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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name University of Kansas East Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Oread Avenue, Jayhawk Boulevard, Lilac Lane, Sunnyside Avenue, Pearson Place, Louisiana Street, and W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street

N/A
N/A

 not for publication  
city or town Lawrence vicinity  
state Kansas code KS county Douglas code 045 zip code 66045

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide   X   local

Patrick Zolner DSHPO 11-19-13  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

    other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Joe Edson H. Beall 1-8-14  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
14	1	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
1	2	object
15	3	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/Education-related  
RELIGION/Religious facility  
LANDSCAPE/Street furniture/Object

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/Education-related  
RELIGION/Religious facility  
LANDSCAPE/Street furniture/Object

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/  
Classical Revival; Colonial Revival; Late Gothic Revival/Collegiate Gothic  
MODERN MOVEMENT

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE; CONCRETE  
walls: STONE; BRICK; CONCRETE  
roof: TERRA COTTA; ASPHALT  
other: TERRA COTTA

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### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

The University of Kansas East Historic District (District) encompasses roughly thirteen acres on the east side of the campus, about one mile southwest of the civic and commercial center of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas. The long, narrow District is bounded by Oread Avenue, Jayhawk Boulevard, and Lilac Lane on the west; Sunnyside Avenue on the south, Pearson Place and Louisiana Street on the east; and West 13<sup>th</sup> Street on the north. The west boundary of the District follows the east boundary of the adjacent University of Kansas Historic District.<sup>1</sup> The evolution of the residential, religious, and student-life facilities associated with the University of Kansas (KU) campus over a period of seventy-five years is evident in the variety of architectural styles and functional property types present in the District. The long, linear district contains fifteen buildings and three objects on roughly three blocks. All fifteen of the contributing resources were constructed between 1912 and 1963 and reflect several of the high-style residential architectural styles popular at the time of construction. The three non-contributing resources were constructed outside the period of significance, but should be re-evaluated when they reach fifty years of age. The District retains excellent integrity, clearly representing the historic functions of the buildings concentrated in an area designed to provide residential and cultural facilities to support the primary academic functions of the University.

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### **Narrative Description**

#### **Setting**

Large institutional residential buildings and smaller academic support buildings are equally distributed throughout the thirteen acres, each surrounded by varying amounts of greenspace. The boundary jogs slightly on the west side to exclude Spooner Hall (NR listed 7/15/1974) and include Danforth Chapel (#3, 1946). Another slight jog in the east boundary includes Sellards Scholarship Hall (#10, 1952). The north boundary jogs south of the building at the corner of Louisiana and W. 13<sup>th</sup> Streets. This building has no association with the University. The District is immediately adjacent to the core of the University on the west, containing all of the primary academic buildings and traditional cultural properties associated with the historic campus. The area immediately east of the District contains private sorority and fraternity houses as well as single-family and multi-family residences.

Only W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street cuts all the way through the District. Other small streets provide access to certain areas, but the majority of the buildings are accessible from the perimeter streets that comprise the boundaries. Alumni Place accesses the asphalt parking areas adjacent to Battenfeld Hall (#2), Pearson Hall (#8), and Sellards Hall (#10). The south end of Louisiana Street bears northeast to access University Guest House (#14) and Alumni Place Fountain (#1). The buildings on the east side of the District are typically oriented west towards the campus. Battenfeld Hall is the exception to this. Battenfeld is oriented east to face Pearson and Sellards, which are oriented west. Douthart Hall (#5) and Grace Pearson Hall (#9) all face Louisiana Street at the north end of the District.

The District generally slopes downward from west to east and from north to south, away from the crest of Mount Oread along Jayhawk Boulevard and Oread Avenue. Many of the buildings have more stories exposed on the east than on the west. Concrete walkways with concrete steps traverse the grassy lawns surrounding the buildings. The walks connect buildings, parking lots, and streets. The District is minimally landscaped, with small planting beds abutting the buildings or flanking the walkways. Mature deciduous and evergreen trees dot the landscape while flowers and small shrubs fill the planting beds.

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<sup>1</sup> The University of Kansas Historic District was listing in the National Register of Historic Places on April 16, 2013. That district focuses on the primary academic and landscape resources that form the core of the University of Kansas campus.

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### Design

The residential resources follow design trends for single-family dwellings. The earliest residence halls (1920s-30s), specifically Watkins Hall (#15, 1925) and its twin Miller Hall (#6, 1937), express the Neoclassical style using pedimented porticos and dormers and symmetrical façade organization. Later residence halls (1940s-50s) exhibit either the Colonial Revival style, as at Battenfeld (#2, 1940) and Sellards (#10, 1952) Scholarship Halls, or the pared down Neoclassical style with engaged columns and pediments, rather than three-dimensional porticos, as seen at Pearson (#8, 1945) and its twin Stephenson (#13, 1951) Scholarship Halls. Simplified elements of the Modern Movement aesthetic (1950s-60s), including banded windows or simply an emphasis on horizontal features are exhibited by the Sprague Apartments (#12, 1960) and Douthart (#5, 1945) and its twin Grace Pearson (#9, 1955) Scholarship Halls.

All of the residence halls are clad in brick, a common material choice for these styles, especially in the context of an institutional setting. Miller and Watkins are blonde brick, while the remaining residence halls are red brick. They are between two-and-a-half and three-stories in height, often with a basement. In many cases the basement level is at-grade on the east elevation due to the slope of the site. The roofs are gabled, hipped, or flat, depending on the style. Window configurations reflect the building styles, although many of the windows are not original.

Three additional resources reflect both the era in which they were constructed and their function. Watkins House (#16), constructed in 1912 as a private residence, also exhibits the Neoclassical style, with a large curved portico and two-story columns. Although the building is now part of the University, it maintains its private residential appearance as does University Guest House (#14, 1930). This early twentieth century vernacular dwelling has limestone walls and a red shingled roof that is compatible with the main campus design aesthetic.

Collegiate Gothic architecture was popular on university campuses across the country in the first half of the twentieth century. Simplified Gothic ornament, typically in the form of pointed arches, buttresses, and tracery, was applied to rectangular forms. Danforth Chapel (#3) exemplifies this style. It employs contemporary construction technology, rather than a load-bearing masonry structure. The style and materials used for Danforth Chapel are compatible with the academic buildings on the main campus.

The mid-twentieth century student-life buildings in the District are primarily rectangular masses with hipped or flat roofs. In keeping with the tenets of Modern Movement design, buildings from this period, such as Smith Hall (#11) and Wesley (#17), have minimal ornament and larger expanses of windows compared to surrounding earlier buildings executed in historical revival styles.

The three objects in the District were created at different times for different purposes. The Alumni Place Fountain (#1, 1953) embellishes an otherwise ordinary cul de sac. The cast stone urn rises from the center of the concrete pool. The bronze Moses statue (#7, 1982) stands in the sparsely landscaped courtyard adjacent to Smith Hall. The statue is a slightly abstract figure that directly references the stained glass window in Smith Hall which it faces. The Docking Family Gateway (#4, 2000) is a brick and concrete monument, fountain, and planting bed designed to mark the northeast entrance to the campus. Each object reflects the era in which it was created and its intended location.

The densely wooded hilltop campus has buildings of various heights. Building massing can vary significantly when viewed from different vantage points around or outside the District. From the bottom of either slope, buildings may seem much larger than they are or be completely obscured by landscape elements.

### Integrity

The District is the highly-intact concentrated area that contains the residential and student-life facilities for an institution of higher learning. The University of Kansas East Historic District retains all of the physical features that convey associations

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with its educational function: facilities to support the residential and spiritual needs of students and faculty. It retains excellent integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship. There are fourteen contributing buildings, including one secondary building, and one non-contributing building. Of the three objects in the District, one is contributing and two were constructed outside the period of significance.

The three non-contributing resources in the District were built or created within the past fifty years and do not exhibit exceptional significance to merit Criteria Consideration G. These resources should be reconsidered when they reach fifty years of age in order to assess their contribution to the historic contexts of the District and the on-going function of the University of Kansas. Smith Hall (#11, 1967) is the only building constructed outside the period of significance. The Moses Sculpture (#7, 1982) stands on the grounds of Smith Hall. The Docking Family Gateway (#4, 2000) marks the northeast entrance to campus.

The most common alterations to buildings in the District include the replacement of windows and doors. The new windows and doors typically fill the historic masonry openings, leaving fenestration patterns intact. Changes to building interiors updated finishes or reflect a new use or the installation of new technology. Non-historic additions are on the side or rear of contributing buildings. While these additions illustrate styles contemporary to the date of their construction, they also complement the massing and cladding materials of the original building. The most notable difference between historic buildings and their additions is the fenestration pattern.

#### Individual Resource Descriptions

##### **1. Alumni Place and Fountain**

Contributing Object  
1953

Architect: Erkins Studio

The circular cast-stone fountain has a low pool with two stacked cast stone urns at the center. The fountain stands at the center of a concrete patio and drive. The stone retaining wall along the west edge of the drive has an arched opening that leads to a set of steps up to the Watkins Hall (#15) property. The object retains integrity and exemplifies the tradition of landscape features as gifts and memorials, rendering it contributing to the character of the District.

