. Both Calvin and Moses III received their architectural degrees through an international correspondence course. In 1910, Moses III became the official "connectial" architect for the Colored (sic) Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church in America and was involved in designing, or supervising the design of, numerous C.M.E. churches and educational buildings at C.M.E. supported schools. In 1912, Calvin opened his own practice in Dallas, Texas, and designed churches and dormitories in northeast Texas, and in neighboring states, including the no-longer-extant Wiley Hall at Texas College, a C.M.E. supported school, in Tyler, Texas. By 1915, Calvin had returned to Tennessee where he taught in several African American schools. In 1922, Moses III and Calvin formed a partnership known as McKissack & McKissack. They were among the first architects to be registered in Tennessee when in 1921 that state instituted registration. In 1924, the firm designed, for the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., the Morris Memorial Building in Nashville. Shortly thereafter, the firm moved into offices on the first and second floors of that building. Other commissions followed, including several schools in Nashville: Tennessee State University Library and other campus buildings; the company headquarters building for Universal Life of Memphis, an African American life insurance company; the Colored (sic) Methodist Episcopal Church's publishing house in Jackson, Tennessee; and the African Methodist Episcopal Church's publishing house in Nashville. Although many of these buildings are now demolished, they represent some of the most important early work of the firm. The firm also designed buildings at Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs and the Taborian Hospital in Mound Bayou (Mississippi Department of Archives & History). In 1924, the firm may have designed, or supervised the design of, Martin Hall at Texas College in Tyler, Texas. During the 1930s, the firm received contracts to design public educational facilities under the Works Progress Administration. In 1941, McKissack & McKissack received a licence to practice in Alabama, and in 1943 was granted approval to practice in Georgia, South Carolina and Mississippi. In 1942, the firm was awarded the 5.7 million dollar contract to design the 99th Pursuit Squadron Air Base in Tuskegee, Alabama. That contract was the largest up to that time awarded by the Federal government to an African American firm. Subsequently, the firm received awards and honors, and Moses III was appointed to the



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White House Conference on Housing Problems during FDR's administration. McKissack & McKissack was involved in the design of buildings at Texas College in 1940 and again in 1955 (City of Tyler Building Permits), and may have designed the 1942 President's House at Texas College and the ca. 1948 D. R. Glass Library at that same institution. Moses McKissack III died in 1952 and his brother Calvin in 1968. The firm remains in business today with a fifth generation McKissack as Chief Operating Officer (McKissack: Tennessee State University Online). Known properties designed by the firm and listed in the National Register of Historic Places are: St. John's Baptist Church, Miami, Florida; Taborian Hospital, Mound Bayou, Mississippi; Mississippi Industrial College Historic District, Holly Springs, Mississippi; and Caper's Chapel C.M.E. Church, Carnegie Library at Fisk University, Morris Memorial Building, Pearl High School and the Hubbard House, all in Nashville, Tennessee.

**JUSTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The D. R. Glass Library is an important local landmark associated with Tyler's African American community, and is significant for its interpretation of community development in Tyler and for its role as a library and classroom building for Texas College between ca. 1948 and 1956. Illustrating an architectural form widely used for 20th century educational buildings, the library is the only known library in Tyler associated with African American education and is one of three historic buildings on the Texas College campus to retain integrity. Built ca. 1948 in response to a growing African American population, and increased demand and opportunities for African American education, the building provided library and classroom space for African American students during segregation. As such it reflects the goals, abilities, determination and success of Tyler's African American citizens in providing its youth education and opportunity for economic advancement in the face of Jim Crow. The nominated property also is significant for its association with Tyler's general development patterns during the period of significance when the success of the East Texas Oil Field, and the end of World War II, brought thousands of new residents to Tyler and fostered the growth of neighborhoods, business and educational facilities. The building retains high levels of integrity of location, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association within the period of significance and is maintained in good condition. The immediate setting has been affected by the construction of additional college-related buildings, but the D. R. Glass Library remains one of Tyler's most significant and intact early-to-mid 20th century educational buildings. For these reasons the D. R. Glass Library is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level of significance. Although the building is significant for its architecture, it is being nominated under Criterion A only because of incompatible changes to the original windows and exterior doors and the installation of side elevation fire escapes. The building has no other exterior alterations and retains a high degree of exterior and interior design, materials and finishes. The building is worthy of preservation as a highly intact local landmark that through its functions as a library and classroom building for an African American college, documents aspects of community development and the African American experience between ca. 1948 and 1956.



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- b) Planning files and engineering records.
- c) Tyler Register of Historic Landmarks Brochure, 2001.
- d) Vertical File, Post War Construction Data, 1943.
- e) City Council Minutes 1881-1941.
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number 9 Page 34

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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f) Vertical File, Agriculture.

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number 9 Page 35

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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- f) Williams, Diane E. *The Crescent Laundry* National Register nomination, 2001.
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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number 9 Page 36

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 37

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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- g) Streets file.
- h) *Tyler Morning Telegraph*, Commemorative Issue "Century of Our Lives," 1-1-2000.
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- Population Schedule of the Fourteenth Census, 1920.*
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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VISUAL DOCUMENTATION

AAA-Texas  
Map



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9    Page 39

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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City of Tyler, Tyler, Texas.  
Map

Sinclair & Wright, Architects, Tyler, Texas  
Floor Plans

Texas College, Tyler, Texas  
Campus Site Plan  
*Texas College Bulletin* 1974-1975  
*Student Handbook* 1951-1952

University of Texas at Austin, Center for American History  
Sanborn Maps

Williams, Diane E., Austin, Texas.  
Photographs



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**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

---

**ACREAGE OF PROPERTY:** approximately one acre

<b>UTM REFERENCES</b>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
	15	282446	3584003

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:** Part of Lot 1 in New City Block 686, City of Tyler, Texas.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:** The boundaries include all property historically associated with the building.

