Site No. 14

Photo No. 17

Name: Administration Building

Address: 1820 East 8th Street

Owner: Huston-Tillotson College
1820 East 8th Street
Austin, Texas

Original Use: College Administration

U.S.G.S. Quadrangle: Austin East, Texas, 1:24,000, 1966
Photorevised 1973

Historic Name: Administration Building

Date: 1914

Legal: A portion of Lot 7, Division B, Original City (Central portion of the Huston-Tillotson College Campus) as defined under "Legal Description," cont. sheet "all, 24A."

Acreage: Less than one

UTM Reference: 14/622920/3346660

Architectural Description:

Physical Condition: Fair

Date(s) of Alterations: Exterior not altered.

The Administration Building at Huston-Tillotson College is a raised, two-story, institutional structure over a full basement. The building was constructed of scored concrete block which was fabricated by industrial students at the college; the design is a modified Prairie Style. The siting of the structure on the side of a hill is dramatic, and the sense of verticality which is imparted by setting and design is reinforced by the presence of tall cedars placed near the two main entrances.

The main entrances to the building are located on the northeast and southeast corners where stairs rise to gabled entrance porches. On the northwest and southwest corners, shed-like porches overhang the two basement openings. Basement walls are constructed of cast-in-place cement which has been heavily stuccoed and which projects out from the face of the wall. Windows are double-hung, four-over-four sash with a transom awning window at the top of each opening. A horizontal concrete band runs around the perimeter of the building like a tie beam at the head of the windows on the first and second stories. A simple frieze is located under a projecting eave, and the hipped roof is covered with metal. Two tall chimneys which rise well above the roof line are located at the southwest and northwest corners.

The Administration Building has been unused for a number of years and has suffered interior vandalism as a result. Many noteworthy features, however, remain intact, including free-standing cast-iron columns and much pressed-tin decorative ceiling.
Beginning at a point at the northeast corner of the intersection of East 7th Street with Chalmers Street, thence along the east side of Chalmers Street 712 feet N22° 51'E, thence 220 feet east to the southeast corner of the Administration Building for a place of beginning. Thence around the perimeter of the Building with a line 10 feet parallel to and outside of the exterior walls so as to include the sidewalk which is located on the east-southeast facade of the Building. See also attached Topographic Map of Huston-Tillotson College East Campus, Austin, Texas, surveyed November 14, 1953, revised January 28, 1963, by Orin E. Metcalfe, Civil Engineer, Austin, Texas (EXHIBIT A).
Significance:

Period: 1900–

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Education, Industry

Huston-Tillotson College is a coeducational liberal-arts and sciences college which was formed by the merger of Samuel Huston College and Tillotson College in 1952. In 1914, when the Administration Building was constructed, the campus at 1820 East 8th Street was known simply as Tillotson Collegiate and Normal Institute.

While Tillotson College was created to provide Negroes with a strong liberal arts education, a large part of the pedagogical program emphasized industrial and technical training. A facility for teaching industrial classes had been constructed by 1887, and Evans Industrial Hall was largely completed by 1912.

Tillotson College made no secret of its interest in manual training and the Administration Building was a direct product of that interest. Constructed in 1914 by students trained on campus, the building was made of materials manufactured by students on the College grounds. The building derives its significance not only from the fact that it is a fine institutional example of modified Prairie style, but also because, with Evans Industrial Hall, it is a three-dimensional representation of the pragmatic philosophy of industrial arts which typified Negro education in the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
<table>
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Administration Building (East Austin MRA)
Travis County
TEXAS

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Substantive Review:

resubmission
n Nomination by person or local government
owner objection
appeal

Substantive Review:

sample
request
appeal
NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Nomination returned for:

technical corrections cited below
Substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category
Ownership
Public Acquisition
Status
Accessible
Present Use

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?

yes
no

7. Description

Condition

excellent
good
fair
deteriorated
ruins
unexposed

Check one

unaltered
altered

Check one

original site
moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

summary paragraph
completeness
clarity
alterations/integrity
dates
boundary selection
8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property ________________
Quadrangle name ________________
UTM References

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please specify the patron of lot / being nominated.

