

# **National Register Eligibility Assessment Worksheet**

# NATIONAL REGISTER ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

## HISTORIC EQUAL RIGHTS GRANTS

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*Instructions: All Historic Equal Rights applicants must complete this form. To qualify, National Register eligibility must be directly associated with the struggle to achieve equal rights as outlined in [Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites](#) (NPS, 2008). Photos, maps, or inventory forms may be provided to support the eligibility assessment. Applicants are encouraged to consult with their respective State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office early in the process for additional eligibility evaluation guidance.*

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### 1. Property Name

Street 1

Street 2

City

County

State

ZIP Code

Name of Historic District (if applicable)

National Register Information System Number (if known)

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### 2. Description of physical appearance

*Provide brief description of property and/or district, including features directly associated with the struggle to achieve equal rights.*

Date of Building (mm/dd/yyyy)

Date(s) of Alteration(s), if Applicable(mm/dd/yyyy)

Description of Physical Appearance (Attach additional forms if needed)

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### **3. Statement of Significance**

*Provide brief statement justifying the significance of the building and/or district in association with the struggle to achieve equal rights and the dates of any specific events. If previously determined eligible note type of survey and dates. (Attach additional forms if needed)*

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#### 4. Eligibility Certification (check one)

Property individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places or as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) for its association with equal rights significance.

Name of individual listing

Date of Listing(mm/dd/yyyy)

Contributing resource to a National Register or National Historic Landmark Historic District for its association with equal rights significance.

Name of District

Date of Listing (mm/dd/yyyy)

Preliminary determination that a property individually listed in the National Register or as an NHL contributes to the potential equal rights significance of the site, though currently not listed for that association.

Name of individual listing

Date of Listing (mm/dd/yyyy)

Preliminary determination that a property within a National Register or NHL Historic District contributes to the potential equal rights significance of the district, though currently not listed for that association.

Name of district

Date of Listing (mm/dd/yyyy)

Preliminary determination that a property is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register for its association with the struggle to achieve equal rights.

Name of site

Source/date of determination  
of eligibility (mm/dd/yyyy)

Preliminary determination that a property within a potential National Register historic district contributes to the equal rights significance.

Name of district

Source/date of determination  
of eligibility (mm/dd/yyyy)

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

1. Historic Name (s) 2503 West Walnut Street Original Owner John Glock		22. ADD/County JF-L-W-R - <del>2557</del> 557	
Present Name Bourgard College of Music & Art		23. Zoning Classification Magisterial District	
3. Owner's Name Bourgard College of Music & Art		24. U.S.G. S. Quadrant (15'/75')	
4. Owner's Address 2503 West Muhammad Ali Blvd., Louis./40212		25. UTM Reference Zone Easting Northing	
5. Location 2503 West Muhammad Ali Blvd., Louis./40212		26. Prehistoric Site Object Historic Site Structure Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Open to Public Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7. Visible from road Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	8. Ownership Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local State Federal	
9. Local Contact/Organization Louisville Landmarks Commission 727 West Main Street		27. District Name: Yes No Russell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Site Plan with North Arrow 		28. Significance Evaluation	
		29. Status Date National Landmark National Register Landmark Certificate Kentucky Survey Local Landmark HABS/HAER	
		30. Theme Primary Secondary Other	
		31. Endangered Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		32.	
11. Architect Unknown		12. Builder Unknown	
13. Date 1892		14. Style Victorian	
15. Original Use Residence		16. Present Use Residence	
17. Condition Interior Exterior Good		18. Description This three story brick residence was designed in the Victorian style. A textured stone lintel tops the entrance to a recessed doorway. A tripartite window with an arched transom occupies the first floor. Incised, molded stone lintels above the first and second story windows are linked by stone belt courses. A variation of the Palladian window accents the roofline of the third story gable. A pressed-tin cornice (over)	
19. History Number 2503 (old no. 2525) was built in 1892 by John Glock. In 1928, it became Bourgard School of Music, by will of Miss Caroline B. Bourgard.		ATTACH 	
20. Significance This house is representative of the architectural style of the period in this area.		Roll No. <u>44</u> Picture No. <u>22</u> Direction _____	
21. Source of Information Caron Annual Directories of the City of Louisville, 1890-1910.		33. Tape No. Negative No. 34. Prepared by: Hugh Foshee/Researcher	
35. Organization Louisville Landmarks Commission		36. Date 6/6/79	
37. Revision Dates		38. Staff Review	

18. with pellet molding crowns the house. An original side porch has turned posts similar to those at 2417, built three years earlier.
21. Jefferson County (KY) Will Book 44, p. 93 (1928).