---

**11. FORM PREPARED BY** (with assistance from Bob Brinkman, historian, Texas Historical Commission)

---

**NAME/TITLE:** Diane E. Williams (Architectural Historian)

**ORGANIZATION:** for the City of Tyler, Texas and Historic Tyler, Inc.      **DATE:** March 31, 2006

**STREET & NUMBER:** P.O. Box 49302      **TELEPHONE:** (512) 458-2367

**CITY OR TOWN:** Austin      **STATE:** Texas      **ZIP CODE:** 78765

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**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION**

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**CONTINUATION SHEETS** (see continuation sheets FIGURE-31 through FIGURE-44)

**MAPS** (see continuation sheet MAP-30 and topographic map)

**PHOTOGRAPHS** (see continuation sheet PHOTO-45)

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

---

**PROPERTY OWNER**

---

**NAME:** Texas College, c/o Dr. Bobby Stinson

**STREET & NUMBER:** 2404 Grand Avenue      **TELEPHONE:** (903) 593-8311 x. 2272

**CITY OR TOWN:** Tyler      **STATE:** Texas      **ZIP CODE:** 75702



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National Park Service

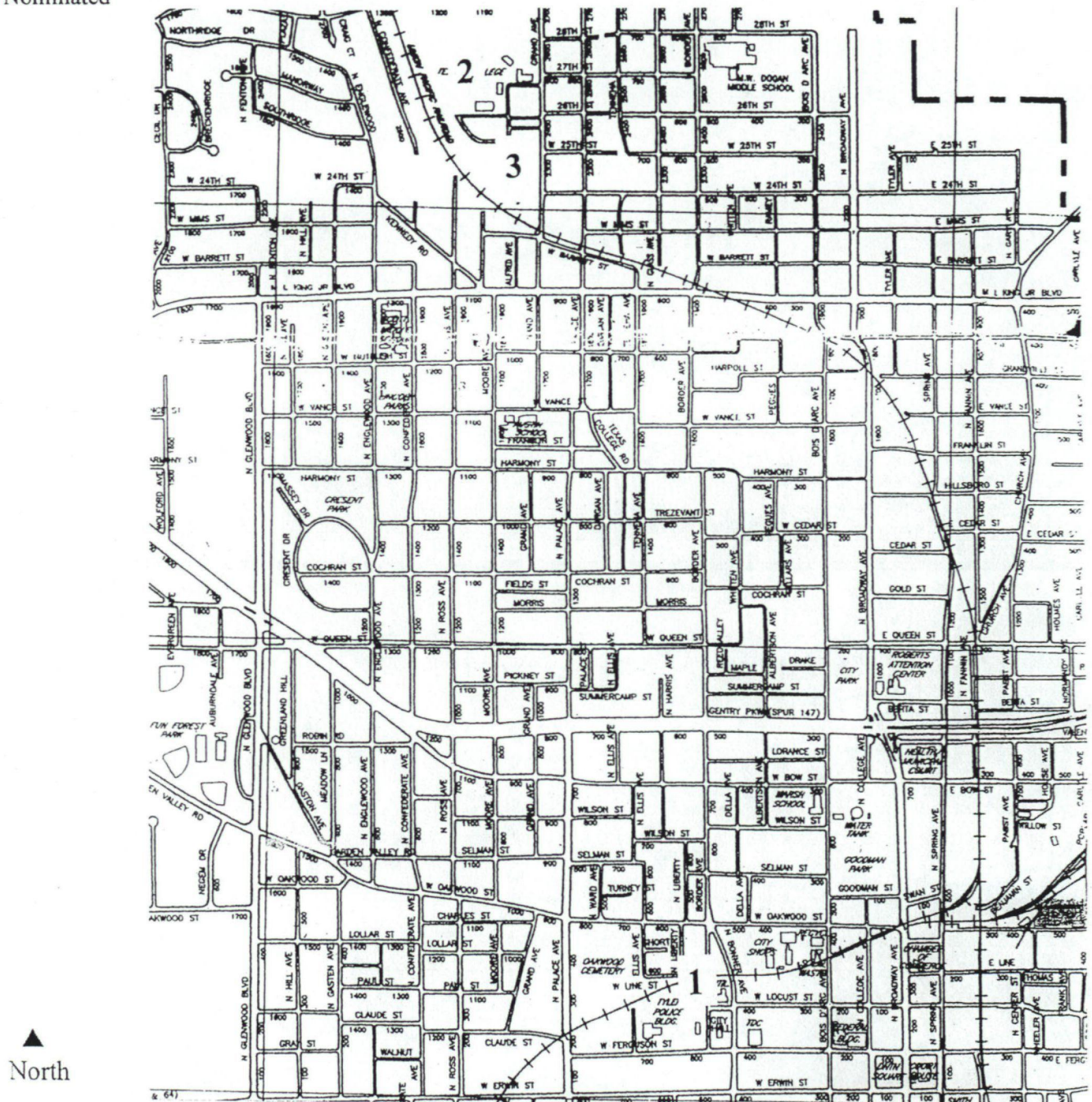
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number MAP

Page 30

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Map 1: Location Map Showing the D. R. Glass Library at Texas College and Two Other Properties Being Nominated



