

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received APR 5 1982

date entered MAY 13 1982

1. Name

historic John W. Boddie House

and/or common Tougaloo Mansion House

2. Location

street & number Tougaloo College Campus N/A not for publication

city, town Tougaloo N/A vicinity of congressional district Third

state Mississippi code 28 county Madison code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Board of Trustees, Tougaloo College

street & number County Line Road

city, town Tougaloo N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Madison County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Canton state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1975 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Two-story frame Italianate structure with low gabled roofs, bracketed cornice and central belvedere. Three-bay facade, slightly projecting central pavilion, one-story bracketed gallery capped by a ballustrade. Twentieth-century sleeping porch added at the second-story level. Massive entrance frontispiece housing six-panel double-leaf doors and fanlight. Flanking two-over-four floor length windows with eared architraves and decoratively sawn cornices. Original drab color scheme which highlighted the corner boards, skirt, imposts, railings, window sash and trim, cornice and eaves, now hidden under white paint. Center-hall plan, unbalanced room arrangement.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1850, 1869 **Builder/Architect** J. Lamour

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In the antebellum period of Mississippi history, preference for the Greek Revival style of architecture overshadowed examples of the other, more picturesque, styles made popular by A. J. Downing, A. J. Davis, C. Vaux and others. In the state context therefore, the Tougaloo Mansion House, is a significant example of the Italianate style (criteria C) both by the quality of its design and the scarceness of other, equally ambitious, examples. It is perhaps the most conspicuous extant work of the locally important architect and builder J. Lamour of Canton, Mississippi, who claimed to be proficient in the ". . . Swiss, Italian, Elizabethan, Norman and Old English styles."¹ His capabilities were supplemented by woodwork manufactured by Hinkle, Guild and Company of Cincinnati who illustrated an elevation and plan of the house in a ca. 1865 catalogue. Lamour's client was J. W. Boddie, a wealthy planter who died at the end of the Civil War and whose house became the nucleus of Tougaloo College, a site significant to the educational history of black Mississippians (criteria A). Founded in 1869, Tougaloo College is an early and successful example of the movement to educate newly freed blacks and to place them into an honorable position within southern society.

Following the Civil War, education, housing and employment of freed slaves was a major concern of the United States Freedmen's Bureau and the American Missionary Association (AMA). By 1868 the AMA, in conjunction with the Freedmen's Bureau, had in operation four primary, eight graded, and two normal schools for Mississippi's freedmen.² One year later, the Association purchased the mansion built for Madison County planter John Boddie in the 1850s and the surrounding 500-acre plantation for \$10,500. The mansion was to become the nucleus of the boarding school which would teach industrial arts and train black teachers. The plantation site was an appropriate setting according to the AMA philosophy about black education: ". . . while students were developing intellectually and spiritually, they were also expected to be learning agricultural or industrial skills and earning part of their expenses."⁴ The school was named Tougaloo Normal and Manual Training School.

H. S. Beals, "a man with a reputation for pioneering schools on a minimum of capitol," and his family arrived at Tougaloo in October, 1869, and "Beals started a day school in the mansion within a month of the day he and his family arrived."⁵ Occupied by Beals, his family and a "dozen or more girls sleeping in each of its large upstairs rooms," the mansion served as house, dormitory and school. By 1871, the school had separate dormitories for the male and female students, and within ten years, seven buildings were either enlarged or constructed on the campus. In 1881, the school built a brick yard and students learned the techniques of masonry. Tougaloo, like many other AMA supported schools, depended on its students to construct the campus facilities.⁶

9. Major Bibliographical References

Campbell, Clarice. "Exploring the Roots of Tougaloo College." Journal of Mississippi History 35:15-27.

