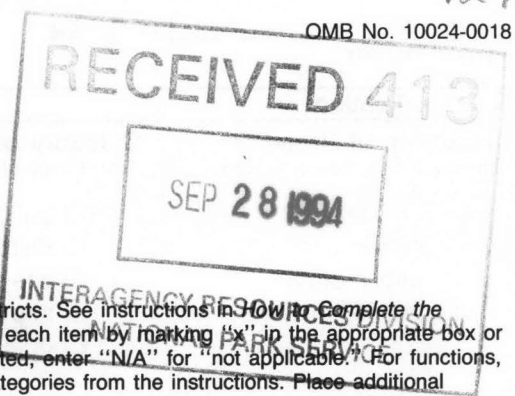


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 an 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 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.



1. Name of Property

historic name Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

other names/site number Omicron Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta (S 38 in the M.P.D. form)

2. Location

street & number 1110 West Nevada not for publication

city or town Urbana vicinity

state Illinois code IL county Champaign code 019 zip code 61801

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.)

William L. Gabel, SHPO 9-20-94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

for
Edson B. Beall Signature of the Keeper
Entered in the National Register 10-28-94 Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Fraternity & Sorority Houses at the
Urbana-Champaign Campus of the Univ. of Illinois

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/education-related housing

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education/education-related housing

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof asphalt

other Wood

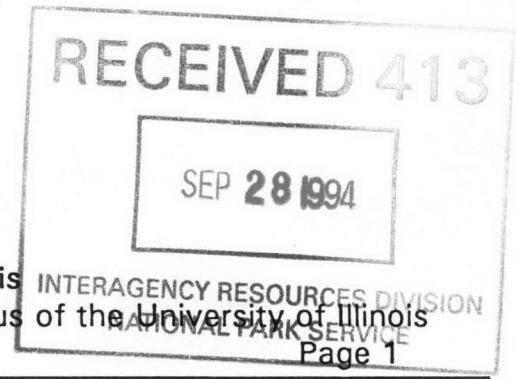
Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois
Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois
Section number 7



Narrative Description

Surroundings

The sorority house for Omicron Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta is located near the eastern edge of the Urbana campus of the University of Illinois, on West Nevada Street opposite the first women's dormitory of the University. The house is just two blocks east of the Foellinger Auditorium at the south end of the main quadrangle of the campus. East of the sorority house, the streetscape is in transition, with piecemeal replacement of former residences with newer academic buildings. The immediate eastern neighbor is "Krannert View," a mixed style beige brick apartment with twin frame gables and a long dormer on the third floor. Farther east is the Sigma Alpha Tau sorority house, a Tudor Revival building in beige brick with leaded glass windows; a modern Tudor-inspired addition extends west of the historic section. A vacant lot is at the corner of West Nevada and South Gregory streets.

To the west of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House is the modern Music Building. Four stories in height and constructed of brick and glass in a tempered Brutalism style, the Music Building frames the sorority house property to the west and the north. Across Nevada, the 1917 Busey and 1925 Evans Halls represent the predominant Georgian Revival style used in almost all U of I buildings from 1910 through 1960.

Background

World War I conditions precluded new construction, so the Omicron Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta was forced to buy an existing duplex for their new chapter house. In 1918, the chapter purchased 1110 West Nevada, but the organization was still interested in better quarters. A building committee worked out plans with the Peoria architectural firm of Hewitt, Emerson and Gregg during 1926 for remodeling the Nevada Street house. That house had been a Four Square duplex building which the sorority adapted to chapter house use. The plans for "Addition and Alteration" dated February 11, 1927 show extension of the building to the west and virtually complete change of the exterior of the enlarged structure to harmonize with the predominant and popular Georgian Revival style of most of the university campus architecture.

The Four Square two story duplex house, built c. 1910, was located entirely within the 65 foot width of Lot 14 of the Forestry Heights Subdivision. The 1927 changes extended the building area into Lot 15 to the west. The main element of the building is a long three story rectangle approximately 38 feet by 96 feet with an asphalt shingle hip roof. At the eastern end, a stubby ell extended to the rear about thirteen feet. That ell, and the eastern 44 feet of the main rectangle, were the full extent of the circa 1910 house incorporated into the 1927 project, with minor interior changes, an additional story, and extensive outer wall treatment (see First Floor Plan Sketch and inset for key to construction dates). A further 25 foot extension of the three story ell toward the rear of the property was constructed in 1951 to accommodate updated kitchen facilities, and additional sleeping rooms and dormitories on the upper floors. The exterior

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois
Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois
Section number 7 Page 2

brickwork, stone sills, and wood cornice are consistent throughout, although the limestone belt course and other limestone trim are omitted in the 1951 ell.