1. Tyler City Hall

2. D.R. Glass Library at Texas College

3. President's House at Texas College



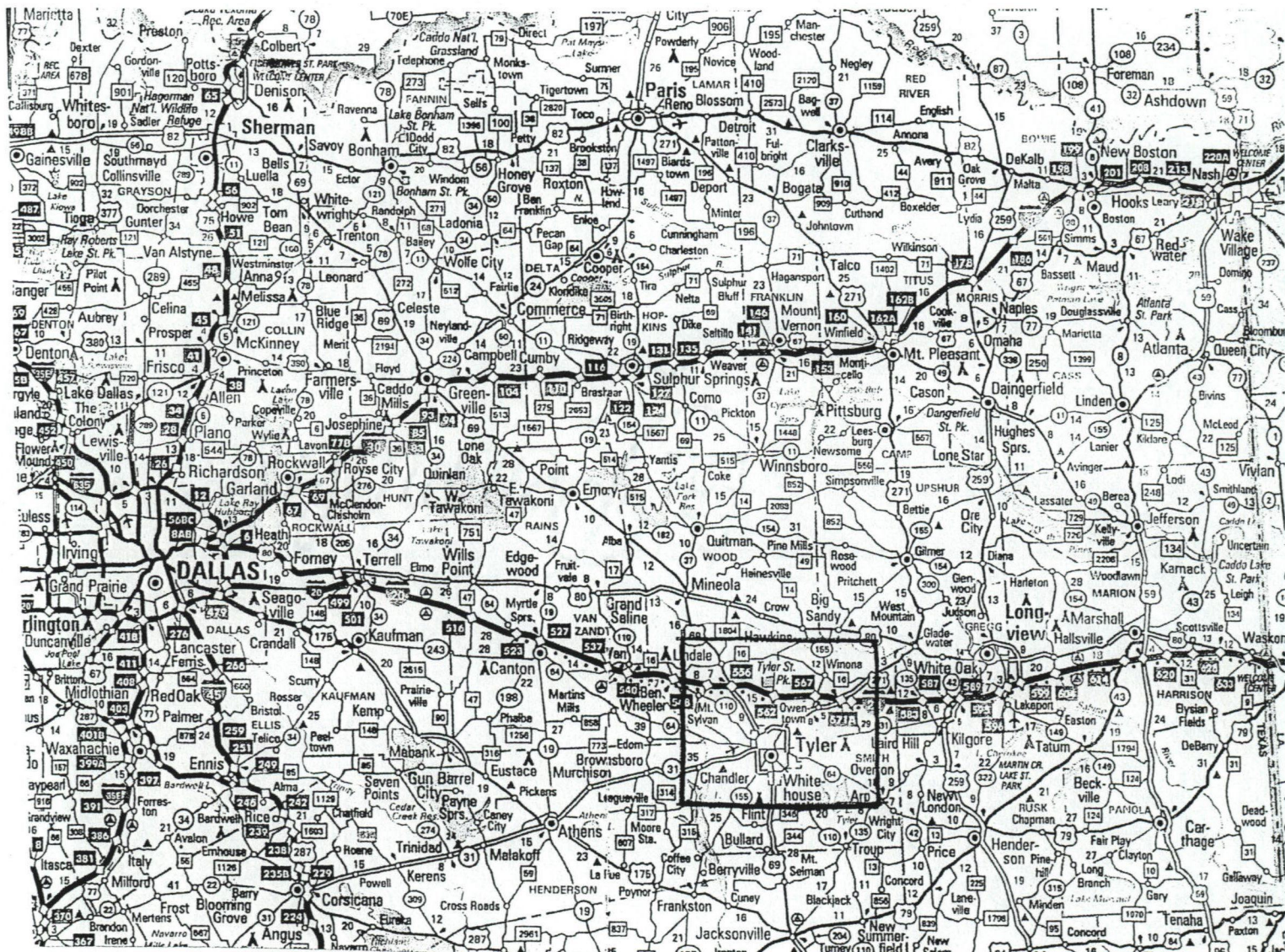
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number FIGURE Page 31

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 1: Regional Location Map



Source: AAA Texas  
No Scale

North  
▲



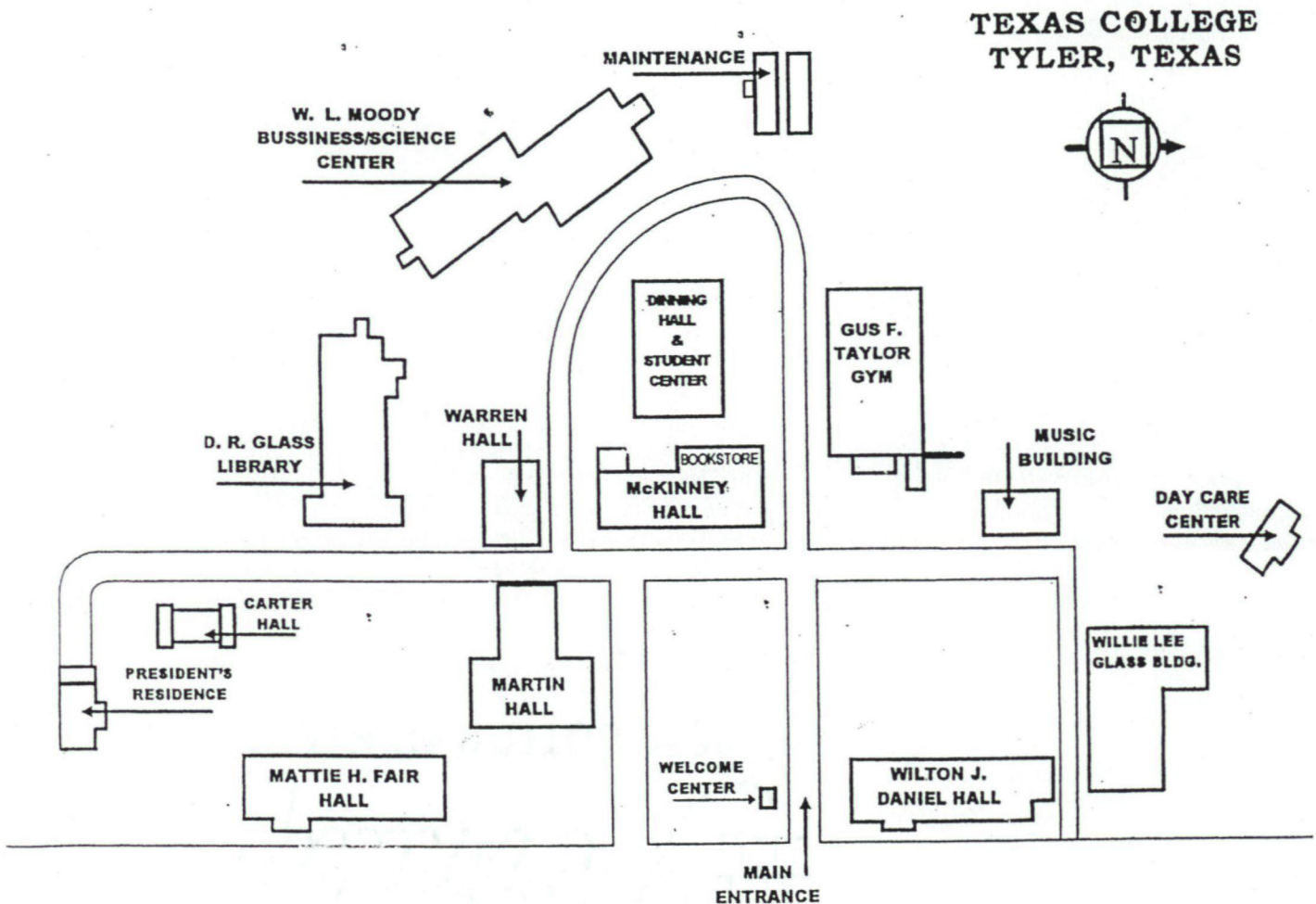
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number FIGURE Page 32