_____. "The Founding of Tougaloo." M.A. thesis, University of Mississippi, 1967.

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than one

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Ridgeland

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Acreage nominated with the John Boddie House include all those lands enclosed in red on the attached sketch map, approximately 100 x 100 feet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title P. Ana Gordon, Historian
Mississippi Department of Archives
organization and History

date January 6, 1982

street & number P. O. Box 571

telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson

state Mississippi

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Robert J. Davis

Deputy title State Historic Preservation Officer

date March 26, 1982

For HCRS use only

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

William H. Bralman

date 5.13.82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Wm. Davis*

date 5/13/82

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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DATE ENTERED

John W. Boddie House
Madison County, Mississippi

CONTINUATION SHEET

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8 - SIGNIFICANCE

On May 13, 1871, both Tougaloo and Alcorn University, a state supported, land grant college for blacks, received charters from the state legislature. Tougaloo, which was supported by donations from the AMA, acquired state normal school status in 1871, and received an annual appropriation of \$2,500 in state funds. This grant was rescinded in 1877, renewed in 1879, and finally abolished by the educational provisions of the 1890 Mississippi Constitution. Since that time, funding for the college has depended on the AMA, tuition, donations and alumni contributions.⁷

From the beginning, Tougaloo was coeducational. Courses of study for boys and girls were entirely different: girls were taught housekeeping, millinery and nursing; boys were taught architectural drawing, farming methods and woodworking. Students earned their expenses by working in the laundry, kitchen and fields.⁸

The school offered "high school studies, with trade schools for those manifesting some degree of skills in handicraft, [and] with technical schools for those more scientific." In 1879, the first class, composed of three students, was graduated. By 1889, the college abandoned their primary school and concentrated their efforts on a "normal and academic study." The college department began in 1897 and was described as the "natural evolution of the school." The first college class was graduated in 1901. Extracurricular activities such as music, biblical studies and participation in the YMCA and YWCA were offered at Tougaloo. In 1916, the school became Tougaloo College.⁹

Tougaloo College is well known for its role in promoting education and defending the civil rights of Mississippi's blacks, and the mansion house stands as a symbol of that intellectual fortitude. A 1909 historical sketch of the college claimed "it has been said that no other one influence has been more potent for the best development of the Negro race in Mississippi than Tougaloo."¹⁰ Throughout the twentieth century, Tougaloo sought better relations between whites and blacks. A post World War II retrospective claimed that "On the college campus many Tougaloo students experience normal relations with members of the white race for the first time . . . in one sense Tougaloo College . . . is a laboratory where the theory of racial equality is tested day after day and is not found wanting."¹¹ In the 1960s, Tougaloo College became a rallying point for the black civil rights movement in Jackson. Today, the Tougaloo Mansion House is seen nationally in a television commercial for the United Negro College Fund.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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Madison County, Mississippi

CONTINUATION SHEET

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FOOTNOTES

¹The American Citizen (Canton, Mississippi), June 24, 1854.

²Historical Sketch of Tougaloo University, Tougaloo, Mississippi (published by the American Missionary Association, n.d.), p. 3.

³Clarice T. Campbell, "Exploring the Roots of Tougaloo College," Journal of Mississippi History 35(1973):23.

⁴Clarice T. Campbell, "The Founding of Tougaloo," M.A. thesis, University of Mississippi, 1967, p. 35.

⁵Ibid., p. 27.

⁶Historical Sketch, pp. 3-5.

⁷Ibid., pp. 4-6.

⁸Ibid., p. 20.

⁹Mississippi Department of Archives and History, National Register Files, Madison County, Tougaloo College: "Tougaloo History," typewritten excerpt from 1904-05 Tougaloo College Catalog; Historical Sketch, pp. 8-9.

¹⁰Historical Sketch, p. 11.

¹¹Mississippi Department of Archives and History, National Register Files, Madison County, Tougaloo College: H. Chester Slocum, Jr., "A Brief History of Tougaloo College," The Tougaloo News (n.p., n.d.).

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John W. Boddie House
Madison County, Mississippi
CONTINUATION SHEET

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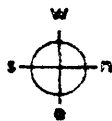
9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historical Sketch of Tougaloo University, Tougaloo, Mississippi. Published by
the American Missionary Society, 1909.

