Form 10-300

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Estey Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Shaw University Campus, East South Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
The Hon. Ike F. Andrews

STATE:
North Carolina

COUNTY:
Wake

ENTRY DATE
MAY 25 1973

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Object</td>
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</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Religious
- Transportation
- Private Residence
- Museum
- Scientific
- Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of Shaw University

STREET AND NUMBER:
118 East South Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh

STATE:
North Carolina

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Wake County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pattersonville Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Raleigh

STATE:
North Carolina

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:
Estey Hall is an impressive Victorian institutional building set among large trees on the Shaw University campus. The large brick structure is four stories high beneath a cross-gable roof capped by a frame cupola. The wide overhang of the roof is accented by a bracketed cornice that returns into each gable. This pattern is repeated in the cross-gable roof of the large rectangular cupola which has patterned shingled wall surfaces and arched windows. The west and east gable ends are three bays wide with the central bay having double windows and a first-floor entrance. The north and south facades are seven bays wide. The central bay of the north elevation, possibly once the main facade, has had alterations at all five levels. The segmental-arched openings throughout are elaborately framed with heavy, arched, shouldered surrounds of stuccoed brick. Also of stuccoed brick are the quoins that define each corner of the building. Much of the architectural character of the building derives from the bold design of these elements and the strong contrast of the off-white stucco against the red brick walls.

At the west side sheltering the entrance is a three-story full-width porch with a turned balustrade and spindle friezes at each level. Adjoining the south facade of the main building is a three-story brick addition, three bays wide and six bays long; a later nineteenth century construction, it repeats the quoins and window treatment of the main block. A modern brick stair tower is attached to the south end. The interior has been altered over the years and is in deteriorated condition; its complete renovation is planned.
Estey Hall is a major landmark of south Raleigh, a handsome and imposing Victorian institutional building whose bold ornament complements its large scale. As the oldest surviving building of Shaw University, it is one of the important monuments of North Carolina's black history and is of particular significance in the history of the education of black women.

Shaw University was chartered by the General Assembly in 1875, and it was stipulated that "... no pupils should ever be excluded from the benefits arising therefrom ... on account of race, color, or previous conditions of servitude." The establishment of such a school for the education of former slaves and their children had been begun nearly a decade before, when Henry Martin Tupper had begun teaching a small group in a hotel room in Raleigh. The class grew and soon seventy-five students were enrolled in a building provided by the Freedman's Bureau. By 1870, property at the south end of the main street (Fayetteville Street) was purchased, with $5,000 of the $13,000 donated by Elijah J. Shaw of Massachusetts, for whom the new school was later named. It is said that the students and faculty themselves dug the clay, molded the brick, and felled the timber to erect the first building.

Fairly early Shaw University began to admit women, and in 1873, according to the school records, "Estey Seminary," as it was first called, was erected to serve the women students. Jacob Estey of Brattleboro, Vermont, and George Morse of Putnam, Connecticut, were substantial contributors toward the construction of the building. The 1874-1875 catalogue of the school described Estey Hall in glowing terms:

Estey Hall: This is the finest School Building in the State, and is the pride of the colored people of North Carolina, as it affords facilities for the education of their daughters which cannot be surpassed. It will accommodate about one hundred pupils, and the large number of young ladies from the best families in the State, during the first session, has proved the necessity and wisdom of this undertaking. The school is destined to be a Fountain of Light, and is earnestly hoped that some lover of female education will amply endow this department of the school.
### 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

**LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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**LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES**

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<tr>
<td>Degrees Minutes Seconds</td>
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**APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:** less than one acre

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY LINES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
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### 11 FORM PREPARED BY

**NAME AND TITLE:**

Survey and Planning Unit

**ORGANIZATION:**

Office of Archives and History

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

109 East Jones Street

**CITY OR TOWN:**

Raleigh

**DATE:**

May 3, 1973

### 12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

- National [ ]
- State [x]
- Local [ ]

**Name:**

H. G. Jones

**Title:**

State Historian/Administrator

**Date:**

May 3, 1973

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**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

**Director, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation**

**ATTEST:**

Keeper of The National Register

**Date:**

12/25/73

**Date:**

2/3/73
Shaw University has continued to expand and develop in the century since its founding. Many modern structures have been built on the campus, and for a time it was thought that Estey Hall was to be demolished. It is currently planned, however, to restore the exterior and to renovate completely the interior, adapting it to a new use to insure its preservation as the chief historic landmark of the campus.
9.