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 2: Texas College Site Plan



Source: Texas College  
No Scale

North  
→



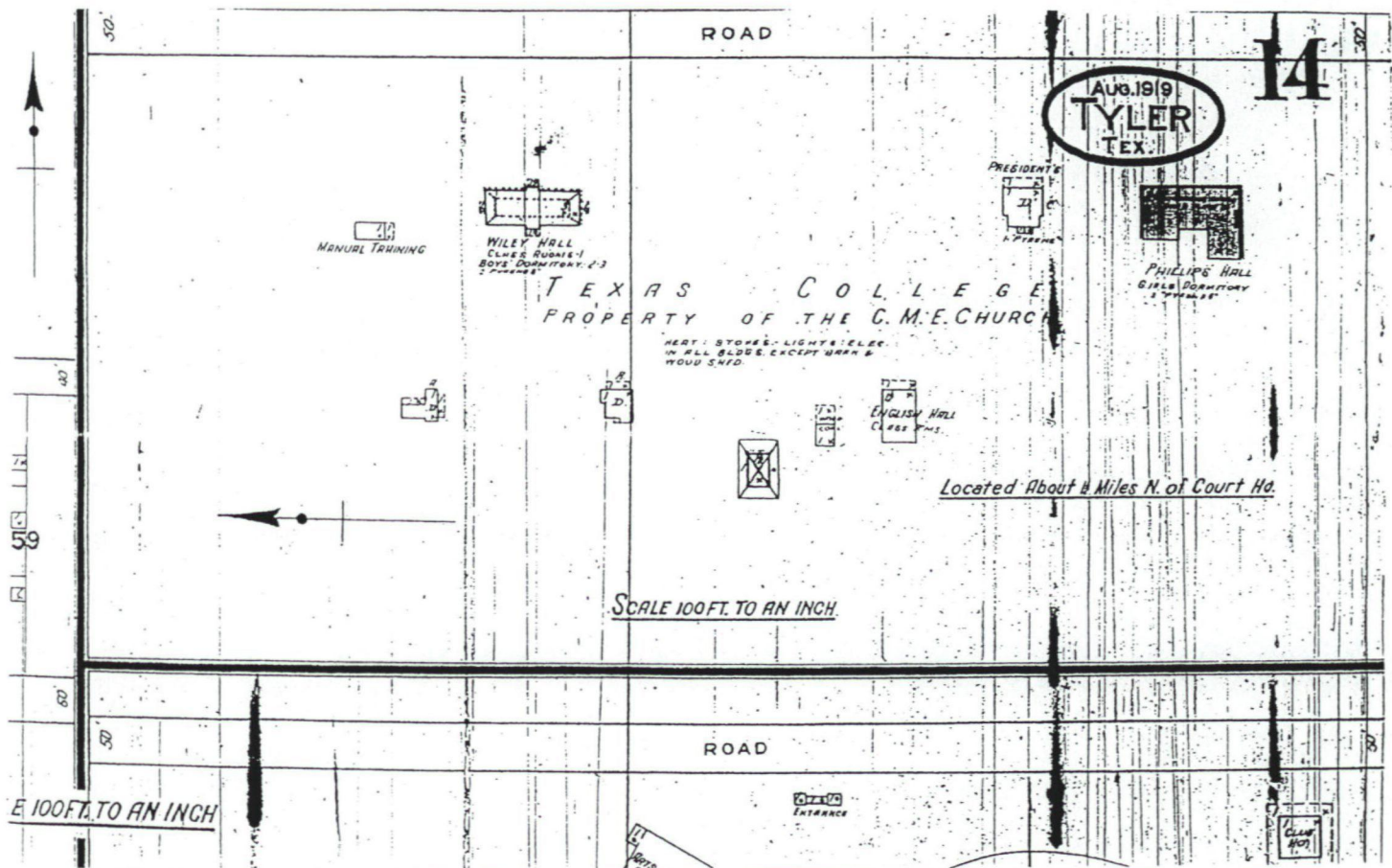
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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number FIGURE Page 33

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 3: 1919 Sanborn Map



Source: Sanborn Maps  
No Scale

North  
←



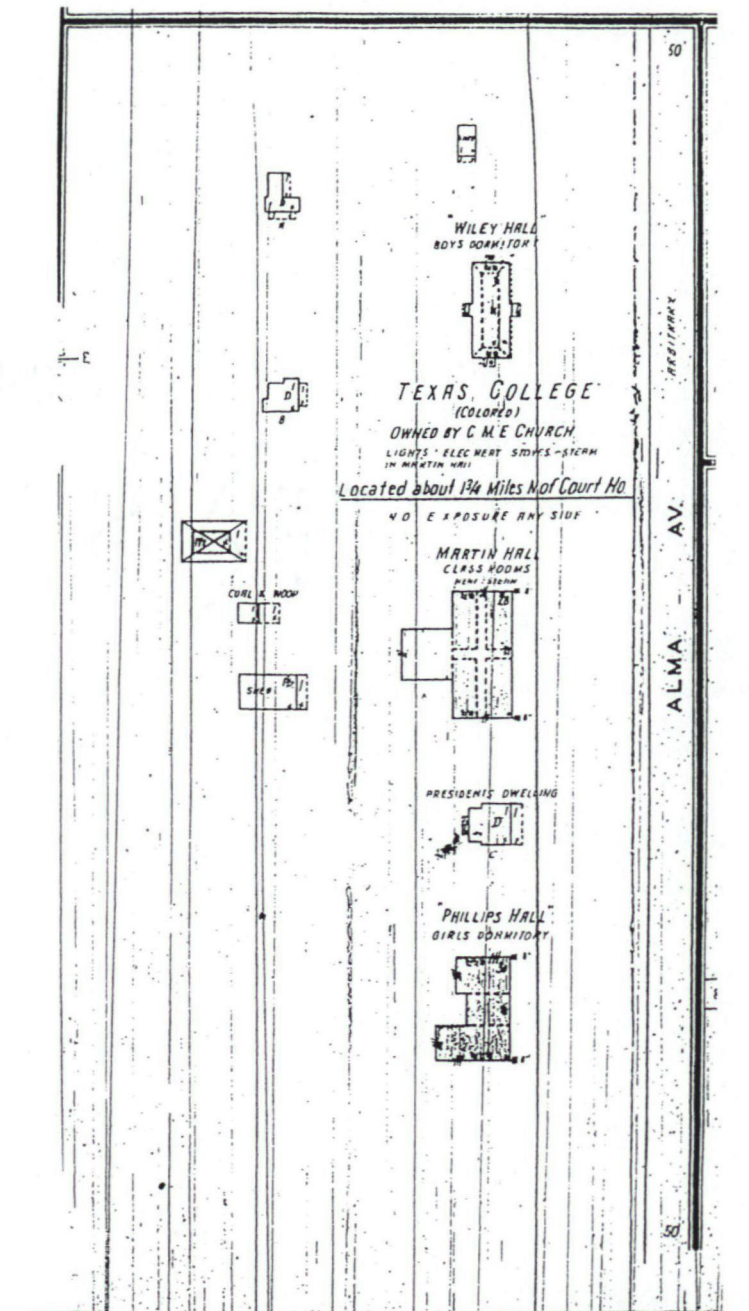
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National Park Service