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## History of the Bourgard College of Music and Art

Caroline Bourgard established the Bourgard College of Music and Art in March 1927 at the Phillis Wheatley Branch of the YWCA, a branch for African Americans. Caroline Bourgard (1862-1928) was a longtime music educator and the first Louisville public school supervisor of music (**Figure 1**). In 1908, she helped organize the Louisville Music Teachers Association, and in 1916, she was instrumental in establishing the Kentucky Music Teachers Association. In 1921, she was an organizer of the first Louisville Woman's Chorus, and she was author of many music textbooks.<sup>1</sup> Bourgard felt strongly that music should be available to every student. According to Anna Lauderdale Huddleston, Bourgard read an article in the newspaper about a young African American man named G.C. Coxe who was seen sketching a Louisville building for a class competition. The article spoke of "his dream and the absence of art in the studies" at Central High School, the school for African Americans he attended.<sup>2</sup> She was so affected by Mr. Coxe's story that she opened the Bourgard College of Music and Art "to provide quality art instruction for the talented black youngsters of the city."<sup>3</sup>



**Figure 1. Photograph of Caroline Bourgard.<sup>4</sup>**

The College was the first art school in Louisville for African American children. Bourgard personally supervised the education and was the school's first teacher. Unable to find African American teachers, she worked with Frederic Cowles, director of the Louisville Conservatory of Music, to secure graduates for part-time teaching. Bourgard wanted to ensure that good instructors would teach the children a variety of art disciplines. In April 1927, the College moved to 2503 W. Walnut Street (now Muhammad Ali Boulevard) in the Russell Neighborhood (see

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<sup>1</sup> John E. Kleber ed., *The Encyclopedia of Louisville* (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2001), 106; Gerald L. Smith, Karen Cotton McDaniel, and John A. Hardin, eds., *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2015), 58.

<sup>2</sup> Commentary by Anna Lauderdale Huddleston from, *Gloucester Caliman Coxe: A Retrospective: Rags and Wires, Sticks and Pantyhose Too*, (Louisville: Allen R. Hite Art Institute and Pan African Studies Department, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Louisville, November 17 – December 15, 1995); Wesley Sawyer Cunningham, *"A part of, rather than apart from": Louisville's black arts scene in the mid-twentieth century* (Louisville, Ky: Masters Thesis, University of Louisville, 2016).

<sup>3</sup> Unknown Author, "Black Artists Note Falling Barriers," *Courier-Journal*, March 16, 1975.

<sup>4</sup> Unknown Author, "Ex-Director Of Music In Schools Dies," *Courier-Journal*, August 4, 1928.

History of the Bourgard College Building below). After only being open for six weeks, the enrollment grew from eight to 36 pupils with five faculty members.<sup>5</sup> During the College's first year enrollment was about 150. When Bourgard died in August 1928 she left an endowment for the College, gifted the building to the College, and created a scholarship program for students to attend the College. Furthermore, Bourgard's will created a fund for aged, infirmed, and destitute teachers to provide housing (today it's known as the Kimbler-Bourgard Foundation); created scholarship funds for the Presbyterian Theological Seminary for the advancement of African American ministry; and left instructions for a portion of her estate to be used for missionary work among African American children of Kentucky.<sup>6</sup> After Bourgard's death, she was succeeded by Deans G.P. Bruner, Lola Jordan, Elizabeth Buford, McDaniel Bluit, and JoEtta Perkins.<sup>7</sup>

