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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900c). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name University of Florida Campus Historic District (Additional Information)

other names/site number n/a/AL2552

2. Location

street & number See Continuation Sheet n/a □ not for publication

city or town Gainesville n/a □ vicinity

state Florida code FL county Alachua code 001 zio code 32611

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signed: C. Matlock/DSHP 5/8/08

Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

□ entered in the National Register
 □ See continuation sheet

□ determined eligible for the National Register
 □ See continuation sheet.

□ determined not eligible for the National Register
 □ See continuation sheet.

□ removed from the National Register.

□ other, (explain) ____________________________

Signature of the Keeper ______________________ Date of Action ____________________
# 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)</th>
<th>Category of Property (Check only one box)</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property (Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ private</td>
<td>□ buildings</td>
<td>Contributing: 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-local</td>
<td>□ district</td>
<td>Noncontributing: 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✒ public-State</td>
<td>□ site</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ public-Federal</td>
<td>□ structure</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ object</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of related multiple property listings
(Enter “N/A” if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Name of related multiple property listings
University of Florida Campus Historic Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register</th>
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# 6. Function or Use

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<tr>
<th>Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)</th>
<th>Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Education: University</td>
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# 7. Description

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<tr>
<th>Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)</th>
<th>Materials (Enter categories from instructions)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Late Gothic Revival: Collegiate Gothic</td>
<td>foundation Concrete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Movement: Modern International</td>
<td>walls Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Concrete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roof Terra Cotta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>other Cast Stone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
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.

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State Agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☒ University
☐ Other

Name of Repository
University of Florida
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  Approximately 70

UTM References
(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

Zone
Easting
Northing
1
17
369700
3281000
2
17
370340
3281000
3
17
370360
3280600
4
17
369560
3280620

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title  Prof. Susan Tate, Ms. Murray Laurie and Barbara E. Mattick/DSHPO
organization  Bureau of Historic Preservation
date  May 2008
street & number  R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street
telephone  850-245-6333
city or town  Tallahassee
state  FL
zip code  32399-0250

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets
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.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items
(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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

name  Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund
street & number  3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
telephone

city or town  Tallahassee
state  FL
zip code  32399

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 amend 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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20044-37127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0010), Washington, DC 20503.
Section 2: LOCATION

Street and Number

The rough boundaries of the University of Florida Historic District are as follows:

West University Avenue on the north (State Road 26), S.W. 13th Street (U.S. Highway 441) on the east, Stadium Drive on the south, and the extended line of N.W. 19th Street on the west, which runs between Florida Gymnasium and Florida Field. There are no changes to the original boundaries of the University of Florida Campus Historic District.

Section 5: CLASSIFICATION

This additional information updates the number of contributing resources within the existing National Register district, listed in 1989, by extending the time period of significance from 1939 to 1956. This change results in reclassification of five (5) resources as “Contributing Buildings” (Florida Gymnasium, Tigert Hall, Matherly Hall, Century Tower, and Carlton Auditorium) and the addition of one (1) “Contributing Site.” and twelve (12) resources being deemed “Noncontributing Buildings.”
SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The University of Florida Campus Historic District comprises nineteen (19) Collegiate Gothic academic buildings and dormitories constructed between 1906 and 1939 previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places and an additional five (5) buildings constructed between 1951 and 1956 with modern architectural influences. The campus buildings are mainly two-and-one-half-story to three-and-one-half-story masonry structures of red brick, with steeply pitched clay tile roofs, with the exception of the 157-foot-high Century Tower and one-story Carleton Auditorium. The historic district occupies only a small portion of a much larger modern campus located adjacent to the downtown business district of the city of Gainesville, Florida. The contributing twenty-four (24) historic buildings blend well with the twelve (12) newer, noncontributing buildings within the historic district. One contributing site, the Plaza of the Americas, dedicated in 1931, is also added to the district. The campus is landscaped with mature trees, plus a variety of ornamental shrubs. Paved streets and pedestrian walkways provide access to all parts of the campus, which features planned open spaces among the buildings. The district update is nominated under the Multiple Property Submission, University of Florida Campus Historic Buildings and Sites, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida and includes resources that fall under Associated Property Types F.1: Buildings and Structures and F.2: Sites and Commemorative Open Spaces.

DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The historic district is bounded on the north by West University Avenue (State Road 26), on the east by S. W. 13th Street (U.S. Highway 441), on the south by Stadium Drive, and on the west by the approximate line of N. W. 19th Street that runs between Florida Gymnasium and the University of Florida football stadium. (See original nomination for full description). This additional information does not include any changes in the original boundaries of the University of Florida Campus Historic District set in the 1989 nomination.

Buildings Previously Listed in the National Register

The following nineteen properties are already listed on the National Register and contribute to the district. The first ten buildings were listed individually and the additional eight buildings are contributing structures to the University of Florida Campus Historic District listed in 1989. Their date of construction, date of listing on the National Register, and original use are given below.

1. Buckman Hall (1906), N.R. 1974: Dormitory, Offices, Classrooms
2. Thomas Hall (1906), N. R. 1974: Dormitory
3. Flint Hall (1910), N. R. 1979: Science Hall, Museum, Classrooms
5. Anderson Hall (1912), N. R. 1979: Language Hall, President’s Office
6. Floyd Hall (1912), N. R. 1979: Agricultural Hall, Classrooms
7. Peabody Hall (1912), N. R. 1979: Teachers’ College, Library
8. Bryan Hall (1914), N. R. 1979: College of Law
10. Library East (1925), N. R. 1979: University Library
16. Infirmary (1930-1931), N.R. 1989: Medical Center

New Additions to the List of Contributing Resources in the Historic District

The Florida Gymnasium (1949), located on the north side of Stadium Road, adjacent to the Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, is constructed in a simplified version of the Collegiate Gothic style. Because the site slopes to the west, there are, for the most part, three stories on the east elevation and four on the west elevation. The gymnasium, which is clad in red brick in an English bond pattern, is composed of three sections. The front and rear sections have flat roofs, and the center section, where the basketball court is located, has a barrel roof. Fenestration is regularly spaced and sized. Cast stone sills and flat arched lintels define most of the window openings. The symmetrical principal elevation faces south with five sets of double windows arranged on either side of a projecting tower (photos 1 and 2). Brick pilasters with cast stone caps flank the cast stone entrance panel and an arch springs above the second level windows. The access court, which slopes downward from the sidewalk, leads to glass doors set at the base of the tower. The cast stone water table and parapet emphasize the breadth of the building and continue on the east and west elevations of the front section. The middle section has similar detailing on the outer walls and a course of corbelled brickwork below the edge of the curved roof (photo 3). The rear section features brick pilasters with cast stone caps and Gothic arches between each pair of windows on the east and west elevations. Florida Gymnasium underwent extensive interior renovation in 1996 to provide additional space for classrooms and administrative offices. The original windows were replaced, but some of the original tile, glass and brick used on the interior can still be seen in the basketball court and other areas.
Tiger Hall was completed in 1951 and called the Administration Building until it was renamed in 1960. It contains 80,000 square feet of office space and classrooms and was the largest building on campus when it opened. The three-and-a-half-story rectangular masonry structure faces SW 13th Street on the east edge of the Historic District (photo 4). Built of reinforced concrete with brick veneer set in English cross bond, the modified Collegiate Gothic building has structural steel roof framing that supports the massive gable tile roof (photo 5). Gabled dormers, bay windows and stone balustrades, as well as insets of cast stone plaques representing the various UF colleges, refer to the earlier architectural tradition, but the expansive glassed entrance tower facing east, away from the campus, and the stylized design of the plaques and extruded aluminum alloy casement windows and muntins present a more contemporary look (photos 6 & 7). The interior walls in common areas are finished with wood paneling and dark marble. Stairwells and some hallways have glazed tile walls. Terrazzo flooring was installed in common areas and asphalt tile elsewhere (photo 8).