In the 1927 expansion of the chapter house, a large living room was added at the west end of the main floor, with the basement space beneath it intended to serve as the chapter meeting room. A Music Room or Lounge, and library or parlor rooms were also located within the western addition. What had been the living room in the west half of the duplex became the "great hall" extended down the center of the new building. Both the dining and the living room were opened to new sun rooms. A new double stair was added opposite the new central entry and vestibule.

The 1927 version of the house retains a high degree of architectural integrity, with the 1951 rear ell addition blending well with the historic construction, and the small 1983 House Director's room addition being clearly ancillary to the building, and relatively unobtrusive due to its scale and location. Both additions are to the rear of the building, and are barely visible from the street, if visible at all. Most of the double-hung and casement windows in the building are replacements, the only exceptions being the French doors and windows of the 1927 sun rooms. Careful attention has been paid, in all cases, to replicate the original light patterns of the sash with applied muntins. The "muntins" on the first floor are beveled and dimensional, making their detection nearly impossible. The applied muntins on the upper floors are, for the most part, flat, but the height of these windows allows the applied muntins to give an effect similar to real muntins.

South Facade

The Gamma Phi Beta House today presents a long, formally balanced Georgian Revival facade on the north side of Nevada Street. The facade has nine bays with second and third story windows, under a simple hipped roof. On the first story, an elaborate recessed and columned entrance occupies the center bay, flanked by pairs of French doors for each of two bays on either side of the entrance. The outer two bays at either end of the first story facade are supplanted by large white wood-trimmed sun rooms projecting toward the street. The fronts of these sun rooms each have three pairs of French doors, separated by slender simple Corinthian-capped pilasters which are paired at each end of the porch. Each end wall of the sun rooms has a central pair of French doors with flanking pilasters and sidelights consisting of single fixed doors. Pilasters also occur at the inner and outer corners of the end walls. A concrete terrace with section lines creating thirty inch squares extends across the facade between the sun rooms. While the 1927 drawings called for a herringbone brick or tile terrace, whether that specification was ever carried through is not known.

Working drawings for the 1927 construction project, and an architect's rendering at the time, show a wooden fence-like parapet above the main cornice of the building, and around the tops of the two sun rooms. The main parapet called for ornamental lattice panels above each of the window positions, and solid panels between. The main parapet was to be returned on the east and west end walls of the principal

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois
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part of the building, but was not carried across the rear walls. The parapet was to be open at the bottom, with the roof draining into a hanging gutter as part of the cornice. No evidence exists as to whether the parapets were ever installed. The exterior walls of the entire building are brick veneer in running bond.

The principal feature of the main facade is the central entrance and its surmounting window. This exists today exactly as detailed in the 1927 working drawings. The six-panel wood door is set back four feet from the surface of the brick facade. It has sidelights and transom of cut glass set in an ornamental pattern of zinc comes. The entry recess has a tile floor and base with wood panel sidewalls and wood-trimmed plaster ceiling. It is framed with Corinthian pilasters with wood Corinthian columns set in antis. These support a full wood entablature with small modillions in the cornice, carrying a flat metal roof which is elliptical in plan. The metal roof is flashed into the stone sill course which extends across the full width of the front elevation. Wrought iron brackets extending from the pilasters support a Colonial wrought iron lantern just below the architrave.

The central second story window features a Palladian motif, within a round-arched header brick opening. The 6/6 double-hung window is flanked by shutter-like louvers between fluted Tuscan pilasters supporting short entablature sections. Above the window is a round fan of wood louvers, set with wood trim within a crescent of plaster within the round arch of header brick. Small spring blocks are stone.

The remaining eight windows on the second story and all nine windows on the third story are 1/1 double-hung with applied muntins replicating the original light pattern. The original 1927 details showed a four inch wood surround within the brick openings, with wood shutters, radiating soldier brick lintels, and stone sills. The 1992 metal replacement windows retain the same pattern of sash, lights, and surrounds, although the wood surrounds have been sheathed in metal, and snap-in muntins are evident in some windows. Modern metal shutters appear to have the same dimensions and positioning as the ones originally specified, although the present ones are not operable.