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number FIGURE Page 34

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 4: 1928 Sanborn Map



Source: Sanborn Maps  
No Scale

North  
▲



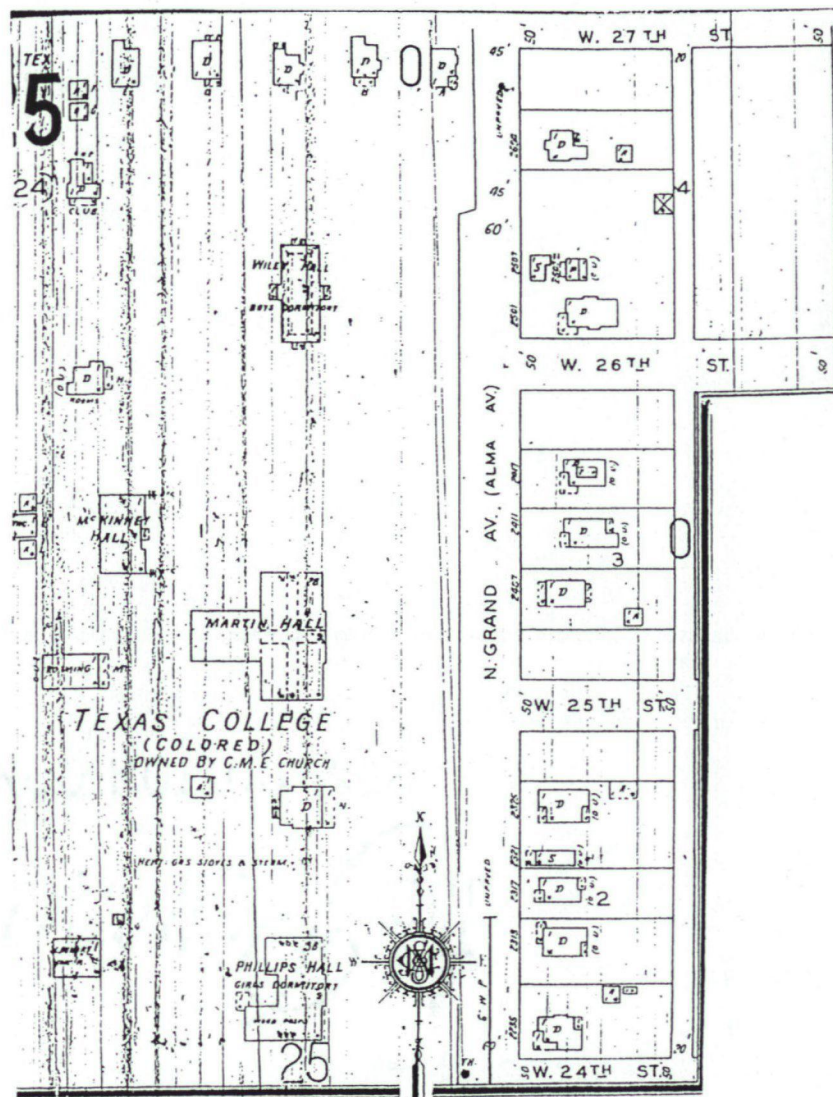
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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number FIGURE Page 35