Matherly Hall opened in 1953 and is located along University Avenue, the north boundary of the Historic District. The three-and-one-half-story rectangular masonry academic building has a strong east-west axis. It is built of reinforced concrete with a veneer of standard brick set in English bond. The gabled roof is clad in clay tile and there is a cast stone balustrade running along the north and south elevations above the third floor window line. Fenestration is expansive with horizontal bands of windows alternating with broad bands of brick, which emphasizes the linear design of the building. The main entrance is on the southwest corner, a four-story tower block with a projecting brick and sandstone entablature surrounding the recessed doorway: The College of Business Administration appears in metal lettering on the brickwork above the entrance (photo 9). A stylized bas-relief at the rooftop above the entrance illustrating modern transportation and technology is the only decoration. The entrance on the northeast corner is a gable-end projection with three tiers of windows set in a cast stone frame that continues the linear pattern of the rest of the north elevation. Access to the elevator wing added to the east end is provided by a square, one-story porch with shallow arches of cast stone above the front and the side entrance. On the interior, classrooms and offices open on to broad hallways running east and west the length of the building on each floor. Walls are plastered, but light colored wood is used as an accent material throughout on doors and frames, stair railings and benches.

Century Tower is located at the corner of Newell Drive and Stadium Road, adjacent to the University Auditorium. Construction on the 157-foot-high building with Collegiate Gothic styling began in 1953, and its appearance has not altered significantly since its completion in 1956. The masonry structure with brick veneer set in an English bond pattern stands approximately eleven stories high (photo 10). It has an almost square footprint with four symmetrical elevations. The flat top of the tower is capped with decorative cast stone in a simplified Gothic style, and two arched openings appear on each side of the top section where the carillon bells are hung (photo 11). From this vantage point, visitors gain an excellent view of the campus. The building name is embossed above the arched limestone entrances that mark the centered south, west, and east entrances to the structure (photo 13). On the north side is a stone bench set in a shallow recess. A stone water table bands
the top of the ground floor. Projecting brick pilasters at each corner extend from the base of the tower to just below the bell openings above. The interior of the tower is largely unfinished. A 194-step stairway winds up to the room directly below the bells, where the keyboard has been installed. The stairway continues up another level to the open observation room at the top of the tower.

**Carlton Auditorium (1954)** is located south of Walker Hall (1927), to which it is connected by a covered walkway. Carlton reflects modern classicism rather than Collegiate Gothic architecture, but the use of red brick and cast concrete details and the simple, one-story profile of the building bring it in harmony with its surroundings. Carlton Auditorium is almost square with a flat roof edged in cast concrete. The walls are clad in English bond pattern with brick soldier course banding at the lower edge of the building. There are no windows. The north, west and south elevations have louvered metal vents and flat steel exit doors. A wide covered porch extends across the entire front of the main, east façade, sheltering the pair of double doors that provide access to the large lecture room on the interior that seats approximately 680 (photo 12). A water fountain with an arched and molded recess on wall to the right of the doors is the only ornamentation on the porch (photo 14). Cast concrete frames the front and side entrances to the porch and the three open bays between the east porch entrances. These openings have wide sills raised about two feet from the flagstone paving of the porch. A narrow concrete awning extends across most of the east elevation.

**Site Contributing to the District**

**The Plaza of the Americas** is bounded on the north by Library West, on the east by a service road that runs in front of Library East and Peabody Hall, on the south by Union Road, and on the west by Newell Drive. It measures 335 feet by 425 feet. The green quadrangle with scattered pine trees extended north to University Avenue and was part of the original 1906 campus plan. The main academic buildings were to be built on either side of the quad, with the administration building at the south end. A curved east-west roadway was removed in the 1950s when Library West was built at the north end of the Plaza. In the 1920s, live oaks were planted along the east and west edges of the quadrangle. In 1931 the space was named the Plaza of the Americas and twenty-one additional live oaks were planted in commemoration of hemispheric cordiality. As campus planning evolved, the concept of the green space limited to pedestrian use continued and has been emphasized as the controlling aesthetic feature that unifies the diverse structures that surround it, the University Auditorium at the south end, and academic and library buildings to the north, east and west. The grassy quadrangle is criss-crossed with more than half a dozen paved and unpaved footpaths and shaded with a canopy of mature pine, live oak and magnolia trees (photo 15).
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7  Page 5

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CAMPUS
HISTORIC DISTRICT (Additional Information)
Gainesville, Alachua Co., FL

Inventory of Contributing and Noncontributing Buildings and Site
Note: This list is keyed to the map entitled, “The University of Florida Historic Campus, Updated”
(* indicates previously listed in National Register and
Bold indicates newly added to list of contributing resources.)