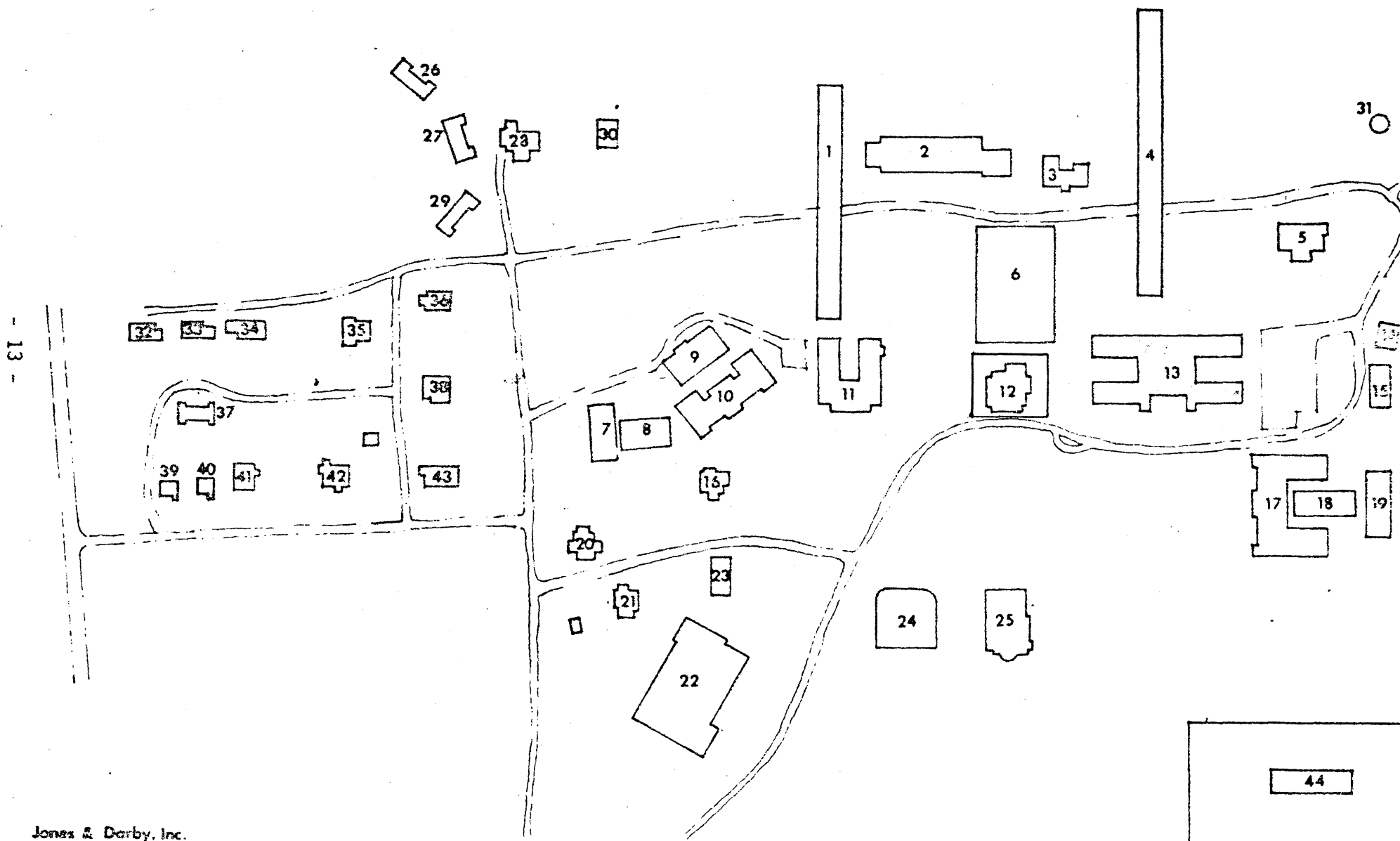
Mississippi Department of Archives and History, National Register Files, Madison
County, Tougaloo College.

TOUGALOO COLLEGE

TOUGALOO, MISSISSIPPI



John W. Boddie House
Madison County, Mississippi





John W. Boddie House

Tougaloo, Madison County, Mississippi

Credit: Lisa Reynolds

Mississippi Department of Archives
and History

January, 1975

View to the west

Photo 1 of 3



John W. Boddie House

Tougaloo, Madison County, Mississippi

Credit: Lisa Reynolds

Mississippi Department of Archives
and History

January, 1975

View to the southwest

Photo 2 of 3



John W. Boddie House

Tougaloo, Madison County, Mississippi

Credit: Lisa Reynolds

Mississippi Department of Archives
and History

January, 1975

Main entrance

Photo 3 of 3