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 5: 1938/1949 Sanborn Map



Source: Sanborn Maps  
No Scale

North  
▲



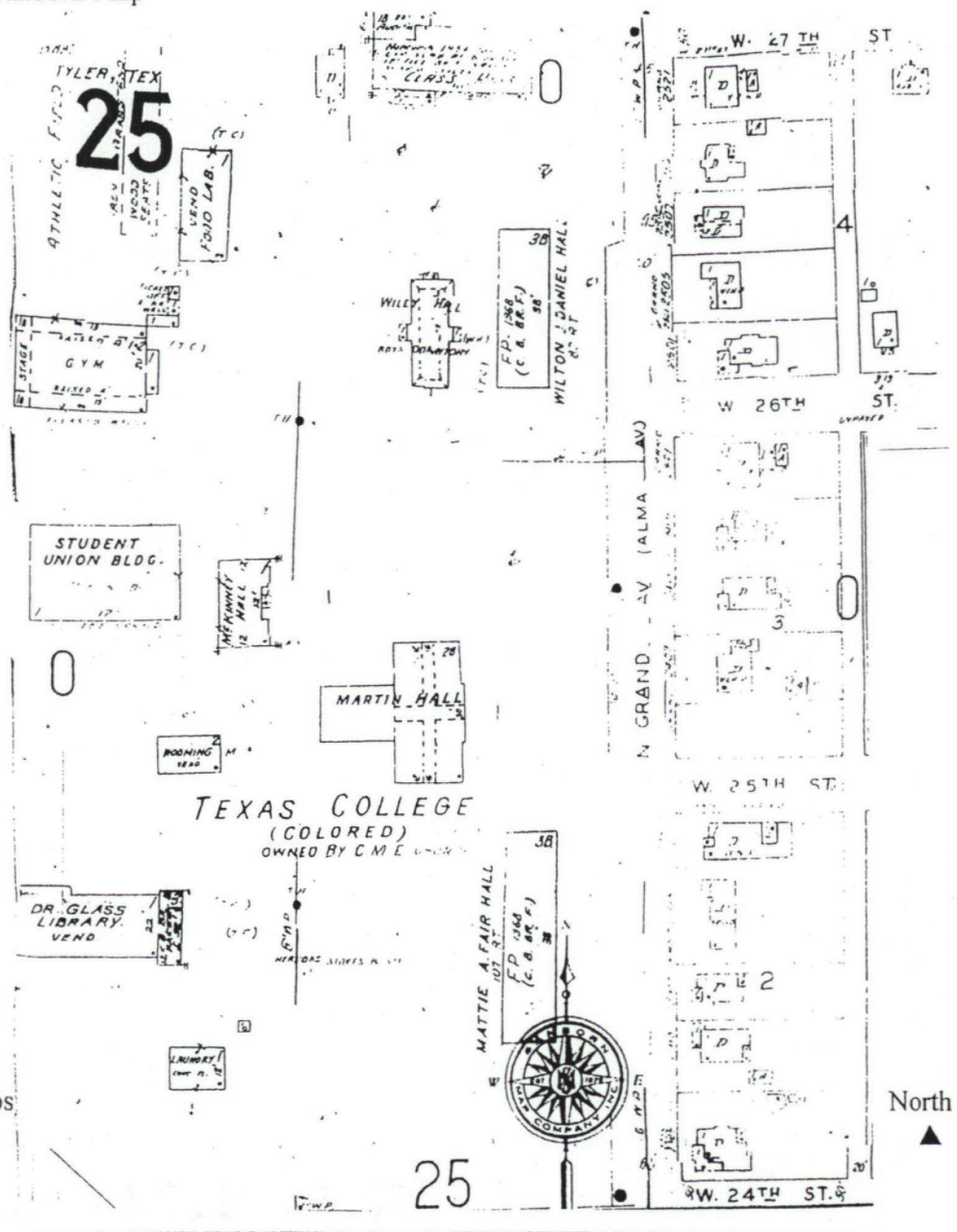
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Section number FIGURE Page 36

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 6: 1938/1970 Sanborn Map



Source: Sanborn Maps  
No Scale



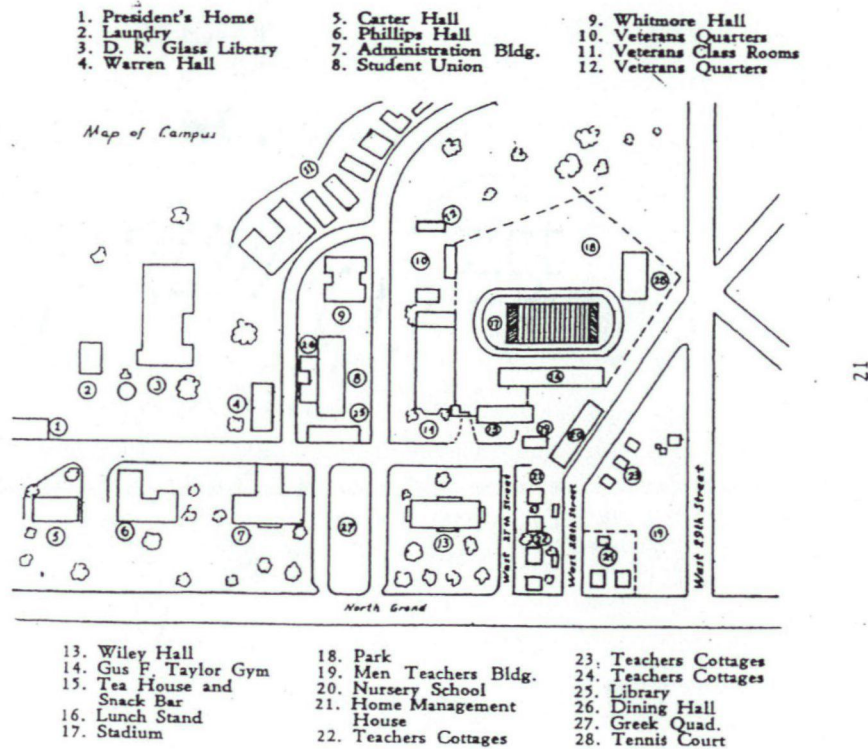
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Section number FIGURE Page 37

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 7: Texas College Site Plan, ca. 1952



Source: Student Handbook, Texas College  
No Scale

North  
→



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number    FIGURE    Page 38

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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Figure 8: D. R. Glass Library, n.d.



Source: Texas College Archives.



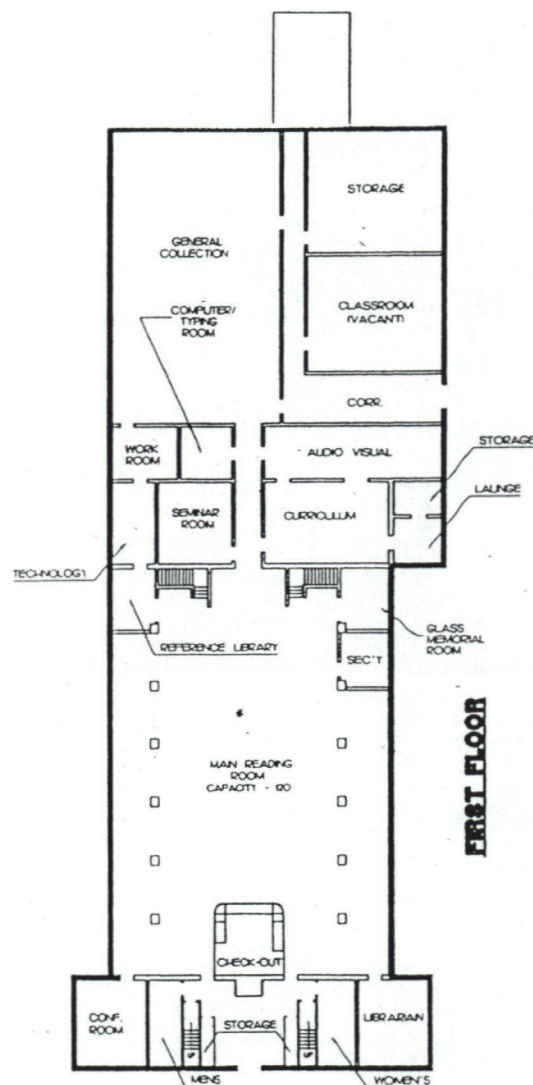
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number FIGURE Page 39