##### **2. Battenfeld Hall**

Contributing Building  
1940

Architect: Payne, Morton and Field, Russell  
Colonial Revival

This three-story building has brick cladding and a gable roof with composition shingles. Stepped gabled parapets with interior chimneys cap the gabled roof one bay in from the north and south edges of the building. These end bays have flat roofs. The symmetrical front (east) facade has seven bays, each containing a single window flanked by fixed shutters. Protruding bands formed by courses of soldier bricks run between each story across the five center bays and then above the windows only on the end bays. The windows have flat soldier brick arches and brick sills. Double-hung replacement windows with simulated divided lights fill the historic masonry openings. A shallow eave articulated with dentils encircles the building. The center entry consists of a single paneled door with a simple pedimented surround. A small cupola rises from the center of the roof ridge. The north and south elevations have single windows flanking a single fire door at each story. Large metal fire escapes are attached to each of these facades. A small, one-story brick building is attached to the center of the west elevation. This building has a flat roof and continues the fenestration patterns and simple ornament of the primary building. Battenfeld Hall retains integrity and clearly conveys associations with its historic function and period of construction.

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**3. Danforth Chapel**

Contributing Building

Architect: Tanner, Edward W.

1946

Gothic Revival

This small one-story building has rubble limestone walls and a cross-gable roof with flat red tiles. A gabled portico projects westward from the north end of the west facade. The deep portico has timber posts and brackets. The north elevation contains a tripartite stained glass window with three peaked arches and smooth stone surrounds, and a raised stone parapet topped with a metal cross. The south elevation contains a single stained glass window with a stone surround. A one-story gabled wing extends east from the south end of the east elevation. The east and west elevations have rectangular multi-light casement windows with stone sills and lintels. This wing was constructed in 2007 and matches the exterior materials and fenestration patterns of the historic building. This building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**4. Docking Family Gateway**

Non-Contributing Object

Artist: Unknown

2000

A low rusticated stone wall with stone coping surrounds an area containing a fountain, planted shrubs, and square brick pylon trimmed with stone. The north and south sides of the pylon contain stone panels inscribed "The University of Kansas." A stone panel attached to the north end of the stone wall is inscribed "Docking Family Gateway." The oval-shaped object marks the north entrance to the campus on Oread Avenue. This object is less than 50 years of age and does not have exceptional significance to merit Criteria Consideration G. The object is therefore non-contributing, though its status should be re-evaluated when it does reach 50 years of age.

**5. Douthart Scholarship Hall**

Contributing Building

Architect: Coolidge, Raymond L.

1954

Modern/Modern Movement

This three-story rectangular building has red brick walls and a flat roof. The long front (east) elevation is divided into nine bays. Fenestration patterns define the bays with a loose grouping of three bays at each story. The first story has tripartite windows with narrow casements flanking a wider fixed pane at the center. These windows are inset within a stone frame with smooth stone spandrel panels beneath the window. The center of the first story contains a wide porch with metal posts supporting a flat roof. The facade has a wide single entry with flanking single-pane sidelights and transoms, a group of four narrow fixed windows, and a single small double-hung window. The second and third stories each contain three groups of double-hung windows flanking a Chicago style window. Continuous stone sills run beneath the windows at each story. The walls on either side of the windows have stacked courses of red and black brick. The rear (west) elevation has similar fenestration patterns without the brick and stone ornament. The center bays project outward slightly from the rear elevation. The building has non-historic replacement windows set within the original frames. Douthart Scholarship Hall is nearly identical to Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall (#9) to the north. This building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**6. Miller Hall**

Contributing Building

Architect: Williamson, Thomas

1937

Neoclassical Revival

This 2 1/2 story residence hall has buff brick walls and a side-gable roof with composition shingles. The symmetrical front (west) facade has a full-height entry porch with fluted Ionic columns supporting the large gabled pediment. Fluted Ionic pilasters attach to the wall beneath the portico. Single narrow windows flank the segmental arched entry. Rowlock brick bands frame the entry with its non-historic paneled door, flanking sidelights and wide fanlight. A stone name plate

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inscribed "Miller Hall" is centered above the entry, below a single window on the second story. The remaining front facade has two bays of single windows flanking the portico. The north and south elevations are symmetrical and have regular bays with single windows. The windows have brick sills and lintels, fixed shutters, and multi-light double-hung wood sashes. Interior brick chimneys rise from the north and south ends of the front (west) roof slope. Gabled dormers rise from the east and west roof slopes. The dormers have round-arched windows with lancet muntins. The L-shaped building has a two-story wing attached to the north end of the east elevation. The wing is clad in buff brick at the basement level and aluminum siding on the upper levels. Each elevation of the wing has bands of multi-light double-hung windows at each story. A one-story enclosed porch with multi-light casement windows and a flat roof is attached to the south end of the building. This small porch has a flat roof and a brick foundation. Due to the change in grade, the basement level is exposed on the rear (east) elevation. The property is landscaped similar to a large single-family dwelling. Miller Hall is nearly identical to Watkins Hall (#6) to the north. Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

#### **7. Moses Statue**

Artist: Tefft, Elden C.

Non-Contributing Object

1982

A bronze statue of a kneeling man is set on a cylindrical concrete base. A bronze plaque indicating the artist and donor is set in the ground in front of the statue. The statue stands in the small landscaped courtyard in front of Smith Hall (#11). This object is less than 50 years of age and does not have exceptional significance to merit Criteria Consideration G. The object is therefore non-contributing, though its status should be re-evaluated when it does reach 50 years of age.

#### **8. Pearson Scholarship Hall**

Architect: Coolidge, Raymond

Neoclassical Revival

Contributing Building

1945

This three-story building has red brick walls and a side-gable roof with composition shingles. The north and south ends of the rectangular building have gabled parapets with integrated chimneys. A stone beltcourse encircles the building above the first story, creating a one-story base. The base has brick quoins. The symmetrical front facade has three bays. The large center bay has elements that resemble a classical portico but are flat against the upper two stories of the facade. Two-story engaged columns are set beneath a flat entablature that runs beneath the gabled wall dormer that rises from the front roof slope. There are single windows at each story between the columns. The outer bays contain two single windows at each story. The first story has single windows with wood panels beneath each window. The center bay has stone lintels while the outer bays have fixed shutters. The center entry is recessed and has a simple wood surround. The side and rear elevations are also symmetrical and have punched window openings. The building has multi-light double-hung windows on the front and north elevations and 1/1 replacement windows on the south and east elevations. Due to the change in grade, the basement level is exposed on the east elevation. Pearson Scholarship Hall is nearly identical to Stephenson Scholarship Hall (#13) to the north. Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

#### **9. Pearson, Grace Scholarship Hall**

Architect: Coolidge, Raymond

Modern/Modern Movement

Contributing Building

1955

This three-story rectangular building has red brick walls and a flat roof. The long front (east) elevation is divided into nine bays. Fenestration patterns define the bays with a loose grouping of three bays at each story. The first story has tripartite windows with narrow casements flanking a wider fixed pane at the center. These windows are inset within a stone frame with smooth stone spandrel panels beneath the window. The center of the first story contains a wide porch with metal posts supporting a flat roof. The facade has a wide single entry with flanking single-pane sidelights and transoms, a group

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of four narrow fixed windows, and a single small double-hung window. The second and third stories each contain three groups of double-hung windows flanking a Chicago style window. Continuous stone sills run beneath the windows at each story. The walls on either side of the windows have stacked courses of red and black brick. The rear (west) elevation has similar fenestration patterns without the brick and stone ornament. The center bays project outward slightly from the rear elevation. The building has non-historic replacement windows set within the original frames. Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall is nearly identical to Douthart Scholarship Hall (#5) to the south. Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**10. Sellards Scholarship Hall**

Contributing Building

Architect: Coolidge, Raymond

1952

Colonial Revival

This three-story building has brick walls and a hipped roof with composition shingles. The symmetrical front (west) facade has three bays with the center bay projecting slightly and topped with a gabled wall dormer. The center bay contains the main entry with a circular portico set on slender columns. The flat roof of the portico has dentils and a metal balustrade. The windows above the entry are tripartite windows. The remaining windows in the center bay, outer bays, and secondary elevations are punched openings with brick sills and multi-light double-hung sashes. The center bay and the corners of the building have brick quoins. The gabled pediment has dentils and a semicircular decorative panel. Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**11. Smith Hall**

Non-Contributing Building

Architect: Marshall, Charles L.

1967

Modern/Modern Movement

This Modern Movement building has an irregular T-shaped footprint, is clad primarily in smooth limestone panels, and has a flat roof. The rectangular block at the north end of the building is two stories while a narrow one-story corridor connects this block to the smaller rectangular block at the south end. The main entrance is located in the connecting corridor and faces a small landscaped courtyard on the west. The west wall, with the centered aluminum storefront vestibule, is recessed under a flat canopy, supported by rectangular posts. A tall pylon clad in rectangular stone veneer has a concave southwest elevation and rises above the roofline at the intersection of the north block and the connector. The north facade is buff brick with vertical brick bands dividing the facade into irregular bays. The west bay contains a recessed entry with a small flat canopy. The remaining bays contain tripartite windows with lower hopper sashes. The spandrels between the windows are clad in smooth limestone panels. The south block has large sections of glazed wall with multiple fixed panes. A standing seam metal roof over the domed ceiling rises above the flat roofline on the south block. This building is less than 50 years of age and does not have exceptional significance to merit Criteria Consideration G. The building is therefore non-contributing, though its status should be re-evaluated when it does reach 50 years of age.

**12. Sprague Apartments**

Contributing Building

Architect: Marshall, Charles L.