West Elevation

The west end wall of the building looks almost exactly like the 1927 working drawings, with a balanced design based on the broad projecting central chimney and a shutter-equipped window on each side in all three stories. On the first story, each window is 8/8 double-hung, with stone lintels having integral keystones. On the second and third stories, the side windows are 6/6, with brick lintels. All sills are stone, with a stone water table atop the brick foundation, and a stone belt course at the second story sill line. The belt course and the cornice are interrupted by the chimney, which has small stone shoulder blocks for a step back at the belt course level. In the center of the chimney are 6/6 windows at the second and third stories, with the chimney brick slightly recessed in the spandrel space. The upper window is capped with a half-round wood panel within a half-round header brick arch. A small unobtrusive three-light sash is tucked between the south window and the chimney break in the second story. Most of the

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

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windows on the west, east, and rear elevations are wood sash replacements. They are 1/1 double-hung with applied muntins replicating the original light pattern.

East Elevation

This face of the building is much more complex than the opposite end, with no effort evident toward balanced fenestration. The front two-thirds of the east elevation shows substantially the building created in 1927 including in its center the two story semi-hexagonal bay window group which was part of the earlier, c. 1910 chapter house. The rear third of the elevation was added in the 1951 extension of the ell.

In the front portion, the brick foundation, stone water table and belt course, and the wood cornice carry across the elevation as specified in the 1927 drawings. In the southernmost section, between the corner and the two-story bay window group, the third and second stories each have a 6/6 double-hung window matching those on the main facade. In the first story, a pair of 1/1 double-hung windows occurs. These match in character and proportions the first story center sash of the bay window group, which is flanked in the diagonal bay segments with narrower 1/1 double-hung windows. In 1927 this bay window fenestration was retained from the c. 1910 building. The second story sash in the bay window group are similar in size but are fitted with muntins giving them a 6/6 and 4/4 appearance. The roof of the bay window group serves as the platform for a fire escape, with a third story fire exit door opening onto it, and an adjacent 6/6 double-hung window to the right.

To the right of the bay window group, the original c. 1910 kitchen ell projects out a few feet and has been carried up to the full three-story height. In the first story, a pair of short 1/1 double-hung windows reveals the original location of the kitchen sink. In the second story, a single, taller 1/1 double-hung window occurs. In the third story, a group of four eight-light casement sash were specified in 1927 in a dormitory space. These have since been replaced with jalousies.

In the more recent 1951 addition, which occupies the right/north third of this elevation, 1/1 double-hung sash occur seven times: twice at the mid-floor landings in the new stair tower at the left end of this addition, twice in sleeping rooms at the back of the second and third stories, and once in the kitchen staff office in the first story. Fire doors at grade and basement levels exit from the stair tower. The entire addition compares favorably to the original building, with matching materials in the brick and the wood cornice, but the simpler detailing and the absence of stone trim clearly identify it as a modern component of the building.

Rear Elevation

On the north side of the building, the difference between the 1927 building on the western two-thirds of the elevation, and the 1951 addition on the eastern third is evident. On the older part of the elevation, the actual fenestration matches what the 1927 drawings specified, with 6/6 double-hung windows in most of the openings.

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

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In the center of the rear elevation, the 1927 stair tower is evident by its projection and the positioning of its windows at the lower levels of the stair landings. The topmost window is 8/8, the second story one is 12/12, while at the ground floor is a single solid flush exterior door with 10-light sidelights. A simple flat roof shelter is over this entrance, and three concrete steps go down to grade. All but the roof and the door are as designated in the 1927 plans. No roof was indicated, and the entrance door was shown as glazed, with fifteen lights.

To the right, or west, of the stair tower, in bathrooms on the second and third floors, two sets of windows have been infilled with glass block, but the original fenestration openings are intact. Farther to the west in the third story, is a single 6/6 double-hung window, then a pair of eight-light casements, a fire exit door opening onto a metal fire escape platform, and then another pair of casements near the west corner. In the second story, are three openings between the glass block panels and the corner, with a fire exit door on the left and two 6/6 double-hung windows. In the first story is a set of three 6/6 double-hung windows in the north wall of the lounge room, and three other separate 6/6 windows between the group and the stair tower.