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

**Figure 9: First Floor Plan**



Source: Sinclair & Wright, Architects

North



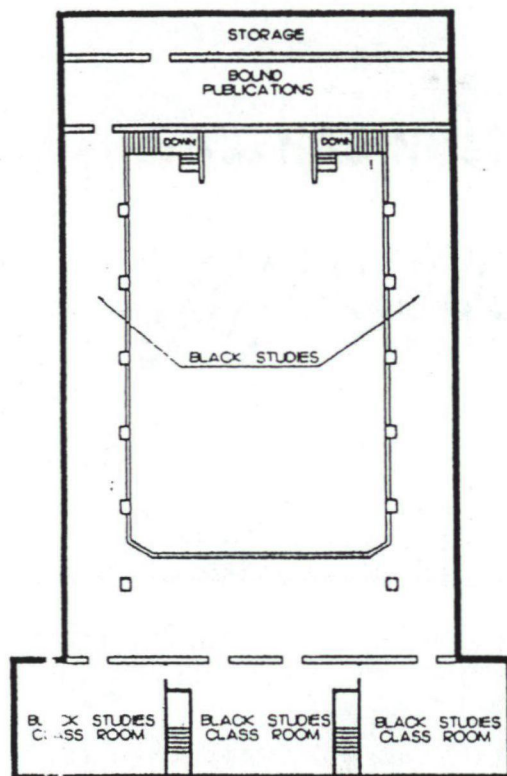
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Section number FIGURE Page 40

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 10: Second Floor and Third Floor Plans



**SECOND FLOOR**



**THIRD FLOOR**

Source: Sinclair & Wright, Architects

North  
→



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National Park Service

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number FIGURE Page 41

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

**Figure 11:** Interior, Library Reading Room, Summer 1950.



Source: Texas College Archives

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number FIGURE Page 42

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 12: Tips for Proper Student Attire, 1952

# BEST BIBS

EVENT	DRESS	HAT
Classes	Skirts, sweaters, blouses, wool or cotton dresses	Scarf
Football Games	Suit, dressy wool dress	Yes
Basketball	Casual wool dress, good-looking sweater & skirt	Scarf
Shows—Dates	Dressy dress	Scarf, if needed
Shows—Just us Girls	School clothes or dress-up	Scarf, if needed
Banquets	Dressy dress or formal (it depends)	No
Social, Formal and Semi-Formal	A long one—floor or ballerina	Horrors!
Socials—Informal	Dressy street length dress	No, never
Social, Mixers and Howdies	Sweater and skirt, casual wool or cotton dress	Will your curls come out?
Teas, Receptions	Dressy dress or formal (all depends)	Yes
Sunday	Very best dress or suit	By all means
Picnics	Jeans, shirts, slacks	Kerchief

No dress is complete without that big Texas smile. Keep your make-up straight, but don't do it over right there in public. Give yourself the once over lightly each week—nails, hair, eyebrows.

Be on your toes, Texans.

# AND TUCKERS

SHOES	PURSE	GLOVES	COAT
Loafers, Saddles	Maybe, if small	Big fuzzy mits or knit gloves	Raincoat, jacket, heavy coat
Heels, hose	Small	Warm	What about the weather?
Flats	Be careful, easy to lose	Yes	Warm one
Heels, hose	Maybe	Weather?	Perhaps, rather dressy
Flats or heels	No	Could be	School coat
Hose, heels	If needed	If needed	Dressy jacket or coat
High or low heels, hose, dressy flats	Yes, don't clutter his pockets	Mits or are you hands cold?	Dressy jacket or coat
	If needed	Weather?	Weather?
Flats	No	O. K.	Sport coat
Heels, hose	Sure	Yes	Dressy, if needed
Heels, hose	Natch	Yes	Your best
Sport, saddles	Pass	Hands cold?	If any, jacket

## For Men Only

You will need one black or navy suit for use at semi-formal in addition to the regular suits, shirts, shoes, etc.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number FIGURE Page 43

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

Figure 13: Dominion R. Glass (1895-1968), n.d.



Source: Texas College Archives

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number FIGURE Page 44

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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Figure 14: Willie Lee Campbell Glass (1910-1999), n.d.



Source: Texas College Archives



**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number PHOTO Page 45

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College  
Tyler, Smith County, Texas

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**PHOTO INVENTORY**

D. R. GLASS LIBRARY AT TEXAS COLLEGE  
TYLER, SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS  
DIANE ELIZABETH WILLIAMS, PHOTOGRAPHER  
MAY AND NOVEMBER 2005  
ORIGINAL NEGATIVES ON FILE WITH THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**PHOTO 1 OF 3:** East and north elevations looking southwest.