1960

Modern/Modern Movement

This three-story building has a concrete foundation, red and dark brown brick walls, and a flat roof. The rectangular building has long north and south elevations, with narrow east and west elevations. Due to the change in grade, the entrance to the front (west) elevation is at the third story. A brick and concrete bridge with metal railings spans the slope. The main entrance has aluminum storefront door and sidelights and is recessed beneath a flat canopy. Decorative concrete panels clad the north façade of the entry. The north elevation has horizontal bands of dark brown brick at each

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story, framed at the top and bottom with limestone bands. This simple design continues around the building. The irregular bays on the long north elevation contain either a wide sliding metal window or a narrow window with awning sashes. The long south elevation has continuous recessed balconies at each story. The balconies have concrete decks and metal railings. Circulation cores at the southeast and southwest corners of the building access each end of the balconies. The recessed facades have single-door entries to the apartments and paired sliding windows. The building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**13. Stephenson Scholarship Hall**

Contributing Building

Architect: Coolidge, Raymond

1951

Neoclassical Revival

This three-story building has red brick walls and a side-gable roof with composition shingles. The north and south ends of the rectangular building have gabled parapets with integrated chimneys. A stone beltcourse encircles the building above the first story, creating a one-story base. The base has brick quoins. The symmetrical front facade has three bays. The large center bay has elements that resemble a classical portico but are flat against the upper two stories of the facade. Two-story engaged columns are set beneath a flat entablature that runs beneath the gabled wall dormer that rises from the front roof slope. There are single windows at each story between the columns. The outer bays contain two single windows at each story. The first story has single windows with wood panels beneath each window. The center bay has stone lintels while the outer bays have fixed shutters. The center entry is recessed and has a simple wood surround. The side and rear elevations are also symmetrical and have punched window openings. The building has multi-light double-hung windows on the front and north elevations and 1/1 replacement windows on the south and east elevations. Due to the change in grade, the basement level is exposed on the east elevation. Stephenson Scholarship Hall is nearly identical to Pearson Scholarship Hall (#8) to the south. Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**14. University Guest House**

Contributing Building

Architect: Smith, Verner F.

1930

Vernacular

This one-story house has limestone walls and a side-gable roof with red composition shingles. The dressed stone is set in random coursing. The front (east) elevation has a band of four windows and screened-in porch set on the exposed stone basement. The windows are 6/6 double-hung wood sashes. The opening has a steel lintel and a flat stone arch. The porch has wood posts and railings. The secondary elevations have single windows with similar configurations. A one-car garage with paired wood doors is integrated into the basement level on the north elevation. An exterior stone chimney is attached to the center of the south elevation. The building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**15. Watkins Hall**

Contributing Building

Architect: Williamson, Thomas

1925

Colonial Revival

This 2 1/2 story residence hall has buff brick walls and a side-gable roof with composition shingles. The symmetrical front (west) facade has a full-height entry porch with fluted Ionic columns supporting the large gabled pediment. Fluted Ionic pilasters attach to the wall beneath the portico. Single narrow windows flank the segmental arched entry. Rowlock brick bands frame the entry with its non-historic paneled door, flanking sidelights and wide fanlight. A stone name plate inscribed "Watkins Hall" is centered above the entry, below a single window on the second story. The remaining front facade has two bays of single windows flanking the portico. The north and south elevations are symmetrical and have regular bays with single windows. The windows have brick sills and lintels, fixed shutters, and multi-light double-hung

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wood sashes. Interior brick chimneys rise from the north and south ends of the front (west) roof slope. Gabled dormers rise from the east and west roof slopes. The dormers have round-arched windows with lancet muntins. The L-shaped building has a two-story wing attached to the north end of the east elevation. The wing is clad in buff brick at the basement level and aluminum siding on the upper levels. Each elevation of the wing has bands of multi-light double-hung windows at each story. A one-story enclosed porch with multi-light casement windows and a flat roof is attached to the south end of the building. This small porch has a flat roof and a brick foundation. Due to the change in grade, the basement level is exposed on the rear (east) elevation. The property is landscaped and furnished similar to a large single-family dwelling. Watkins Hall is nearly identical to Miller Hall (#6) to the south. A stone retaining wall runs along the east edge of the property. An arch at the base of the stone wall opens to stairs that lead from the upper lawn of the property down to the patio surrounding the Alumni Place Fountain (#1). Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

**16. Watkins House (Chancellor's Residence, The Outlook)**

Contributing Building

Architect: Mitchell, W.J.

1912

Neoclassical Revival

This two-and-one-half-story Neoclassical Revival dwelling has stucco walls and a hipped roof clad in green ceramic tile. The symmetrical front (west) façade has a full-height semi-circular porch with ionic columns and a wood balustrade. The main entry has a single door with wide flanking sidelights. The tripartite window above the entry has a wide balcony with wood brackets and balustrade. Flanking the center bay, the first story has oriel windows while the second story has two single windows. The rest of the house has single windows. The windows have stucco-clad sills and simple ornament at the window hoods. The wide eaves have thick modillions. Large gabled dormers rise from each roof slope. Round arched dormers rise from the front (west) roof slope. A widow's walk caps the building. Exterior brick chimneys rise through the roofline at the north and south elevations. One-story porches attach to the north and south elevations. These porches, with their wood balustrades and paired columns, flow into the front patios covered with canvas awnings. A one-story porch and a wide porte cochere attach to the rear (east) elevation. The front façade faces west towards the University. A circular drive surrounds the house. The drive connects to Lilac Lane to the northwest and Pearson Place at the intersection of Sunnyside Avenue to the southeast. The area surrounding Watkins House is landscaped with a large expanse of lawn, dotted with mature deciduous and evergreen trees. Immediately surrounding the residence are foundation plantings and small flower beds. Despite alterations to the windows within the historic masonry openings, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

A one-car garage with stucco walls and a green tile roof stands at the east end of the property. The outbuilding has a flat-roofed addition with a brick foundation and asbestos shingle siding. A glazed greenhouse with a brick foundation attaches to the southeast corner of the garage. The garage is a Contributing Building.

**17. Wesley Building**

Contributing Building

Architect: Unknown

1954

Modern/Modern Movement

This three-story building has red brick walls and a hipped roof with composition shingles. Due to the change in grade, the third story is at grade on the west elevation while all three stories are exposed on the east elevation. The front (west) façade has a recessed entry toward the south end of the building with paired metal and glazed doors set in a wide storefront opening. Angled pylons divide the north section of the façade into bays. Each bay contains a large single pane of glass. The line of the canopy over the entry extends across the façade above the large picture windows. Above these windows are narrow clerestory windows. A brick tower with concrete ornament in the shape of a cross rises above the roof at the south end of the building. The east elevation has red brick walls with large expanses of aluminum windows and

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metal spandrel panels at the south end of the building. The north end of the façade has paired windows with concrete sills. A flat canopy covers the paired doors of the entrance to the first story. Despite alterations to the roof shape, this building retains integrity and contributes to the architectural and functional character of the District.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- 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 values, 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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

**Period of Significance**

1912-1963

**Significant Dates**

1912, 1925, 1940

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

See continuation sheet

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins in 1912 with construction of the earliest resource in the District and ends in 1963, the fifty-year closing date for periods of significance where activities begun historically continue to have importance but no more specific date can be identified. The District maintains the variety of historic resources and functions that together reinforce the University's educational system by providing students with residential facilities and spiritual support. The resources deemed non-contributing because they were constructed outside the period of significance should be re-evaluated when they reach fifty years of age.

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**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

**Architect/Builder (continued)**

Coolidge, Raymond  
Erkins Studio  
Hare & Hare (Landscape Architect)  
Marshall, Charles L.  
Mitchell, W.J.  
Payne, Morton and Field, Russell  
Smith, Verner F.  
Tanner, Edward W.  
Tefft, Elden C. (Artist)  
Thomas, Alton (Landscape Architect)  
Williamson, Thomas

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The University of Kansas East Historic District (District) is significant at the local level under National Register Criterion A for the area of EDUCATION and under National Register Criterion C for the area of ARCHITECTURE. The fifteen contributing resources (eighteen total resources) occupy thirteen acres on the east slope of Mount Oread, immediately adjacent to the main academic core of the University of Kansas (KU) in Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas. These buildings and objects constructed between 1912 and 2000 reflect the evolution of the residential and religious facilities in one concentrated location designed to support the needs of the students and faculty at KU. Eight of the contributing resources were built as scholarship halls, a specific type of residential arrangement that was common at state universities across the country. The District is an excellent, intact example of an institutional residential enclave that developed over time to meet the residential and cultural needs of students and faculty.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**CRITERION A – EDUCATION**

The University of Kansas East Historic District encompasses the oldest intact residential enclave affiliated with the University. The fifteen buildings (fourteen contributing) were constructed over the course of the twentieth century in order to provide high quality, affordable residential options as well as facilities for spiritual exploration and support. This grouping of resources is concentrated in an area immediately adjacent to the academic core of the campus, for purposes of convenience. The resources in the District are unique in that their construction was funded solely through donations rather than through the appropriations process, as required for campus buildings owned and operated by the state. These buildings reflect their historic functions and the distinct characteristics that define the property types. They also reflect the tradition of giving among the University alumni and supporters who donated funds to erect these much-needed buildings.