Contributing Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Map No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year Built</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Cat.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Buckman Dr.</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Murphree Hall*</td>
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<td>Buckman Dr.</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>11.</td>
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<td>Buckman Dr.</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Flint Hall*</td>
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<td>Bryan Hall*</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Peabody Hall*</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Union Rd.</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Library East*</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>Plaza of the Americas</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>University Auditorium*</td>
<td>1924</td>
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<td>19.</td>
<td>Plaza of the Americas</td>
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<td>Buckman Dr.</td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>Infirmary*</td>
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<td>Dauer Hall*</td>
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<td>Fletcher Dr. &amp; Union Rd.</td>
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<td>S.W. 13th St. &amp; Stadium Rd.</td>
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<td>36.</td>
<td>Carlton Auditorium</td>
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NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES:

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<td>F</td>
<td>Grinter Hall</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>Library West</td>
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<td>H</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>Turlington Hall</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Academic Advising Ctr.</td>
<td>Fletcher Rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Racquet Club &amp; Fitness Ctr.</td>
<td>Fletcher Rd. &amp; East-West Rd.</td>
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<td>L</td>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>O</td>
<td>Pugh Hall</td>
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</table>
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The University of Florida Campus Historic District is significant at the local and state levels under Criterion A in the area of Education as the site of one of the three original state institutions of higher learning founded by statute in 1905, and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for buildings constructed in the Collegiate Gothic style between 1905 and 1939 and for the buildings constructed between 1945 and 1956 in a more modern style. Although the mid-twentieth-century buildings were generally more modern in design, they reflect sensitivity to the earlier style and the original use of building materials, scale and massing. Guy Fulton, the University Architect in the post-World War II years (1945-1956), continued to respect the design of the central campus developed by two earlier University Architects, William A. Edwards and Rudolph Weaver, during a period of transition and rapid growth. The district update is nominated under the cover for the Multiple Property Submission for University of Florida Campus Historic Buildings and Sites, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida, using historic contexts: I. The Early Campus: 1906-1925, University Architect: William Augustus Edwards; II. The Campus After the Florida Boom Until World War II, 1926-1944, University Architect: Rudolph Weaver; and III. The Post-World War II Campus, 1945-1956, University Architect: Guy Chandler Fulton.

Historic Context

State supported higher education for white students began in 1851 with an act to provide support for two seminaries: East Florida Seminary was established in Gainesville in 1853 and West Florida Seminary was established in Tallahassee in 1856. Several other institutions of higher education in the state were also funded but all struggled to survive and competed for inadequate funds. In 1905 the Buckman Act created a Board of Regents and reorganized the state’s higher education system by consolidating the various schools into just three institutions: the University of Florida (for white male students) in Gainesville; Florida State College for (white) Women (later Florida State University), in Tallahassee; and Florida Normal and Industrial College for Negroses (later Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University), also in Tallahassee.\(^1\) As the population of the state expanded in the 1920s due to the Florida Land Boom, Florida saw a dramatic increase in public improvements, including better financing of public schools, particularly the three state institutions of higher learning. New buildings were added to those constructed when the three campuses were established in 1906. As in the rest of the nation, Florida suffered financially during the Great Depression of the 1930s, and construction slowed as new campus projects were not funded and enrollment stagnated. During the period of World War II, human and material resources in the state were diverted to the war effort.\(^2\)

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demand, and federal funding of college costs for veterans allocated by the GI Bill, created a surge of new building on Florida college and university campuses. Although the traditional architectural designs of buildings on the campuses of the three state-supported institutions of higher learning were not completely abandoned, contemporary styles and new building materials and technology were employed in the late 1940s and 1950s to deal with rapid expansion and the changing needs of the student body, faculty, and administration of each university.

Supporting Narrative

The University of Florida played a key role in providing the citizens of Florida with the opportunity of advanced education. With the passage of the Buckman Act in 1905, the state recognized its obligation to address the educational needs of all the citizens, and the University of Florida Historic Campus District remains the physical embodiment of the fulfillment of that obligation. The Board of Control hired the architectural firm of Edwards and Walters to design the buildings on the three new campuses. The initial buildings at the Florida State College for Women (FSU) and the University of Florida were constructed in the Collegiate Gothic style, while those on the campus of the Florida Normal College for Negroes (FAMU) were Colonial Revival in appearance.