**PHOTO 2 OF 3:** West elevation looking east.

**PHOTO 3 OF 3:** Interior, main reading room, looking northwest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Glass, D.R., Library at Texas College  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Smith

DATE RECEIVED: 1/23/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/13/07  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/28/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/08/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000128

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3-7-07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





D.R. GLASS LIBRARY AT TEXAS COLLEGE  
2404 N. GRAND  
TYLER, SMITH CO. TX  
Photo 1 of 3











D. R. GLASS LIBRARY at TEXAS COLLEGE

2404 N. GRAND

TYLER, SMITH CO, TX

Photo 3 of 3

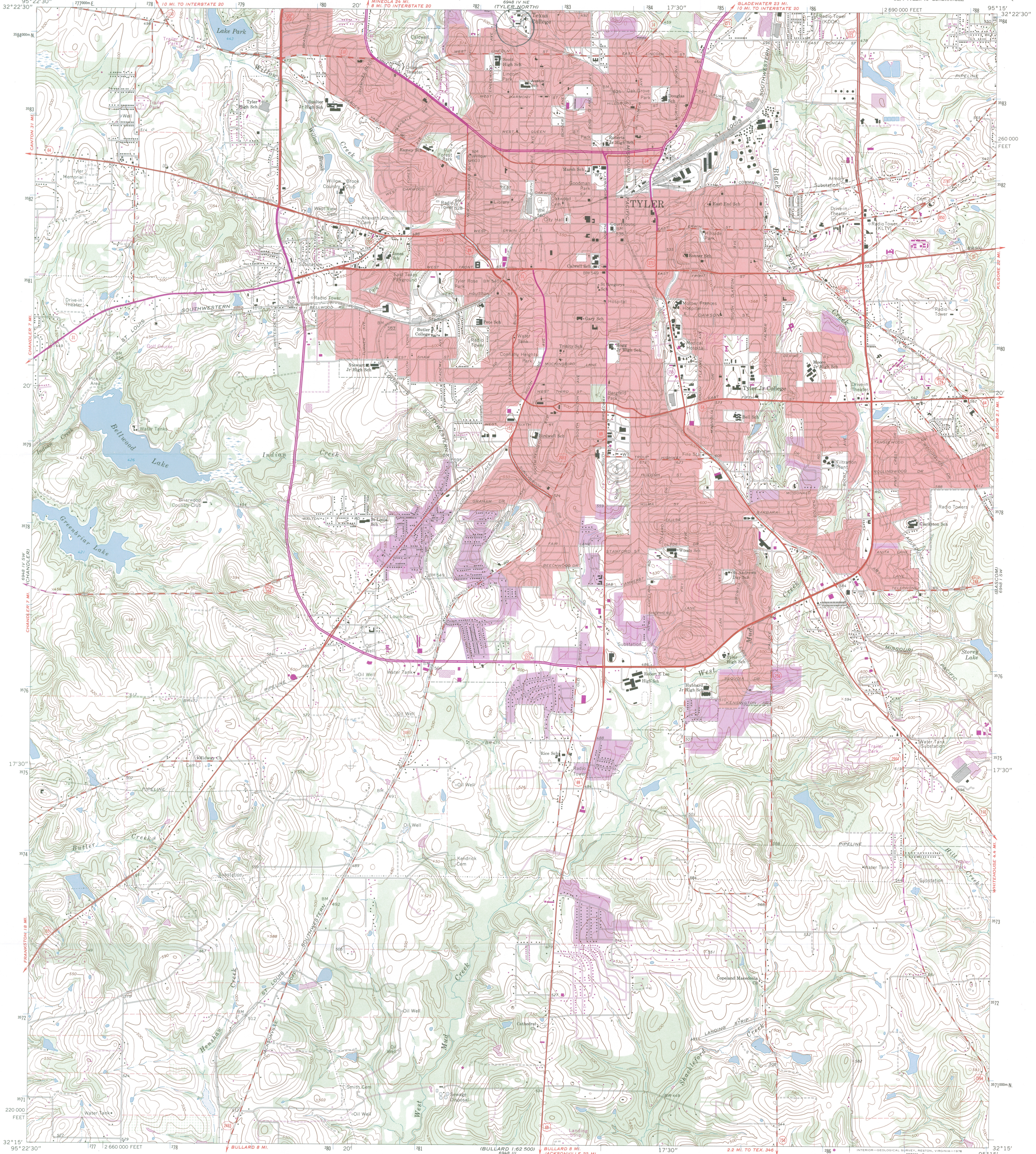




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

GLASS LIBRARY AT TEXAS COLLEGE  
2404 N. GRAND AVENUE  
TYLER, SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS  
UTM 15 282446E 3584003N

TYLER SOUTH QUADRANGLE  
TEXAS—SMITH CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SE/4 TYLER 15' QUADRANGLE



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1966

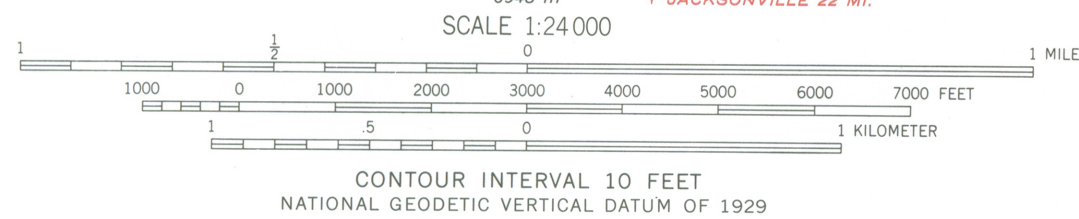
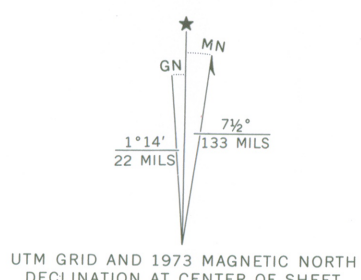
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,  
north central zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1973. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

**MILLER BLUEPRINT CO.**  
P.O. BOX 2055 75768 501 W. 6TH 75701  
AUSTIN, TEXAS PH. #512-478-8792  
1-800-252-3469 FAX #512-474-7096

**TYLER SOUTH, TEX.**  
SE/4 TYLER 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3215—W9515/7.5

1966  
PHOTOREVISED 1973  
AMS 6948 IV SE—SERIES W82

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST







# TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Rick Perry • Governor

John L. Nau, III • Chairman

F. Lawrence Oaks • Executive Director

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*



TO: Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Gregory W. Smith, National Register Coordinator  
Texas Historical Commission

RE: D. R. Glass Library at Texas College, Tyler, Smith County, Texas

DATE: January 9, 2007

The following materials are submitted regarding:

D. R. Glass Library at Texas College, Tyler, Smith County, Texas

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original National Register of Historic Places form
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resubmitted nomination
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Property nomination form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photographs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USGS map
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence
	Other:

COMMENTS:

☐ SHPO requests substantive review

☐ The enclosed owner objections (do ☐) (do not ☐) constitute a majority of property owners

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_