

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
North Carolina

COUNTY:  
Wake

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE  
JUN 19 1973

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Peace College Main Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Peace Street at north end of Wilmington Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Raleigh

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Fourth  
The Hon. Ike F. Andrews

STATE: North Carolina      CODE: 37      COUNTY: Wake      CODE: 183

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Dr. S. David Frazier, President

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Peace College

CITY OR TOWN:  
Raleigh

STATE:  
North Carolina

CODE: 37

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Wake County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Raleigh

STATE:  
North Carolina

CODE: 37

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

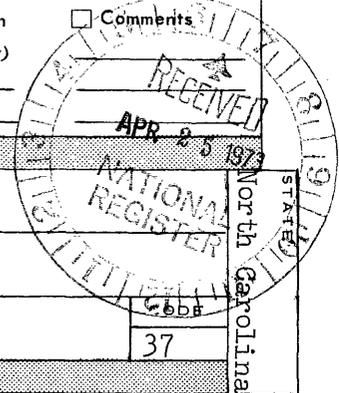
TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
STATE:  
CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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JUN 19 1973

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

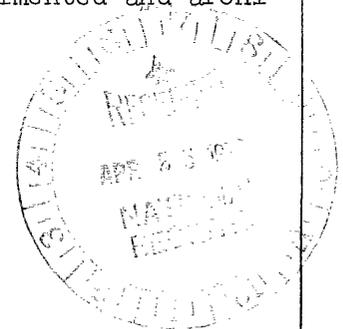
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Peace College Main Building is an impressive Greek Revival building at the focal point of a pleasant, well-planted campus. The structure, eleven bays wide, is of brick laid in one-to-five common bond and rises four stories beneath a gable roof; the second floor is treated as a main nobile and is divided from the ground floor by a stone belt course. Dominating the main (south) facade is a monumental three-bay central portico with massive masonry Doric columns supported on brick piers one story high. Formerly stairs rose from the ground to the first level of the porch on either side. At each of the three main levels of the porch, a sawn work balustrade runs between the columns. The ceilings have intersecting chamfered wooden members. On the facade at the ends of the porch, echoing the columns, are heavy brick Doric pilasters, which recur at the corners of the building and along the facade separating the bays into pairs. A wide entablature carries around the building and the porch, with a flat-paneled frieze and soffit. Paired brackets occur over each column and pilaster. The central bay at each level contains a double door beneath a fanlight, set in a splayed flat-paneled reveal. The remaining bays contain windows with six-over-six sash, emphasized by wide stone sills and lintels, and set in heavy molded frames. The ends of the building are pedimented. At the rear is a central projecting wing, creating a T-shaped composition. The cornice treatment continues around the building, but the pilasters are repeated only at the corners of the main block.

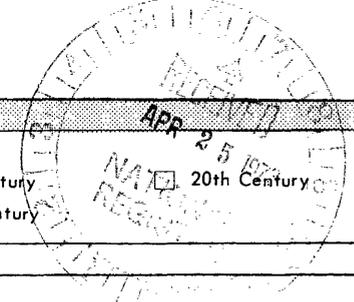
The plan of the interior features at each level a spacious central stair hall giving access on each side to a lateral hall; around these axes are arranged classrooms, offices, dormitory rooms, and social rooms. Despite some modernization, the interior retains much of its original finish, probably dating from the 1870s reclamation of the building. Walls are plastered above heavy molded baseboards, and many of the original heavy door and window frames remain, as well as the doors with four flat panels accented by wide moldings. Windows and some doors are set in splayed reveals, paneled like the early doors. The most striking feature of the interior is the handsome Victorian stair, which begins at the ground level and winds upward in long flights to the top floor. It has a massive turned newel, turned balusters, and a heavy molded handrail.

In the twentieth century, additions to the campus have been done sympathetically, so that this original building retains its visual dominance. It is flanked by small adjoining one-story pedimented wings; their facades match now, but behind the facade of the western one is the early chapel. Attached to these small wings are larger wings, also pedimented and architecturally related to the early building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**5. SIGNIFICANCE**



PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |
|  |                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century            |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                                  | <u>Black history</u>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                                | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian: Hospital | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                                  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                           | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                |   |   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dramatically sited at the northern terminus of the long, straight vista of Wilmington Street at the head of a grassy avenue of trees, Peace College Main Building is a handsome Greek Revival structure whose impressive massiveness is lightened by Italianate and Victorian accents. Used before it was completed as a Civil War hospital and then as the Freedmen's Bureau, Peace Institute was finally reclaimed for its intended use during the lean years of Reconstruction and gradually developed into a respected junior college. Until the late nineteenth century the college defined the northern boundary of the town; today, in company with the architecturally related Lewis-Smith House, it is a well-preserved but increasingly isolated vestige of the character of antebellum Raleigh.

Peace Institute of Raleigh, a Presbyterian school for young women, was incorporated in October 1, 1858, taking its name from William Peace, a Raleigh merchant who had donated land for the site and \$10,000 for construction of a building. According to the charter, the

Female Seminary will have for its object the thorough education of young ladies, not only in the substantial branches of knowledge, but also in those which are elegant and ornamental . . . said school to be Presbyterian in its influence and course of education.

When the Civil War began, the ambitious brick building was but partially complete. In May, 1862, Dr. Thomas Hill, surgeon of the Confederate army, was sent to Raleigh to establish a hospital to serve wounded soldiers. Dr. Hill later recorded,

It was first proposed to take the St. Mary's School with buildings, but on consultation with friends this idea was abandoned, and it was pointed out that the Peace Institute, then in an incompleated condition, could be had--and would be more suitable and cause less dissatisfaction. I visited the place and found a large brick framework,--the roof on,--but no floors and window,--, General Holmes' orders were to hurry up matters and, if necessary, to impress every able-bodied man in Raleigh and put him to work--and get the building ready. Major Pierce called in the contractor, Mr. Briggs, and he promised to put hands enough to work to get the Hospital ready in a month. . . . In the meantime . . . the floors were put down and frames made for the windows--no glass could be found--so the frames were covered with white domestic and painted to keep out the cold. . . .

