

LANDMARK DESIGNATION REPORT

LANDMARK/SITE NAME: Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building

OWNER: Riverside General Hospital

APPLICANT: Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission

LOCATION: 3204 Ennis Street

30-DAY HEARING NOTICE: April-20-98

AGENDA ITEM: Ir

PC MEETING DATE: June-25-98

HPO FILE NO.: 98L064

DATE ACCEPTED: Mar-26-98

HAHC HEARING DATE: May-21-98

SITE INFORMATION

Lots 11-13, Block 1, Holman Outlot 32, City of Houston, Harris County, Texas. The building on the site is a two-story, reinforced concrete structure with tile block infill, stucco finish. The roof is tiled. There is an arcade along the rear elevation.

TYPE OF APPROVAL REQUESTED: Landmark Designation

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE:

The Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 27, 1982 (Reference No. 82004857). The structure was built in 1931 and is classified as Spanish Colonial Revival style.

The Houston Negro School of Nursing is located within Houston's Third Ward. This area of Houston is primarily residential and consist of small and moderate - sized houses and apartments. There are also many small commercial buildings and churches in the area. The Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building stands on the same block as the Houston Negro Hospital Building. The Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building helped provide staff for the hospital. It also enabled the students to gain valuable experience, and it was an important institute for training African-American individuals in the medical profession.

The initial plans for construction of the Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building date back to 1926. At that time a master plan was developed for the hospital complex by Maurice J. Sullivan. The hospital was the first phase of the project, then the nursing school. Funding for the Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building was also provided by Joseph S. Cullinan. The nursing school's funds were released in his wife's honor after her death in 1929. West and Jensen contractors were hired to build the school. Construction began on March 8, 1931 and was finished two months later.

At the public hearing of the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission (HAHC) held on March 13, 1997, the HAHC discussed the matter regarding the expiration of the two-year temporary designation of all landmarks that City Council had previously designated when the Historic Preservation Ordinance was adopted on March 1, 1995. Since the designation had expired, the HAHC requested that the planning staff contact the owners of these landmarks to determine their interest in the HAHC initiating an application for permanent designation. Letter were sent to the owners who confirmed that the HAHC could initiate designation. The HAHC had instructed the planning staff previously that if any landmark had been designated either by the National Register program, as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark, a State Archaeological Site or a temporary landmark of the City of Houston, then the application would be considered for permanent landmark designation on that merit alone. Therefore, regarding the preparation of the application, HAHC agreed to consider the application with minimal information provided to them.

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

APPROVAL CRITERIA FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION:

Sec. 33-224. Criteria for designation of a Landmark.

(a) The HAHC and the commission, in making recommendations with respect to designation, and the city council, in making a designation, shall consider one or more of the following criteria, as appropriate for the type of designation:

S D NA **S - satisfies** **D - does not satisfy** **NA - not applicable**

- (1) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area possesses character, interest or value as a visible reminder of the development, heritage, and cultural and ethnic diversity of the city, state, or nation;
- (2) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area is the location of a significant local, state or national event;
- (3) Whether the building, structure, object, site or area is identified with a person who, or group or event that, contributed significantly to the cultural or historical development of the city, state, or nation;
- (4) Whether the building or structure or the buildings or structures within the area exemplify a particular architectural style or building type important to the city;

Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion "C" which includes **"distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction."**

- (5) Whether the building or structure or the buildings or structures within the area are the best remaining examples of an architectural style or building type in a neighborhood;
- (6) Whether the building, structure, object or site or the buildings, structures, objects or sites within the area are identified as the work of a person or group whose work has influenced the heritage of the city, state, or nation;
- (7) Whether specific evidence exists that unique archaeological resources are present;
- (8) Whether the building, structure, object or site has value as a significant element of community sentiment or public pride.

HAHC RECOMMENDATION:

At a public hearing on May 21, 1998, the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission determined that the application complied with criteria found in the Houston Preservation Ordinance, and recommended that the Planning Commission accepts the recommendation of the HAHC and forward it to City Council for the designation of the Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building as a Landmark of the City of Houston.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Recommends that the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission recommends designation of Houston Negro Hospital School of Nursing Building as a landmark to the Planning Commission since the application complies with the criteria of the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

CITY OF HOUSTON

Archaeological & Historical Commission

Planning and Development Department

SITE LOCATION MAP

HOUSTON NEGRO HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING BUILDING

3204 ENNIS

NOT TO SCALE