The District includes several specific types of housing. Two resources are the size and scale of single-family residences. One resource is a mid-rise apartment building designated specifically for retired faculty members. Eight resources are scholarship halls, a local variation of the cooperative housing arrangement found at many campuses. Cooperative

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housing gained popularity in the early twentieth century, especially on state university campuses.<sup>2</sup> Limited state funds meant academic needs (classrooms, laboratories, libraries, etc.) often took priority over residential needs. Bound by a mission to provide a college education to any resident who was willing and able, state universities often found themselves with a portion of the student population who were intellectually, but not necessarily financially, capable of attending. One option was for students to find employment outside the university. It was difficult for women to find sufficient work to fulfill their financial obligations and allow them enough time to attend classes and study. Cooperative dormitories were identified as one of the best options for housing students who required financial assistance.<sup>3</sup> Rather than finding employment in the wider community, students worked at the residence between one and two hours each day in return for reduced room and board rates. Students assisted with the cooking, serving, and cleaning while maintaining sufficient time for their studies. Donated buildings improved the situation even further, eliminating the need for rent or additional expense to the university. By 1915, Wellesley College operated two cooperative dormitories. Northwestern University was one of the earliest coed institutions known to offer this type of housing.<sup>4</sup>

Early in its history, KU devoted much of its energy and funding to academic facilities. Students of both sexes lived in private housing off campus. As student enrollment increased, the availability of reputable housing options in Lawrence decreased, especially for women. Aside from the one university dormitory, Corbin Hall, constructed on the North College campus in 1921, the options for female students included a limited number of spaces in sorority houses or boarding or renting in a private residence. Elizabeth Miller Watkins donated the funds for KU's first cooperative dormitory, or scholarship hall, in 1925. The concept caught on at KU, and over the next thirty years, benefactors donated funds for seven more scholarship halls for men and women, all of which were constructed in the same general area of campus.

Many of the founders and early administrators of the University of Kansas were religious individuals, but as a public institution, the university could not integrate religious doctrine into its curriculum. Religious services offered in buildings immediately adjacent to the campus respected the separation of church and state, while addressing the needs of students. A small node of religious-related buildings formed at the north end of the District as early as 1901. The presence of Smith Hall (#11), the Wesley Building (#17), and Danforth Chapel (#4) reflect a strong desire to support the social and cultural needs of students. Both Smith and Wesley include classrooms and gathering areas, while Danforth contains meditative and ceremonial spaces.

Danforth Chapel (#4) was constructed as part of a nationwide campaign by industrialist and philanthropist William H. Danforth, founder of the Ralston Purina Company based in St. Louis.<sup>5</sup> Beginning in the 1940s, Danforth joined the ranks of other late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century industrialists, such as Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller, who used their enormous wealth to support educational institutions. Danforth's interest was in fostering religious values in American youth, particularly at public colleges and universities where the lack of religious facilities was most glaring. Danforth believed one of the best ways to address this was to support the construction of chapels on these campuses in order to provide a facility for students and faculty to seek solutions to daily problems through meditation and reflection.

Eleven public universities and four private colleges constructed fifteen of the twenty-four known Danforth Chapels. These institutions are spread across the country, but concentrated mostly in the Midwest. The majority of the country's Danforth Chapels were constructed in the 1950s. While the design of each chapel was unique, all Danforth Chapels exhibit three

<sup>2</sup> Lois Kimball Mathews Rosenberry, *The Dean of Women*, (Cambridge, MA: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1915) 78. Available via Google Books: <https://www.google.com/search?tbm=bks&hl=en&q=the+dean+of+women&btnG=>. (Accessed 25 March 2013).

<sup>3</sup> Rosenberry, 78.

<sup>4</sup> Rosenberry, 78-79.

<sup>5</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the information about the Danforth Chapel Program comes from: Margaret M. Grubiak, "The Danforth Chapel Program on the Public American Campus," *Buildings & Landscapes*, 19.2, Fall 2012, 77-96.

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common characteristics: small scale, focus on the sanctuary, and non-central placement on campus.<sup>6</sup> The scale of the buildings was an important characteristic. Danforth did not want his chapels to compete with community parish churches. The building was meant for individual reflection or small services. Although Danforth himself was an ardent member of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, the chapels were unequivocally nondenominational. Because the chapel was not meant to be a gathering place for the entire university community, it was often tucked into a nondescript area away from the center of campus. Architectural styles vary widely from historical revival styles to the Modern Movement. Danforth and the Foundation maintained an unusual amount of control over these gifts. Detailed requirements dictated the name of each building as "Danforth Chapel," restricted its uses, and employed architects to review plans to ensure the design met the three criteria of size, layout, and location. Danforth's gifts covered only a portion of the total costs, requiring the institution to raise the remaining funds. This maximized the number of chapels funded by the organization while allowing the institution some freedom to customize the design.

Danforth initiated a discussion with Chancellor Dean Malott in 1944 about building a chapel at the University of Kansas. Written communications between the two men discuss Danforth's beliefs that supporting religious values was important on university campuses, even at tax-supported universities, and the best way to do so was to construct a chapel. The University of Kansas raised funds and hired Kansas City architect Edward Tanner to design Danforth Chapel. One of Tanner's early designs was deemed too large. Danforth's architects requested that Tanner revise the design to reduce the seating capacity to fifty at most. When construction was complete in 1946, the KU Danforth Chapel (#4) was the first at a public university.

While initially the campus functioned solely as an academic institution attended each day by those who lived in private housing nearby, the University evolved into a self-contained entity that provided food, shelter, and recreational activities in addition to academic instruction. The self-contained university differs from the self-contained town in that most of the people are there for a relatively brief time. The value of attending a university is the shared experience, the camaraderie, and the university identity forged while there and often carried through life. Recognizing the value of those shared experiences prompts its own cultural tradition that has left a lasting mark on the University. Those who felt strongly about their university experiences often looked for ways to give back. The campus is replete with memorials to individuals or to graduating classes. Planting trees, landscaping an area, or providing a plaque, statue, fountain, or bench on which to enjoy the landscape has become an honored tradition at KU, officially begun as early as 1873. Donors with substantial funds or a particular interest specified their gifts be used for buildings or academic departments. State law, however, prohibited the University's Board of Regents from directly distributing funds received as gifts. In 1891, the Kansas University Endowment Association organized to receive, invest, and disburse income from donations, as well as to purchase and own land.<sup>7</sup> Through the KU Endowment Association several prominent donors provided funds for scholarship halls, the earliest of which are part of the District.

### **CRITERION C – ARCHITECTURE**

The sixteen buildings (fifteen contributing) reflect the prevailing trends in institutional residential architecture in the early- to mid-twentieth century. The scholarship halls were designed in the historical revival styles popular across the country for institutional residences, particularly Neoclassical (Miller Hall, #6) and Colonial Revival (Battenfeld Hall, #2). The later buildings constructed in the north half of the District reflect the influence of the Modern Movement. Douthart (#5), Grace Pearson (#9) and Sprague (#12) Halls express the tenets of the Modern Movement through horizontal banding and fenestration patterns. The massing and materials of the residential resources reflects their historic dormitory function. All of the scholarship halls are brick. The high-style Neoclassical Watkins House (#16) built in 1912 contrasts with the vernacular stone University Guest House (#14) built around 1930.

<sup>6</sup> Grubiak, 83.

<sup>7</sup> Clifford S. Griffin, *The University of Kansas, A History* (Lawrence, KS: The University Press of Kansas, 1974) 421.

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The religious resources also illustrate the evolution of architectural styles in the mid-twentieth century. Constructed immediately after the end of World War II, Danforth Chapel reflects an early-twentieth century fondness for historical revival styles for religious architecture. The small chapel has Gothic Revival fenestration and ornament. The stone walls and red roof are designed to fit with the overall design aesthetic of the main campus. Wesley and Smith reflect the architectural shift from historical revival styles to the Modern Movement. These low, rectangular buildings are asymmetrical with irregular fenestration, horizontal massing, and abstract vertical elements that reference a spire.

The variety of architectural styles found in the District reflects evolving trends popular for institutional buildings over the course of a century. Most of the buildings in the District were designed by trained architects who understood the prevailing design aesthetic and could adapt it to the University's needs. State Architect Raymond Coolidge designed five of the scholarship halls (Douthart, Grace Pearson, Pearson, Sellards, and Stephenson). Thomas Williamson, one of the state's most prolific designers of public and educational buildings, designed both Watkins and Miller Halls. Edward Tanner, architect of Danforth Chapel, designed many residential, commercial, and civic buildings in the Kansas City area and was well versed in historical revival styles. Despite minor alterations such as the replacement of windows, these buildings retain integrity and clearly reflect their historic functions. The residential enclave that evolved bears some resemblance to the Hare & Hare's 1928 *General Plan for the Campus of the University of Kansas*. (See Figure 3) Although the buildings were not constructed in the exact locations or forms indicated on the plan, Battenfeld, Pearson, and Sellards Halls are oriented perpendicular to each other in that general location, in keeping with the overall campus plan.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

History of Residential and Student Life at the University of Kansas<sup>8</sup>

The University of Kansas was officially founded after November 1863 when Governor Carney signed legislation proclaiming Lawrence the site of the state university and the University charter was signed in 1865. While a provision in the charter catering to the more conservative element in the legislature created separate branches of education for males and females, the small number of individuals enrolled in the earliest classes made this impractical and was never fully enforced. The University's first building was completed in 1867 on the North College campus. Within five years, the University constructed Old Fraser Hall, the first building on the main campus. Throughout the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, enrollment continued to increase and the University continued to construct new academic buildings. From the beginning, students were responsible for finding their own housing. The lack of dormitories was often cited as one of the reasons the University did not have a true sense of community. Students began to cluster based on similar interests and needs, but these clusters were often small as even the boarding houses were not designed to hold large numbers of students.

Enrollment increased from roughly 1,275 students to 4,000 students over the course of Chancellor Frank Strong's nineteen-year tenure from 1902 to 1920. The University also benefitted from a steadily-improving reputation that drew increasing numbers of students from outside Lawrence and Kansas. The growing student population amplified the demand for housing on or near campus. Until the early 1920s, most students lived in the residential neighborhood surrounding the campus, renting rooms in private boarding houses or joining fraternities or sororities that owned or rented nearby houses. Female students often had more difficulty finding housing that was acceptable to them as well as to their

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<sup>8</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the history of the University of Kansas comes from: Clifford S. Griffin, *The University of Kansas, A History* (Lawrence, KS: The University Press of Kansas, 1974).