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

☐ Maps
☐ Photographs
☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed Linda McClelland Date 9/17/85 Phone: 202-343-9536

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Administration Building (East Austin MRA)
Travis County
TEXAS

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Substantive Review

□ resubmission
□ nomination by person or local government
□ appeal

Substantive Review: □ sample □ request □ appeal □ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Significant for architectural style and Swedberg materials - car in place cement, object was manufactured through school's predominant mechanical arts program. Also significant for its role as a model for associate schools in party curriculum, industrial arts focus, and education for blacks in Austin. Substantive reasons discussed below.

Nomination returned for:

□ technical corrections cited below
□ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category
Ownership
Public Acquisition

Status
Accessible
Present Use

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? □ yes □ no

7. Description

Condition
□ excellent □ deteriorated
□ good □ ruins
□ fair □ unexposed

Check one
□ unaltered
□ altered

Check one
□ original site
□ moved date __________

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

□ summary paragraph
□ completeness
□ clarity
□ alterations/integrity
□ dates
□ boundary selection

3-14-1986: corrected by adding "as defined under Legal Description cont. sheet "all, 24A" to p. all 24A as leg" adding a new Legal Description of boundary as p. "all, 24A" herein.

Lee Johnson
8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____________
Quadrangle name _____________
UTM References

☐ Verbal boundary description and justification

Please specify the portion of lot 7 being nominated.

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Title Date

13. Other

☐ Maps
☐ Photographs
☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Linda McClelland

Signed Linda McClelland Date 4/17/85 Phone: 202-343-7536

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet
Adminstration Building (East Austin MRA)  
Travis County  
TEXAS

Working No. 8/14/85
Fed. Reg. Date: 5/12/86
Date Due: 5/12/86
Action: ACCEPT 5/12/86

Determined Eligible
RETURN
REJECT

Federal Agency: 

Reviewer's comments: 

Recom./Criteria: Eligible
Reviewer: 
Discipline: 
Date: 5/12/86

see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

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<tr>
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</table>

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

<table>
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<td>fair</td>
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

- excellent
- deteriorated
- ruined
- unexposed
- original site
- altered
- moved
date
8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
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☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

UTM References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

☐ Maps
☐ Photographs
☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed Date Phone:

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Travis

DATE RECEIVED: 9/24/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/05/93
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/21/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/08/93
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 86003845

NOMINATOR: STATE

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

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWER
DISCIPLINE
DATE

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

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

__________________________ Phone ________

Signed ____________________ Date ________
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _______ Page _______

Administration Building (East Austin MRA) Travis County Texas

OWNER OBJECTION WITHDRAWN

APPROVED 10/21/53

[Signature]
Historic Resources of East Austin
Austin, Travis County, Texas

Site No. 14, Administration Bldg., Huston-Tillotson College, 1820 East 8th Street
Photo by Joe Freeman, 1984, neg. with Texas Historical Commission, Austin

Southeast view
camera facing northwest

photo 17 of 60
Please refer to the map in the Multiple Property Cover Sheet for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000840
May 30, 1985

Mr. Peter Flagg Maxson
Chief Architectural Historian/Nominations
Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Mr. Maxson:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of May 7, 1985 regarding the possible listing of the Old Administration Building at Huston-Tillotson on the National Register of Historic Places. I appreciate your written response of my questions.

I have discussed this matter thoroughly with my Senior Administrators and we are in agreement that it will be in the best interest of Huston-Tillotson College to not have the Old Administration Building so listed. Therefore, this is an official letter of objection from Huston-Tillotson College, notarized in accordance with your instructions.