Architectural Context

English architects Augustus Pugin (1812-1852) and Richard Norman Shaw (1831-1912) were inspired by the medievalism of heroic Gothic or Elizabethan architecture and its "spiritual" aspects, and moralists and critics such as John Ruskin (1819-1900) promoted the "Gothic" form as the height of beauty and truth in architecture. In this country, the works of Richard Upjohn (1802-1878) and other nineteenth-century architects influenced by these English trendsetters had a significant impact on the design of churches and governmental buildings. In New England, the Yale and Harvard campus buildings constructed in the mid-to late 1800s took on a Gothic and Romanesque style, and this became the standard architectural vocabulary for the new college and university buildings constructed during this period of national expansion in the decades following the Civil War. The Florida Board of Control was following a well-established model when it chose the Gothic style for the new institutions founded by the Buckman Act in 1905. Until the period following World War II, the Collegiate Gothic style was uncontested.


Supporting Narrative

The picturesque Collegiate Gothic style was applied to all of the University of Florida buildings constructed between 1906 and 1939, modified as to detail and elaboration of embellishment by the constraints of state funding. Architects William A. Edwards, who served from 1905 to 1925, and his successor, Rudolph Weaver, who held that post until 1944 and also was the head of the School of Architecture at the University of Florida, provided designs for more than twenty classroom buildings, dormitories, athletic facilities and a cathedral-like auditorium that were inspired by existing structures in such prestigious institutions as Yale and Princeton. The campus plan was also guided by the architects, creating an atmosphere of scholarly separation from the outside world. The historical and architectural cohesiveness of the campus historic district, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989, are conveyed by the consistent use of the Collegiate Gothic style and the use of common design elements, scale and materials.\(^4\)

Due to the restriction of building materials and manpower during World War II, no new buildings were constructed on the historic UF campus between 1940 and 1949. The population of the all-male institution plunged during the war years, but after the end of the war in 1945, unprecedented growth in the student population throughout the country was spurred by the Serviceman’s Readjustment Act (GI Bill) that provided tuition and a small stipend for veterans who wished to pursue higher education. To deal with the influx at UF, temporary buildings were moved to the campus to provide classroom and office space and student housing. Some of these simple, one-story wood frame buildings, most of them surplus military structures, remained on campus into the 1970s, until permanent buildings to deal with the needs of the students, faculty and administration could be constructed.\(^5\) In 1947, women were officially admitted as students to the formerly all-male student body, and new dormitories for them were also required, as well as more housing for single men on campus.

The post-World War II decade was a time of architectural transition, not only in this country, but also on a global basis, as modernist, international influences introduced in Europe before the war spread, and new materials and building technologies prevailed over traditional styles.\(^6\) On the UF campus, the transition was gradual, and new buildings maintained specific design elements that ensured compatibility with the older Collegiate Gothic structures on campus. Guy Fulton, the university architect between 1945 and 1956, chose red brick, terra cotta roof tiles and stone or cast concrete details for the new buildings he designed, but the details were more functional, streamlined, and economical than those employed for the earlier Gothic buildings designed by William Edwards and Rudolph Weaver.\(^7\)

\(^4\) University of Florida Campus Historic District, Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 1989.


\(^6\) Catina, 15-16.
Five diverse new buildings were completed within the boundaries of the University of Florida Campus Historic District between 1949 and 1956: Florida Gymnasium, the new Administration Building (later Tigert Hall), Matherly Hall, Century Tower and the Carlton Auditorium. They support the mission of the oldest and largest university in Florida, one that is ranked in the top fifteen research universities in the United States. It is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU) with a comprehensive array of academic and professional disciplines.

**Florida Gymnasium**

Florida Gymnasium was completed in 1949 to provide space for the growing men’s athletic programs, particularly the basketball program. It was built on the west end of the campus adjacent to the football stadium, swimming pool, track field and other athletic facilities. In addition to Varsity basketball games held for more than thirty seasons in the arena with a high vaulted ceiling known as “Alligator Alley,” the Gym also functioned as a venue for other sports events, concerts, banquets, and graduation ceremonies until 1980. Designed by Guy Fulton, Florida Gymnasium retains many of the Collegiate Gothic decorative elements on the exterior that appear on the older buildings on campus. A major interior renovation in the late 1990s included refurbishing the two basketball courts and recreation areas used now for intramural sports as well as providing more classrooms, and administrative spaces for the College of Health and Human Performance.