The Bourgard College of Music and Art was established during Jim Crow-era Louisville. Schools were segregated and African American schools were not as well funded. Thus, they lagged behind in supplies, equipment, and building construction. The 1904 Day Law outlawed integrated higher education in Kentucky, which further narrowed the education opportunities for African Americans.<sup>8</sup> Caroline Bourgard saw the discrepancies in the educational opportunities of African Americans and by creating the College tried to assist. Despite the Jim Crow-era laws that blocked African Americans from many opportunities, the students of the College were successful in their careers and lives. The College continued to thrive from 1930 through the 1960s and "helped produce many of Louisville's most popular African American musicians."<sup>9</sup> Former piano instructor Carolyn Kaufman noted that the school was "the only facility of its kind in the black community."<sup>10</sup> Parents sent their children to the College, in part, to see successful, talented black teachers and professionals, which during the 1990s were not as common in the Louisville school systems.<sup>11</sup>

Through the 1960s to the 2000s the school "has peaked and slumped along with the fortunes of Louisville's black community."<sup>12</sup> Furthermore, the integration of schools and educational programs made the school less vital and more of an option. Many former students moved on to teach in the integrated school programs. In the 1990s, there were many newspaper articles about the school's need for financial assistance to make building repairs and purchase supplies.<sup>13</sup> Unfortunately, the school closed around 2017 and the building became vacant. The school had always served as a safe place for African American children as well as a place for them to learn and explore things they could not in school or anywhere else in Louisville. In Louisville's history of the struggle for equals rights, the Bourgard College of Music and Art is an important place that made a large impact on the African American community for almost a century. Despite many racist laws that tried to hold them back, African Americans in Louisville could pursue educations and careers in the arts and thrive.

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<sup>5</sup> John E. Kleber ed., *The Encyclopedia of Louisville* (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2001), 642.

<sup>6</sup> Unknown Author, "Education to Benefit in Will," *Courier-Journal*, August 21, 1928.

<sup>7</sup> John E. Kleber ed., *The Encyclopedia of Louisville* (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2001), 642.

<sup>8</sup> Gerald L. Smith, Karen Cotton McDaniel, and John A. Hardin, eds., *The Kentucky African American Encyclopedia* (Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2015), 277.

<sup>9</sup> Cynthia Wilson, "Touting 'well-kept secret'," *Courier-Journal*, January 15, 1992.

<sup>10</sup> Clarence Matthews, "Concerted Effort," *Courier-Journal*, March 3, 1993.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Courtney Barrett, "Seeking to be noted," *Courier-Journal*, March 4, 1980.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

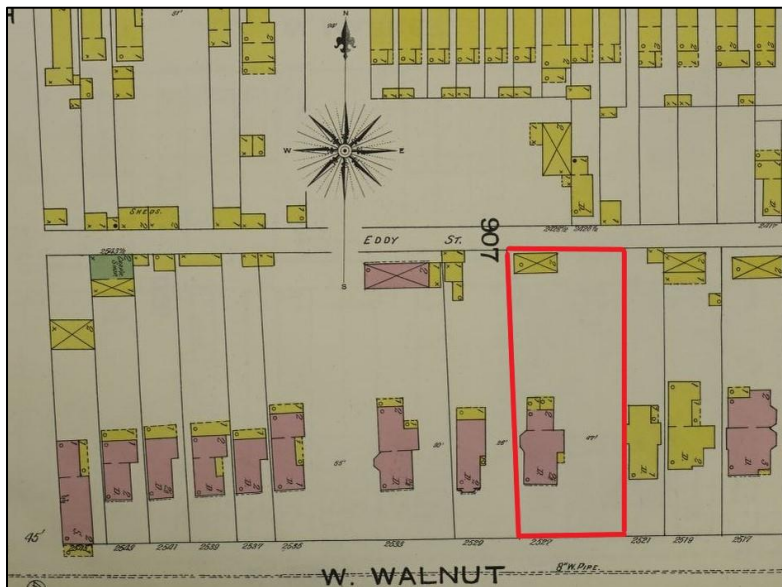


## History of the Bourgard College Building

The building in which the Bourgard College was located was first constructed in 1892 for John Glock. He was a German immigrant who worked as a chair merchant. He lived in the house with his wife Regina (nee Frick); their son Frederick; and their daughter Kate. The 1892 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map shows the footprint and location of the house (**Figure 2**). After John passed in 1906, Regina remained in the home with her daughter Kate, son-in-law William Heimerdinger, daughter Mary, and grandson William. After Regina's death in 1923, the sisters remained in the home until 1925 when the city directories show Green P. Hughes residing there. Hughes was the president of the Domestic Life and Accident Insurance Co., an African American business.