With every good wish, I am

Very sincerely yours,

John Q. Taylor King
President

JQTK:d
STATE OF TEXAS:
COUNTY OF TRAVIS:

On this, the 30th day of May, 1985, personally appeared
Dr. John Q. Taylor King, President of Huston-Tillotson College, a
person well known to me, who signed the foregoing instrument register­
ing the official objection of Huston-Tillotson College to the listing of
the Old Administration Building, on the campus of Huston-Tillotson
College, on the National Register of Historic Places.

[Signature]
Notary Public
in and for Travis County, Texas

My Commission expires __Jan. 31, 1989__.
### National Register of Historic Places

**Inventory—Nomination Form**

**United States Department of the Interior**

**National Park Service**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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**Date/Signature**

- Keeper: [Signature]
- Attest: [Signature]

**Note:**
- Administration Building: **DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**
- Buratti Brothers: **DOE/OWNER OBJECTION**
- Industrial Structure & Schulze House: Determined Eligible
- Schulze, Walter, House and Industrial Structure: Entered in the National Register
September 10, 1993

Mr. James W. Steely
Director of National Register Programs
The Texas Historical Commission
P. O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Mr. Steely:

Huston-Tillotson College, Austin, Texas, hereby withdraws our owner objection, dated August, 1985, to have the Old Administration Building listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Old Administration Building on the Huston-Tillotson College campus in Austin, Texas, is now zoned historic by the City of Austin. In 1985, the Texas Historic Commission nominated this structure for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. At that time, the College requested that the Commission refrain from filing the nomination.

Under the leadership of Bishop Ernest T. Dixon, Jr., a trustee of the College and a Huston-Tillotson College alumnus, a special task force of the board has been convened to discuss the disposition of the Old Administration Building. Mr. Dick Ryan and Ms. Anice Reed of the Commission have offered their encouragement to the College to seek placement of the structure on the national register.

I appreciate the support and interest of the Texas Historical Commission in recognizing the special place this building occupies in the history of Austin, the State of Texas and the United States.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Mills
Vice President for
Institutional Advancement

JEM:h

cc: Bishop Ernest T. Dixon, Jr.
President Joseph T. McMillan, Jr.
This is to acknowledge that the statement and signature of said instrument and person to be correct.

Shirley J. Hutt  
Notary Public

State of Texas  
County of: Travis
16 September 1993

Huston-Tillotson College
ATTN: Mr. Joseph E. Mills
Vice President for Institutional Advancement
900 Chicon Street
Austin, Texas 78702

Mr. Mills,

We are in receipt of your 10 September letter, withdrawing the 1985 owner objection to listing your Old Administration Building in the National Register of Historic Places.

It is a pleasure to inform you that upon our notification to the Keeper of the National Register, at the National Park Service in Washington, D.C., the Huston-Tillotson Old Administration Building should assume its rightful place in the National Register. We will inform you of the formal listing as soon as possible, and at that time prepare a press release, with your approval, of this important event.

As you know through discussions with other THC staff members, we are highly interested in the preservation of this building. Our architectural expertise is at your disposal to examine rehabilitation possibilities for the building. We hope to meet you at the campus for a site visit soon.

Our staff has been involved with examining the state's ethnic and broad socio-economic history for some time. One conclusion from our work is that research on and preservation of landmarks like your Old Administration Building is essential to African American history, for example, because written records are few and buildings tell quite a story when no other is available. The fact that the Administration Building and the Evans Industrial Building were constructed with student and faculty labor makes these two buildings of paramount importance to the history of your college and African American education in general.

We appreciate our renewed correspondence and confirmation of our common goal to preserve this historic landmark and a large part of the college's history. Please let us know when we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

James W. Steely, Director
National Register Programs

Cc: Curtis Tunnell
    Anice Read
    Dick Ryan

Bishop Ernest T. Dixon, Jr.
President Joseph T. McMillan, Jr.

The State Agency for Historic Preservation
September 21, 1993

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Park Service
National Register Division
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Carol:

As the designated authority under the National Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that the Old Administration Building of Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, Travis County, Texas, meets National Register criteria and request that the property be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Curtis Tunnell
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission

CT/mc
Enclosures