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guardians, as it was presumed that women required a much higher standard of living and supervision than their male counterparts.

The first university-owned housing, Corbin Hall, was constructed on the North College campus in 1922. The four-story Tudor Revival dormitory opened fourteen years after Chancellor Strong began advocating for such a facility. It housed 135 undergraduate women in single and double rooms with common areas and offices on the lower levels. It took even longer to address housing needs on the main campus. Four new and one renovated residential hall opened between 1925 and 1940, creating the beginnings of a residential node at the southeast corner of the campus. In contrast to the single- and double-occupancy rooms in the dormitory at North College, scholarship halls contained suites with bedrooms, kitchens, and dining rooms for small groups of students. Students shared responsibilities for the maintenance of the residence. The designs for Watkins Hall (#15, 1925), Watkins House (#16, 1937), Miller Hall (#6, 1937), and Battenfeld Hall (#2, 1940) apply architectural styles commonly used for single-family residences, such as Neoclassical and Colonial Revival, to larger institutional residential forms that fit with the scale of the campus. Only Watkins Home was designed by the state architect; private architecture firms designed the other scholarship halls. Noted Kansas public school architect Thomas Williamson designed both Watkins Hall and Miller Hall. Kansas City architects Morton Payne and Russell Field designed Battenfeld Hall. With the exception of Watkins Home, located south of Watson Library and Watkins Hospital, these new buildings formed the beginnings of a residential enclave immediately east of the university property, bounded at that time by Lilac Lane, and directly south of Spooner Library.

Elizabeth M. Watkins was the widow of Lawrence businessman Jabez B. Watkins. After the death of Mr. Watkins in 1921, Mrs. Watkins became a great financial supporter of the University, contributing a total of roughly \$2 million. Several extant buildings bear the family name. Shortly after Corbin Hall opened on the North College campus in 1923, Mrs. Watkins made her first donation designated for building a scholarship hall for women. Watkins Hall (#15) was built on the property immediately north of Elizabeth Watkins' own residence. It resembled an elegant single-family home executed in the Neoclassical style with buff brick cladding. Ten years later, Mrs. Watkins made an additional donation to construct and fund Miller Hall (#6), a twin of Watkins Hall. Upon her death in 1939, Mrs. Watkins bequeathed her home, the Outlook (Watkins House, #16, 1912) to the University to be used as the Chancellor's residence.

#### *Post-War Development (1946-1960)*

In the years following overseas combat, enrollment at KU increased with the influx of servicemen pursuing their education with assistance from the G.I. Bill. The average enrollment for this time was around 11,000 students. The University's primary efforts at the end of the 1940s were devoted to accommodating all of these students. Beginning in 1946 temporary annexes provided housing, offices, and classrooms. Multiple one-story wood buildings stood on the north side of Strong Hall, south of (Old) Blake Hall, and west of Lindley Hall. Small groups of temporary residences were also erected on the north and south sides of Sunnyside Avenue (then 16<sup>th</sup> Street).<sup>9</sup> The ubiquity of these structures emphasized the need to build permanent residence halls for students.

In 1940, the KU Endowment Association used funds donated by numerous KU alumni to purchase eight acres along Alumni Place, north and east of the Watkins and Miller Scholarship Halls. The first scholarship residence halls for men opened in the fall of 1940. Simultaneously, the University renovated a former manor house into Templin Hall<sup>10</sup> and constructed the new Battenfeld Hall (#2). Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Battenfeld donated \$70,000 in memory of their son, John Curry Battenfeld, a University student who died in an automobile accident. The gift was used to construct and fund a scholarship hall in his memory. The success of the early men's and women's scholarship halls inspired other donors, such as Joseph R. Pearson and his wife, Gertrude Sellards Pearson, an alumna. The Pearsons donated a considerable sum to

<sup>9</sup> All of the temporary annexes have since been removed.

<sup>10</sup> Templin Hall was originally the manor house for the Brynwood Estate. The house was demolished in 1959 for construction of Sprague Apartments.

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the University in 1945 for the construction of five residences: three scholarship halls and two dormitories.<sup>11</sup> The one men's scholarship hall, Pearson Hall (#8, 1945), was named for Mr. Pearson's niece. The two women's scholarship halls, Sellards (#10, 1952) and Grace Pearson (#9, 1955) were named for Mrs. Pearson's family and for Mr. Pearson's sister, respectively. Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall was designed to match the adjacent men's building, Douthart Scholarship Hall (#5, 1954), funded by a gift from Burt Chronister and dedicated to the memory of his wife Ava Douthart Chronister and her sister Lela Douthart, both alumnae. Mrs. Lyle Stephenson made a donation in memory of her husband for the construction of Stephenson Scholarship Hall (#13, 1951), another scholarship hall for men.

In 1959, the KU Endowment Association purchased and demolished Templin Hall, the university's first dormitory in order to build an apartment building for retired faculty. Sprague Apartments (#12) was named for retired department head Elizabeth Sprague.

Under Alton Thomas's guidance as campus landscape architect, plantings in this residential node continued the traditions established within the core landscape. Remnants that suggest this include the flowering ornamental trees such as red bud (*Cercis*) and pines adjacent to Sellards Hall (#10).

#### *Religion on Campus*

Religion has long been an important element surrounding KU. The first North College building was originally intended to be a Presbyterian preparatory school, and four of the first five Chancellors were clergymen.<sup>12</sup> As a public institution, however, religious instruction on campus was limited, as public funds could not be used by any particular religious sect. In 1901, the Women's Board of Missions of the Christian Church established the Bible Chair to offer religious history and Bible study courses to KU students. This coursework was housed in a building (Myers Hall) constructed on private property just north of Spooner Hall. This building firmly established the northeast section of campus as the religious center associated with the campus.

Development of the surrounding area for residential and cultural purposes was both logical and natural. Construction of the non-denominational Danforth Chapel in 1946 reinforced the spiritual context of this campus node. Chancellor Deane Malott cited the University's Christian roots when describing how this public institution was glad to receive the donation to construct the new chapel.<sup>13</sup> A Methodist student center was built on the east side of Myers Hall in 1954. This building contained classrooms and gathering space. Myers Hall was demolished in 1966 and Smith Hall (#11) was erected in its place to house the same functions. Smith also included classroom space, gathering and meditation space, and a library.

#### Architects

##### *Raymond A. Coolidge*<sup>14</sup>

Raymond A. Coolidge was born in Dodge City, Kansas in 1901. He graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.S. in Architecture in 1924. After working for private architecture firms in Kansas City, Missouri for one year and Hendersonville, North Carolina for five years, Coolidge returned to Kansas. Coolidge served as the Assistant State Architect from 1930 to 1933 and then as the Kansas State Architect from 1933 to 1937. Following his public service, Coolidge started his own firm. He designed the Municipal Auditorium for Topeka in 1939. Coolidge designed five scholarship halls in the District: Pearson (#8, 1945), Stephenson (#13, 1951), Sellards (#10, 1952), Douthart (#5, 1954), and Grace Pearson (#9, 1955).

<sup>11</sup> The dormitories, Joseph R. Pearson Hall and Gertrude Sellards Pearson Hall are located well outside the District on the other side of the main campus.

<sup>12</sup> Chancellor R.W. Oliver was an Episcopalian minister; James Marvin and Joshua Lippincott were Methodist ministers. Francis Snow originally intended to become a minister. While Chancellor John Fraser was not a member of the clergy, he did have a strong religious orientation.

<sup>13</sup> Grubiak, 82.

<sup>14</sup> Biographical information on Raymond A. Coolidge was taken from: "Coolidge, Raymond A." *American Architects Directory*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (New York: R.R. Bowker Company, 1970) 177. The American Institute of Architects website:

<http://communities.aia.org/sites/ndoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/1970%20American%20Architects%20Directory.aspx> (accessed 16 April 2013).

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### *Hare & Hare*<sup>15</sup>

Hare & Hare was a Kansas City (Missouri) landscape architecture firm founded in 1910 by Sidney J. Hare and his son, S. Herbert Hare. The senior Hare was born in Louisville, Kentucky in 1860. He came to Kansas City in 1868, where he graduated from Central High School and took courses in landscape architecture. After serving as a transitman in the city engineer's office (1885-1896) and superintendent at Forest Hill Cemetery (1896-1902), Hare started his own landscape design business.<sup>16</sup> S. Herbert Hare was born in 1888 in Kansas City. After graduating from Manual High School, the junior Hare attended Harvard University where he studied landscape architecture and city planning.<sup>17</sup> He returned to Kansas City in 1910 and joined his father's firm, establishing the partnership of Hare & Hare. The firm designed private residential developments in Kansas City, Missouri (1913) and Tulsa, Oklahoma (1916); a new industrial city in Longview, Washington (1922-26); and the Texas Centennial Exposition grounds (1934-36). In addition to landscape design work for the University of Kansas beginning in 1916, Hare & Hare also designed the campus of the University of Texas. While the firm did not directly design any of the landscapes in the District, the 1928 Hare & Hare plan included a section on the east side of the campus specifically dedicated to residential buildings.