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Research and architectural description by Catherine W. Cockshutt, survey supervisor.  
 Hamilton, J. G. de Roulhac. Reconstruction in North Carolina. New York: Columbia University, 1914.  
 Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).  
 Wake County Records, Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).  
 Waugh, Elizabeth Culbertson. North Carolina's Capital, Raleigh. Raleigh, North Carolina: The Junior League of Raleigh, Inc., and the Raleigh

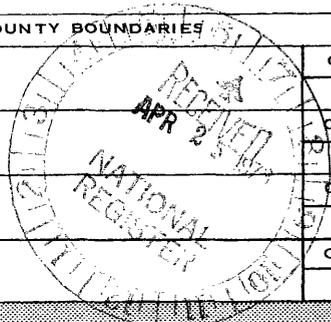
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		35° 47' 21"	78° 38' 18"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 8 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Survey and Planning Unit

ORGANIZATION: Office of Archives and History DATE: 19 April 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:  
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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  Local

Name: H. G. Jones  
 Title: State Historian/Administrator  
 Date: 9 April 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.  
Robert W. Utley  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/19/73  
 ATTEST:  
W. M. ...  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: 6 14 73

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE North Carolina	
COUNTY Wake	
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ENTRY NUMBER JUN 19 1973	DATE

(Number all entries)  
8. A

As well as I can recollect . . . the first patients were received on the 6th of June 1862.

Raleigh was surrendered to General Sherman in April, 1865, with the provision that "the Capitol and the city should be respected and the rights of property duly regarded." In 1865 the Peace Institute building was taken over to house the Freedmen's Bureau; Raleigh was the headquarters for the central administrative district. The bureau sought to relieve the destitute, protect the newly freed blacks, assist them in obtaining employment, and provide education. Unpopular as it was among whites, and subject to fraud and misuse by some of its agents, the bureau was an important and often beneficial force for negro rights during these years. It became increasingly political in nature before being discontinued in 1869.

The economic resources of the town and the state during Reconstruction were so meagre that for a time it seemed unlikely that Peace Institute would ever open as intended, but finally, in 1872, it was opened under private ownership--a joint-stock company made up primarily of members of the Presbyterian Church. The president was the Reverend Robert Burwell, who had previously with his wife run a school in Hillsborough (Burwell School, National Register, September 15, 1970) and the Charlotte Female Institute. Under Burwell's administration, which lasted until 1890, Peace Institute developed into a respected school with a wide curriculum. During most of his tenure, "the class work at Peace was divided into three courses of instruction: Primary, Preparatory, and Collegiate." The school was a small one, as the number of graduates each year indicates: 1873, 4; 1874, 8; 1875, 4; 1878, 2; 1879, 4; 1880, 9; 1881, 4; 1882, 4; 1883, 13; 1885, 15; 1886, 8; 1887, 8; 1888, 16; 1889, 14. By 1882 there were over 200 students, of whom more than half were day students. Despite the economic conditions of the South during Reconstruction and the lack of any endowment for financial support, the Burwells were able to keep the new school going, and indeed by 1890 the institution was flourishing. During the presidency of James Dinwiddie (1890-1907), the school became somewhat more progressive; "the Peace Institute of Dr. Burwell's time seemed more of a girl's finishing school, while in the Dinwiddie years it evolved into a form more recognizable today as a college." With the end of the Dinwiddie administration (Dinwiddie himself had owned the school) the ownership of the school changed from a privately owned institution to a church-owned one. It was purchased by the First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh, "which then asked five Presbyteries of the Synod of North Carolina to share the ownership of Peace with them." During the early twentieth century the school continued to grow gradually; a few new buildings were constructed and the campus increased from eight to ten acres. The 1919-1920 term brought the change from a four-year collegiate program to a junior college program, with four years of high school and two of college work; a diploma was given but no degree. As a junior college, Peace Institute was accredited by the State Board of Education; in 1924, an enlarged business course and secretarial course was added to the curriculum. In addition to the basic academic courses there were strong departments of art, music, and home economics.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
North Carolina	
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JAN 17 1973	

(Number all entries)

8. B

The mid-twentieth century brought a period of crisis for the school. First there was the arduous task of paying off a large debt, incurred in 1907, which had gathered interest over the years. Then there were serious problems over the ownership and continued existence of the school. In 1953 the board of trustees voted to comply with a request made by the Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina to transfer ownership to the synod; inserted in the agreement was a clause that Peace could not be closed without reverting to its original owners. In 1954 a survey study, funded by the Ford Foundation, was begun; it recommended that three Presbyterian colleges, including Peace, be closed. After considerable debate and a court case, First Presbyterian Church of Raleigh reassumed ownership of the school, under the operation of the Board of Trustees of Peace College of Raleigh, Inc., an arrangement which took effect on June 10, 1962. Without the financial support of the synod, however, the economic position of Peace was quite uncertain. A fund-raising campaign began in 1962; primary among the contributors was Grover M. Hermann, a Chicago industrialist whose donations have made possible the financial security of and recent new construction at Peace College.



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(Continuation Sheet)

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9.

Historic Sites Commission, Inc., 1967.  
Wilson, Sidney Ann. Personae: The History of Peace College. Privately  
printed, 1972.