**Tigert Hall**

Tigert Hall opened in 1951 as the Administration Building. It replaced overcrowded offices located in Anderson Hall and shifted the location of the administrative functions of the university to S.W. 13th Street, the east boundary of the campus, which became the “front door” of the University of Florida. President John J. Tigert began planning the building in the late 1930s. Due to the lagging economy and the war years, the project was delayed until the 1950s. Guy Fulton had worked for University architect Rudolph Weaver, who had drawn preliminary plans for the building, and he concurred with the opinion that the Collegiate Gothic style be continued, but he incorporated new functional features such as air-conditioning. Need for space for the administrative activities of the university was particularly urgent for not only had student enrollment exploded in the late 1940s, but also the all male institution had become coeducational in 1947. The Administration Building combined all major administrative services of the campus in one building for the first time and provided classroom space on the upper floors. It housed the president and his staff, the Graduate School, the business office, and the registrar and had the first computer room on campus, where IBM equipment was

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7 Caténna, 3-7.
8 Caténna, 52-56.
installed. In November of 1960 the building was renamed and dedicated to UF president emeritus, John J. Tigert, a Rhodes Scholar who had served as head of the university from 1928 to 1947. Dr. Tigert established the Institute for Inter-American Affairs to cement friendly relations with the nations of Latin America and personally organized the Southeastern Athletic Conference in 1932.⁹

**Matherly Hall**

Matherly Hall was designed by Guy Fulton and housed the College of Business Administration when it opened in 1953. The building was named for Walter Jeffries Matherly (1888-1954), the dean of the college from 1926 to 1954. Dean Matherly began campaigning for a business administration building in 1950, when he told the *Florida Times-Union*, “a building to house the activities of the college has been, and still is, the most acute and pressing need.”¹⁰ Matherly Hall is still used primarily as a classroom and faculty office building and is typical of buildings designed and built by the University in the mid-twentieth century, referring to the Collegiate Gothic, but with a simplified and functional design. In 1996, the College of Business Administration became the Warrington College of Business Administration, named for a generous donor, 1958 UF graduate Alfred Warrington.

**Century Tower**

Century Tower honors UF students who died in World War I and World War II. It also commemorates the centennial of the founding of the University of Florida, which traces its roots to a parent institution founded in 1853. Ground was broken in 1953 and the 157-foot-tall structure was completed in 1956. The freestanding bell tower refers to an earlier tower designed by William Edwards in the 1920s as part of the proposed administration and auditorium building that was to be the centerpiece of the campus. Financial constraints limited the actual project to the construction of the University Auditorium on the original site.¹¹ The completion of the Century Tower realized this major aspect of Edwards’ plan and demonstrates the University of Florida’s continuing respect for its early plans. The brick façade and stone ornamentation in the Gothic style harmonize with the Historic Campus and the more modern buildings in its vicinity. From the Tower, the sound of the quarter hour tolls and the music of the bronze bells project across the campus. The carillon climbs 194 steps to reach the keyboard located in a small room just below the bell chamber. The keyboard or clavier

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¹⁰ [http://www.cba.ufl.edu/publications/about/history.asp](http://www.cba.ufl.edu/publications/about/history.asp)

¹¹ See “University of Florida Campus Historic District.” 1989. University Auditorium is a contributing resource.
has 61 large keys (called "batons") for the hands and 25 pedals for the feet. The bells, cast in the Netherlands, were installed in 1979, and replaced electronic chimes installed in 1956 when the tower was completed. Performers from the School of Music, directly across Stadium Road, play the carillon bells every day. There are fewer than 200 carillons in all of North America, and only four in the state of Florida. The Century Tower carillon has 61 bells, encompassing a range of 5 octaves, and is among the largest university carillons in North America.