### *Charles L. Marshall*<sup>18</sup>

Charles Leroy Marshall was born in Atchison, Kansas in 1905. After graduating with a professional degree in architecture from Kansas State University in 1931, Marshall served as draftsman for the State of New York. He worked as Assistant State Architect for Kansas from 1935 to 1945 and then State Architect from 1945 to 1952. Marshall designed numerous public buildings around the state including high schools and a laboratory building for the University of Kansas Medical Center. Following his tenure at the State, Marshall started his own firm and continued to practice architecture until his retirement in 1986. Marshall designed Sprague Apartments (#12) in 1960 and Smith Hall (#11) in 1967.

### *Edward W. Tanner*<sup>19</sup>

Edward Tanner was born in Cottonwood Falls, Kansas in 1896, although his family moved to Lawrence, Kansas shortly after his birth. Tanner attended the University of Kansas, graduating with a degree from the School of Architectural Engineering in 1916, the second graduate of the newly established program. After two years of military service during World War I, Tanner moved to Kansas City, Missouri where he began a long professional association with the J.C. Nichols Company. Tanner provided architectural services for the Nichols Company designing residential developments and commercial centers. In his independent practice Tanner also designed civic and educational buildings such as the main branch of the Kansas City Public Library and the Linda Hall Library at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Tanner designed Danforth Chapel (#3) at the University of Kansas in 1946.

### *Alton Thomas*

Alton Thomas began his career as the first landscape architect at the University of Kansas in 1948, after graduating from the University of Illinois and serving in the military during World War II. He worked closely with Chancellor and Mrs. Malott in the early years of his tenure, particularly as the south slope of the campus developed in the mid-twentieth century. Thomas held the position at the University of Kansas until he retired in 1983. Thomas' contributions to the landscape of the campus both diversified the plantings and unified the overall effect. Given the rocky soil and contours of the area,

<sup>15</sup> Cydney Millstein and Carol Grove, *Houses of Missouri 1870-1940* (New York: Acanthus Press, 2008), 261.

<sup>16</sup> "Mr. Sid J. Hare" *Kansas City and its One Hundred Foremost Men*, (Kansas City, MO: W. P. Tracy, 1924), 115.

<sup>17</sup> "S. Herbert Hare, Landscape Architect - City Planner" *Citizens Historical Association, Indianapolis*, No. 2 D23 E48 F156, March 18, 1939. Vertical File: Hare & Hare, Kansas City Historic Preservation Office, Kansas City, Missouri.

<sup>18</sup> Biographical information on Charles L. Marshall was taken from: "Marshall, Charles L." *American Architects Directory*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (New York: R.R. Bowker Company, 1970) 598. The American Institute of Architects website:

<http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/1970%20American%20Architects%20Directory.aspx> (accessed 16 April 2013).

<sup>19</sup> Biographical information on Edward Tanner was taken from: "E.W. Tanner, Plaza Architect, Dies," *Kansas City Times* April 26, 1974. Vertical file, Kansas City Historic Preservation Office.

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Thomas identified the species best suited for specific locations around campus. He established a balance between deciduous and evergreen trees. Thomas' influence is spread throughout the campus.

*Thomas Williamson*

Thomas Williamson was born in Hiawatha, Kansas in 1886. After graduating from Topeka High School in 1907, he attended the University of Pennsylvania until 1911, after which he returned to Topeka. Williamson worked in the Office of the State Architect under John F. Stanton until he started his own architecture firm in 1912.<sup>20</sup> Williamson's highly successful firm grew to forty-six employees, primarily designing public school buildings across the state. Over the course of his career, Williamson and his associates are credited with designing over 200 school buildings. Williamson designed the oldest extant residential buildings at the University of Kansas: Watkins Scholarship Hall (#15) in 1925 and Miller Scholarship Hall (#6) in 1937. These nearly identical buff brick Neoclassical buildings resemble single-family homes on a large scale. The designs are highly appropriate for their function but provide a strong contrast to the institutional designs Williamson generated for public schools throughout the state.

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<sup>20</sup> Brenda Spencer, National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic Public Schools of Kansas," 2005.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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KU News Bureau. "Press Release" 15 May 1963. Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas, 1963. Vertical Files, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

"Marshall, Charles L." *American Architects Directory*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (New York: R.R. Bowker Company, 1970) 598. The American Institute of Architects website:  
<http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/1970%20American%20Architects%20Directory.aspx> (accessed 16 April 2013).

Millstein, Cydney and Carol Grove. *Houses of Missouri 1870-1940*. New York: Acanthus Press, 2008.

"Mr. Sid J. Hare" *Kansas City and its One Hundred Foremost Men*. Kansas City, MO: W. P. Tracy, 1924.

Piland, Sherry. "Henry Van Brunt of Architectural Firm of Van Brunt and Howe: The Kansas City Years." Master's thesis, University of Missouri – Kansas City, 1976.

"Root & Siemens." Vertical File, Kansas City Historic Preservation Office.

"S. Herbert Hare, Landscape Architect – City Planner" *Citizens Historical Association, Indianapolis*, No. 2 D23 E48 F156, March 18, 1939. Vertical File: Hare & Hare, Kansas City Historic Preservation Office, Kansas City, Missouri.

Spencer, Brenda. National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic Public Schools of Kansas," 2005.

University of Kansas East Historic District  
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Weidlein, Edward R. "Progress Depends on Scientific Research," *University of Kansas Alumni Magazine* 53, no. 2. 1954.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 13 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.**  
(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>38.959990</u> Latitude:	<u>-95.242801</u> Longitude:	3	<u>38.955311</u> Latitude:	<u>-95.241845</u> Longitude:
2	<u>38.595633</u> Latitude:	<u>-95.241695</u> Longitude:	4	<u>38.955281</u> Latitude:	<u>-95.242935</u> Longitude:

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The east District boundary runs south along Louisiana Street with a slight jog to the east to include Sellards Scholarship Hall. The south boundary follows Sunnyside Avenue west for one block and then turns north to align with Lilac Lane. The west boundary follows the curve of Lilac Lane to where it meets Jayhawk Boulevard and Oread Avenue. The west boundary jogs eastward to exclude Spooner Hall (NR listed 7/15/1974) and continues northward along Oread Avenue to W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street. The north boundary follows W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street on the north side of Smith Hall but jogs southward around a non-University building to meet the east boundary at Louisiana Street. The west boundary of this District follows the east boundary of the University of Kansas Historic District (NR listed - 4/16/13).

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The University of Kansas East Historic District boundaries encompass the concentrated residential enclave containing the historic scholarship halls, faculty residences, and spiritual facilities in one long, linear area on the east side of the campus. These resources are directly affiliated with the University and were designed to serve the residential and cultural needs of the students and faculty. The area to the west contains the primary academic resources of the University of Kansas. The area to the east contains private residences and/or scholarship halls constructed at a much later date.

University of Kansas East Historic District  
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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Elizabeth Rosin, Principal; Rachel Nugent, Associate; Carol Grove, Consultant;  
organization Rosin Preservation LLC date August 26, 2013  
street & number 215 W. 18<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. 150 telephone 816-472-4950  
city or town Kansas City state MO zip code 64108  
e-mail rachel@rosinpreservation.com

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**List of Figures**

Figure 1. University of Kansas East Historic District Map

Figure 2. List of Resources

Figure 3. Hare & Hare Plan, 1928

Figure 4. Watkins and Miller Scholarship Halls. Historic photograph, c. 1940. Courtesy of Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

Figure 5. Douthart Scholarship Hall. Historic photograph, c.1956. Courtesy of Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

Figure 6. Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall. Historic photograph, c.1956. Courtesy of Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

Figure 7. University of Kansas East Historic District photo map

Figure 8. University of Kansas East Historic District site map

Figure 9. University of Kansas East Historic District contextual map

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**Photographs:**

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property:** University of Kansas

**City or Vicinity:** Lawrence

**County:** Douglas

**State:** Kansas

**Photographer:** Brad Finch, f-stop Photography

**Date Photographed:** March 22, 2012; June 26, 2012

University of Kansas East Historic District  
Name of Property

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County and State

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

- 1 of 14. Watkins House, (#16, C), view SE
- 2 of 14. Miller Scholarship Hall (#6, C) and Watkins House (#16, C) view SE
- 3 of 14. Watkins Scholarship Hall (#15, C), view E
- 4 of 14. Alumni Place Fountain (#1, C) and Watkins Hall (#15, C), view NE
- 5 of 14. Battenfeld Hall (#2, C), view W
- 6 of 14. Stephenson (#13, C) and Pearson (#8, C) Scholarship Halls, view SE
- 7 of 14. Sellards Scholarship Hall (#10, C) and University Guest House (#14, C), view SE
- 8 of 14. Danforth Chapel (#3, C), view NE
- 9 of 14. Sprague Apartments (#12, C), view SW
- 10 of 14. Douthart (#5, C) and Grace Pearson (#9, C) Scholarship Halls, view NW
- 11 of 14. Wesley Building (#17, C), view NE
- 12 of 14. Smith Hall (#11, NC), view NE
- 13 of 14. Moses Statue (#7, NC), view S
- 14 of 14. Docking Family Gateway (#4, NC), view NW