Hughes's presence at this house demonstrates the transition of the Russell Neighborhood from predominately white to predominately African American. As white Louisvillans migrated east to newer residences, wealthy and educated African Americans moved into the neighborhood. This shift in population occurred early in the century with the African American community well established in Russell as early as 1925. The major east-west streets in Russell contained large, expensive residences were some of the earliest purchased by black professionals. From 1910 through 1930 the other streets, which contained more modest, working-class residences, saw a more gradual shift in population. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the quality of housing increased from east to west. This pattern remains the same today as does the area's predominantly African American population.<sup>14</sup>

In March 1927, Bourgard purchased Green P. Hughes's home for the College.<sup>15</sup> Hughes moved next door to 2501 W. Walnut Street (now Muhammad Ali Boulevard). The College remained in the building until around 2017 when it closed, and the building became vacant. The Louisville and Jefferson County Landbank Authority purchased the property from the Bourgard College of Music and Art on February 26, 2020.<sup>16</sup>



**Figure 2. Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, Volume 3, Sheet 203, 1892 (red box shows property).**

<sup>14</sup> M.A. Allgeier, National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form for Russell Historic District, National Park Service, 1980.

<sup>15</sup> Jefferson County, KY, Deed Book 1266, page 377 (1927).

<sup>16</sup> Jefferson County, KY, Deed Book 11636, page 964 (2020).

## References

- Allgeier, M.A. National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form for Russell Historic District, National Park Service, 1980.
- Barrett, Courtney. "Seeking to be noted," *Courier-Journal*, March 4, 1980.
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- Cunningham, Wesley Sawyer. "*A part of, rather than apart from*": Louisville's black arts scene in the mid-twentieth century, Masters Thesis, University of Louisville, 2016.
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- Wilson, Cynthia. "Touting 'well-kept secret'," *Courier-Journal*, January 15, 1992.



**ANDY BESHEAR**  
GOVERNOR

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**CRAIG A. POTTS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

January 7, 2021

Ms. Savannah Darr  
Planning & Design Coordinator  
Planning & Design Services, Department of Develop Louisville  
444 South Fifth Street, Suite 300  
Louisville, KY 40202

RE: John Glock House/Bourgard School of Music and Art (JFWR557)  
2503 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky  
State-Level Determination of Eligibility, National Register of Historic Places

Dear Ms. Darr:

The John Glock House (JFWR557), 2503 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., Louisville, Jefferson County is a contributing building to the Russell Historic District (NRIS # 80001617). The Russell Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on May 7, 1980. The period of significance is 1800 to presumably 1930 and the area of significance is architecture, Black history and education.

However, as noted in the additional documentation presented to KHC on January 6, 2021, the Russell Historic District nomination doesn't tell the full story of the John Glock House. In April 1927, the Bourgard College of Music and Art moved into 2503 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd and for the next four decades provided a place where the African American community could pursue education and careers in the arts and thrive.

Therefore the John Glock House//Bourgard School of Music and Art appears to be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion A for its association with events and activities as a school of art and music for Louisville's African American children from 1927 to 1960's.

The NRHP process consists of four major steps—determination of eligibility, preparing a National Register nomination form, presenting the completed National Register form to the National Register Review Board, and final submission of the nomination to National



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Park Service for review and listing. Listing on the NRHP can take a year or more depending on the complexity and size of the property being nominated.

My colleague, Lisa Thompson, National Register Coordinator is available to answer questions and provide instructions on completing the form. She will be in touch with you regarding next steps in the nomination process. She can also be reached at 502-892-3609 or at [lisam.thompson@ky.gov](mailto:lisam.thompson@ky.gov).

Sincerely,



Craig A. Potts  
Executive Director and  
State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Mayor Greg Fischer, Metro Louisville  
Louisville and Jefferson County Landbank Authority