The 1951 and 1983 Additions

All three exterior walls of the 1951 addition are simple and straightforward in composition, with their only refinement consisting of the cornice which is the same as on the rest of the building. The brick matches. Most windows are 1/1 double-hung, three per story on the west, three pairs per story on the north, and two per story on the east. A small metal-sided shed addition constructed in 1983 at the northwest corner of the ell provides a bedroom for the House Director's apartment. Only the windows of this addition are consistent with the rest of the overall building. In the overall scale and composition of the house, this addition is quite minor and is clearly ancillary to the building. It is not visible from the street. The 1983 addition creates a small U-shaped space between the addition and the historic building, from which a private entrance to the House Director's apartment and the rear hall of the main house may be reached.

Interior

The first floor of the interior is embellished with much of the treatment original to the house. The overall formality of the space is created by its plan and elegant, simple Classically inspired detailing. Throughout the first floor, tall rectangular panels are defined along the walls by wood moldings. An entablature, including a molding for the hanging of picture frames, is found throughout most of the first floor. Doorways have molded surrounds and the baseboard is also molded. As it was originally, all woodwork, except the stair rail, is painted ivory.

The six paneled front door opens into the vestibule with a quarry tile floor (white with black trim) and short wood paneling, painted ivory, with beveled recesses (original). A small molded cornice surrounds the vestibule. A Classically-inspired four sided brass chandelier with etched glass and leaf patterns completes the vestibule treatment. A long rectangular formal hall, on an east-west axis, dominates much of

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

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the first floor. Off-center to the right from the vestibule and across the width of the long hall, is the U-shaped staircase. The staircase is composed of thin balusters, painted ivory, and a simple stained and varnished rail which elegantly curves around to the column-like newel posts which rest on the extended curved tread of the bottom-most step.

To the left/west of the staircase is a small chapter office, the only public or common space altered with a dropped ceiling. A secondary parlor or library is to the left/west of the office; here, a small leaf patterned ceiling medallion remains with a replacement four-light chandelier with frosted globes. Dominating the west wing of the first floor is the formal living room, with a Classical fireplace on direct axis at the end of the great hall. The living room is rectangular in plan, on a north-south axis, completely open to the west end sun room at the south end of the room. The fireplace's hearth is surrounded with red brick, then framed in molded wood, with shoulders below the mantelpiece. The mantelpiece is slightly inset from the shoulders below, with consoles at either end of the plain panel with a central circle, beneath the molded mantel. Molded wood creates a frame on the wall above the mantel. Two full-height fluted pilasters frame the slightly extended fireplace section. Doorways from the inside of the living room are defined by a heavily molded surrounds and tall lintel or door head with a molded cap. The room has two crystal chandeliers with five tiers of crystals and a brass top. The sun room is enclosed on its three sides with original multi-light French doors and windows. Three pairs of French doors face south, with single pairs facing east and west respectively; fixed windows, in the form of single French doors, flank the east and west door pairs.

Between the living room and vestibule is the "Music Room," now functioning as a secondary lounge or parlor space. Two pairs of French doors face south onto the front terrace from this room. To the east of the vestibule, is a half bath, originally designated as "Men's Room," with the pair of French doors to the front terrace shuttered from the interior. The southeast corner of the first floor is occupied by the dining room, a use which extends into the east sun room. The hardwood floor is a replacement floor. In this room, the semi-hexagonal bay from the original duplex is evident. The northeast corner of the building's first floor is occupied by the kitchen. A smaller, snack area (with a residential-type refrigerator, an ice machine, and laminated cabinetry) is entered via wood swinging doors off the dining room, and through this room the kitchen may be entered. The main kitchen area itself is an off-set L-plan, substantially modernized and extended as part of the 1951 addition to the building. The small, southeastern section of the kitchen is the original kitchen from the c. 1910 duplex; it is now fitted with dish storage and dishwashing equipment. The main rectangular kitchen area is dominated by large, commercial-grade kitchen equipment. A rear/north door allows direct access from the main kitchen area to the parking lot. To the east near the middle of the large kitchen space is a small staff office and restroom; the office was designated "cook's bedroom" on the 1951 plans. In the northeasternmost corner of the 1951 addition is a pantry.