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

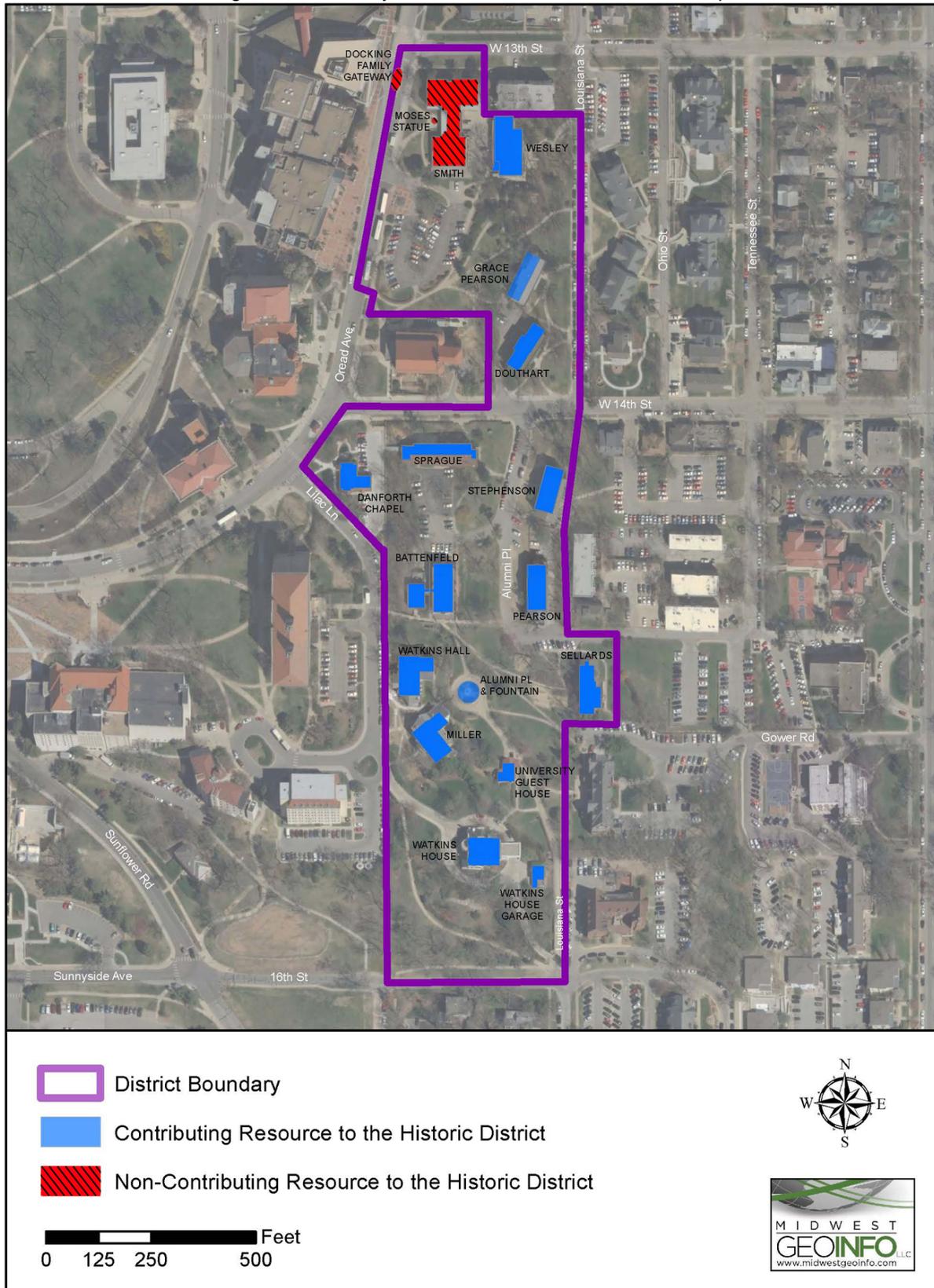
name Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little  
street & number University of Kansas, 230 Strong Hall telephone 785-864-3131  
city or town Lawrence state KS zip code 66045-7518

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).  
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Figure 1. University of Kansas East Historic District Map



University of Kansas East Historic District  
 Name of Property

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Figure 2. List of Resources

Historic Name	Year	Resource Type	Status
Alumni Place and Fountain	1953	Object	Contributing
Battenfeld Hall	1940	Building	Contributing
Danforth Chapel	1946	Building	Contributing
Docking Family Gateway	2000	Object	Non-Contributing
Douthart Scholarship Hall	1954	Building	Contributing
Miller Hall	1937	Building	Contributing
Moses Statue	1982	Object	Non-Contributing
Pearson Scholarship Hall	1945	Building	Contributing
Pearson, Grace Scholarship Hall	1955	Building	Contributing
Sellards Scholarship Hall	1952	Building	Contributing
Smith Hall	1967	Building	Non-Contributing
Sprague Apartments	1960	Building	Contributing
Stephenson Scholarship Hall	1951	Building	Contributing
University Guest House	1930	Building	Contributing
Watkins Hall	1925	Building	Contributing
Watkins House	1912	Building	Contributing
Watkins House Garage	1912	Building	Contributing
Wesley Building	1954	Building	Contributing

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Figure 3. Hare & Hare Plan, 1928.

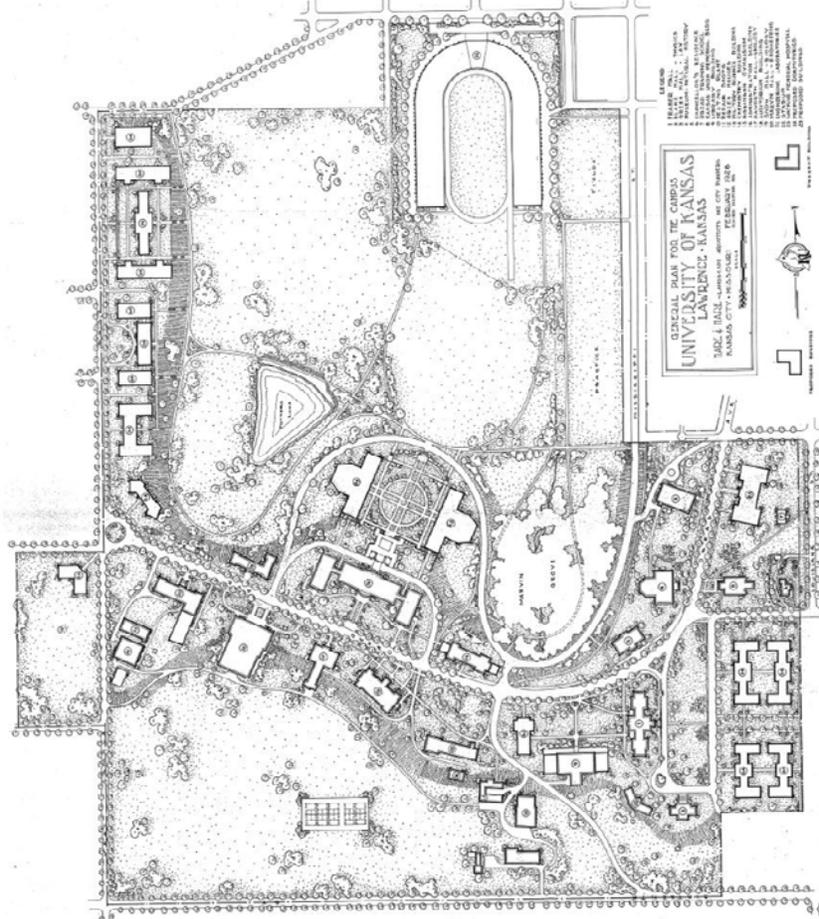


Figure 4. Watkins and Miller Scholarship Halls. Historic photograph, c. 1940.



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Figure 5. Douthart Scholarship Hall. Historic photograph, c.1956



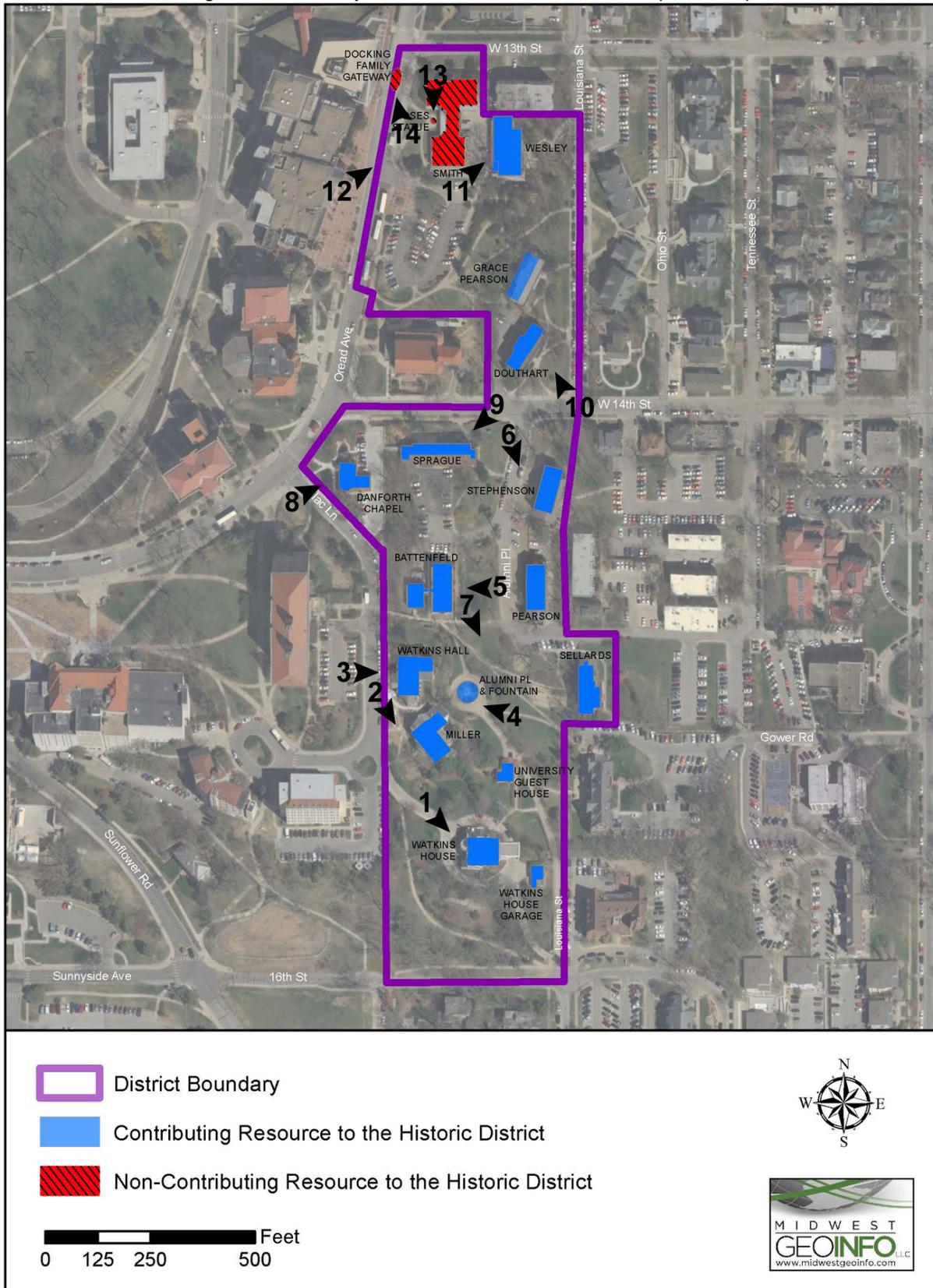
Figure 6. Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall. Historic photograph, c.1956