Carlton Auditorium

Carlton Auditorium was designed by Guy Fulton in 1954 to accommodate the fast-growing student population in the post-World War II years, particularly freshman and sophomore students enrolled in University College courses. Established in 1935 as General College to provide a comprehensive range of seven courses covering the humanities, English, math, social sciences, and physical and biological sciences for lower level students, it became University College in the post-war years, headed by Dean Winston W. Little. The concept was popular among other universities, serving as a terminal degree program as well as a preparation for upper level specialization. University College was disbanded in the late 1970s when it was merged with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. However, the lecture hall is still in constant use for large class gatherings, with seating for approximately 650 students. Carlton Auditorium was designed by Guy Fulton in the more formal, classical style that some architects adopted in mid-century. It is named for William G. Carleton, a respected history professor from 1926 to 1962.

Plaza of the Americas

The Plaza of the Americas, the quadrangle in the center of the Historic District that was part of the 1906 campus plan, referred to only as The Meadow. It was dedicated and given its official title in 1931, when UF president John J. Tigert invited members of the Institute of Latin America Association to meet on campus for a four-day session. Representatives from twenty-one nations of the Americas planted oak trees on the open space as a gesture of hemispheric good will. The Plaza of the Americas serves as the University’s open-air forum, a place of assembly where politics, religion, morals, and manners are hotly debated. In order to bring a tone of

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12 http://www.arts.ufl.edu/carillon/history1.html

13 One of these is the Singing Tower at the Historic Bok Sanctuary in Lake Wales, named a National Historic Landmark in 2006.


15 Whiffen, 257-258.
moderation to the often-bitter discussions, President Stephen C. O’Connell initiated the “Friendship Walk” on Valentine’s Day, 1967, the only walkway that is paved with red brick instead of concrete.\textsuperscript{16} It has been the scene of protest rallies, sit-ins, holiday celebrations, and demonstrations, as well as a place to study, play music, and hang out with friends. Since 1972 the Hare Krishna community of Alachua County, who accept donations, but do not charge for the meals, has served food on the Plaza. In the 1980s, students successfully fought against plans to pave the plaza.

\textsuperscript{16} Kevin McCarthy and Murray D. Laurie. \textit{Guide to the University of Florida and Gainesville}. (Sarasota: Pineapple Press, 1997), 152.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


University of Florida Campus Historic District, Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 1989.


http://www.cba.ufl.edu/publications/about/history .

http://www.arts.ufl.edu/carillon/history1.html
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CAMPUS
HISTORIC DISTRICT (ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION)
Gainesville, Alachua Co., FL

UTM REFERENCES (continued)

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary has not changed. See accompanying map, entitled “University of Florida Campus Historic District.”
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Photos Page 1

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CAMPUS
HISTORIC DISTRICT (Additional Information)
Gainesville, Alachua Co., FL

INVENTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Florida Gymnasium, University of Florida
2. Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida
3. Professor Susan Tate
4. November 2006
5. Professor Susan Tate and Ms. Murray Laurie
6. View of SW elevation, facing NE
7. 1 of 15

Items 2-5 are the same for photographs 2-18.

1. Florida Gymnasium, University of Florida
6. View of S elevation, facing N
7. 2 of 15

1. Florida Gymnasium, University of Florida
6. View of E elevation, facing W
7. 3 of 15

1. Tigert Hall, University of Florida
6. View of E (main) facade, facing SW
7. 4 of 15

1. Tigert Hall, University of Florida
6. View of S elevation, facing NNW
7. 5 of 15

1. Tigert Hall, University of Florida
6. View of W elevation, facing E
7. 6 of 15

1. Tigert Hall, University of Florida
6. Exterior, detail of ornamentation, facing W
7. 7 of 15
1. Tigert Hall, University of Florida
6. Interior view, second floor, facing N
7. 8 of 15

1. Matherly Hall, University of Florida
6. View of S entrance, facing N
7. 9 of 15

1. Century Tower, University of Florida
6. View of S facade, facing N
7. 10 of 15

1. Century Tower, University of Florida
6. Detail of top of tower, S elevation, facing N
7. 11 of 15

1. Carlton Auditorium, University of Florida
6. View of E (main) facade, facing SW
7. 12 of 15

1. Century Tower, University of Florida
6. Main entrance, facing N
7. 13 of 15

1. Carlton Auditorium, University of Florida
6. Water fountain, facing W
7. 14 of 15

1. Plaza of the Americas, University of Florida
2. Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida
3. Ms. Jessica Goldsmith
4. April 2007
5. Professor Susan Tate and Ms. Murray Laurie
6. View of SW, facing SW
7. 15 of 15