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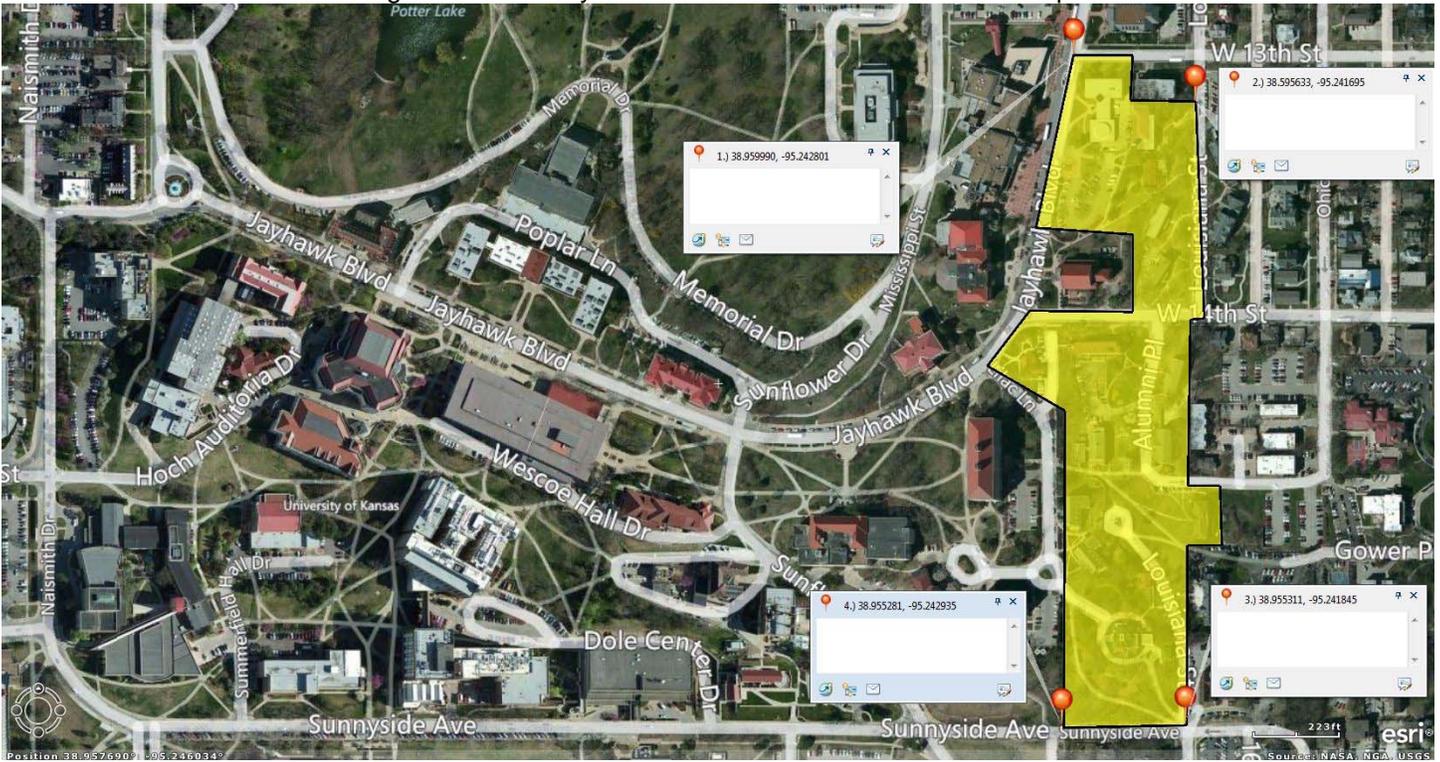
Figure 7. University of Kansas East Historic District photo map



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Figure 8. University of Kansas East Historic District site map



University of Kansas East Historic District  
Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

(Datum: WGS84) Lat/Long:

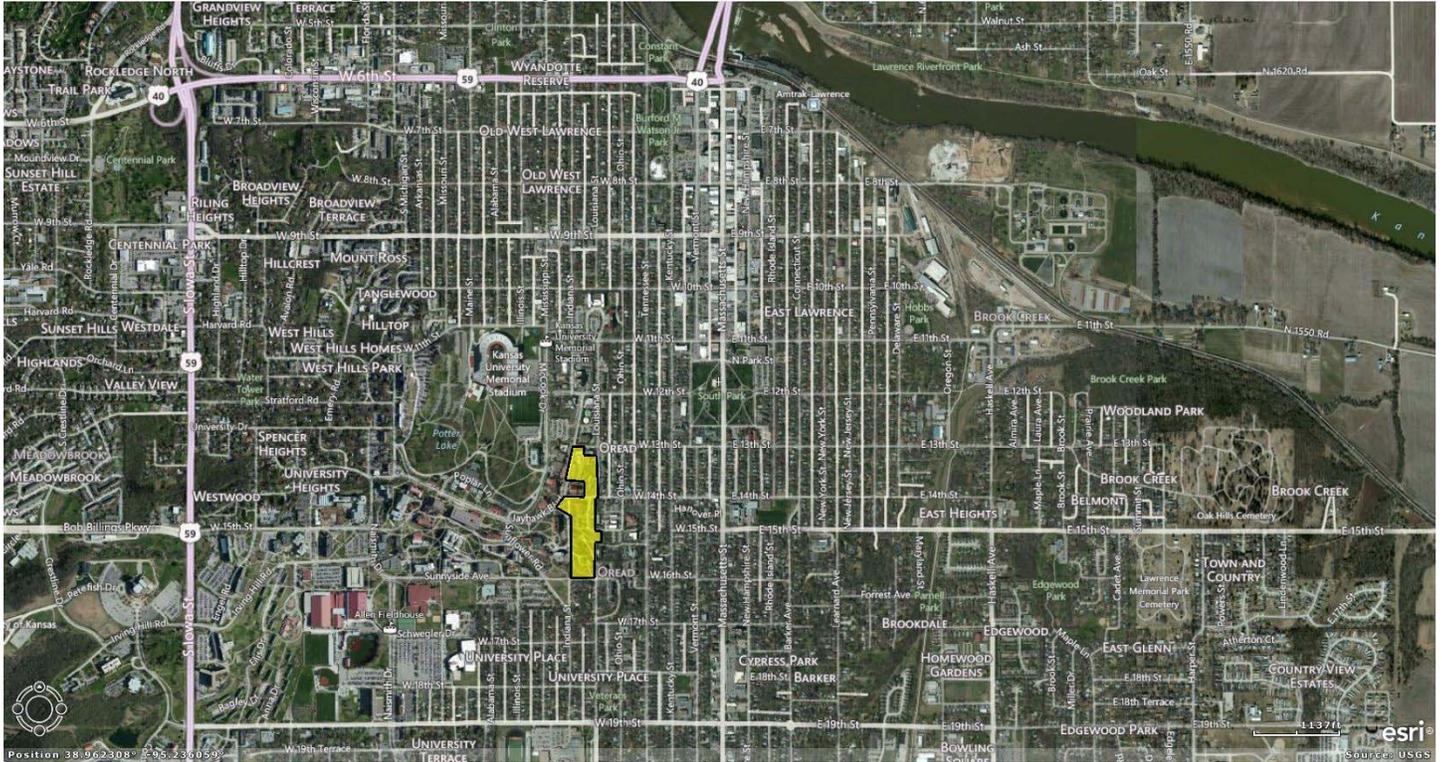
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- 2. 38.595633, -95.241695
- 3. 38.955311, -95.241845
- 4. 38.955281, -95.242935

13 acres

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Figure 9. University of Kansas East Historic District contextual map



University of Kansas East Historic District  
Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

(Datum: WGS84) Lat/Long:

- 1. 38.959990, -95.242801
- 2. 38.595633, -95.241695
- 3. 38.955311, -95.241845
- 4. 38.955281, -95.242935

13 acres







WATSON'S HALL

1874





BATTENFELD HALL











DOUTHART HALL

DOUTHART HALL





SMITH HALL  
REAR VIEW



Who is this and why  
is he made of the  
same metal?  
An Art for All  
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