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois

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Directly off the hallway to the right/east of the staircase are three closet-like spaces, with the left-most two functioning as telephone "booths." The right closet is used for storage. Between the double staircase is a small hall which accesses an exterior door in a U-shaped area just off the rear/north parking lot. The basement door and the House Director's apartment are also accessed off this hall. The House Director's apartment consists of two main spaces, the first being a casual living room/office space with a full bathroom. To the north is an L-shaped room, which may also be directly accessed from the exterior through a private entrance. The east section of this room is slightly raised and has an exposed brick wall from the 1951 construction. Below this platform type section is a large bedroom with windows facing the parking lot to the west and rear/north. A large walk-in closet is in the northeast corner of the bedroom.

The upper floors are occupied with sleeping rooms, mostly small shared spaces with a dormitory space on part of the third floor (1951 addition). The hallways are adorned only by molded door surrounds. Fire doors now close the entrance to the halls from the staircase, but sufficient space is left for a stair hall at each floor. The second story includes a study room in the northwest corner of the 1951 addition.

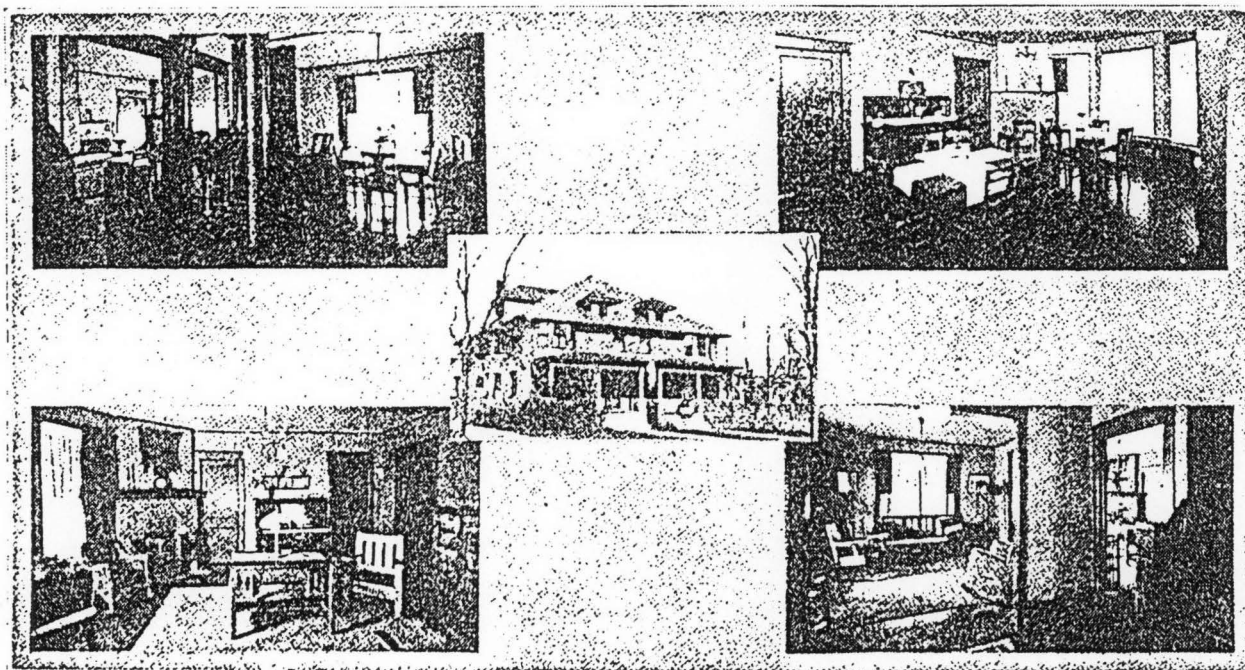
The basement is occupied with a casual lounge space or television room at the foot of the stairs, with a storage room to the south. A large chapter room is at the west end as it was originally. The chapter room retains a simple original fireplace (now boarded) at the west wall, with modern wainscoting (painted white) having been added. The room is otherwise unadorned, but is extensively lighted. The laundry is to the north off of the chapter room. The east side basement space is largely storage, including an unimproved snack room with vending machines and storage beyond.

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Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois
Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois
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The Duplex, 1110 W. Nevada



View from Hall
Living-room

OMICRON'S NEW CHAPTER-HOUSE
Exterior

Dining-room
View from Hall

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Continuation Sheet

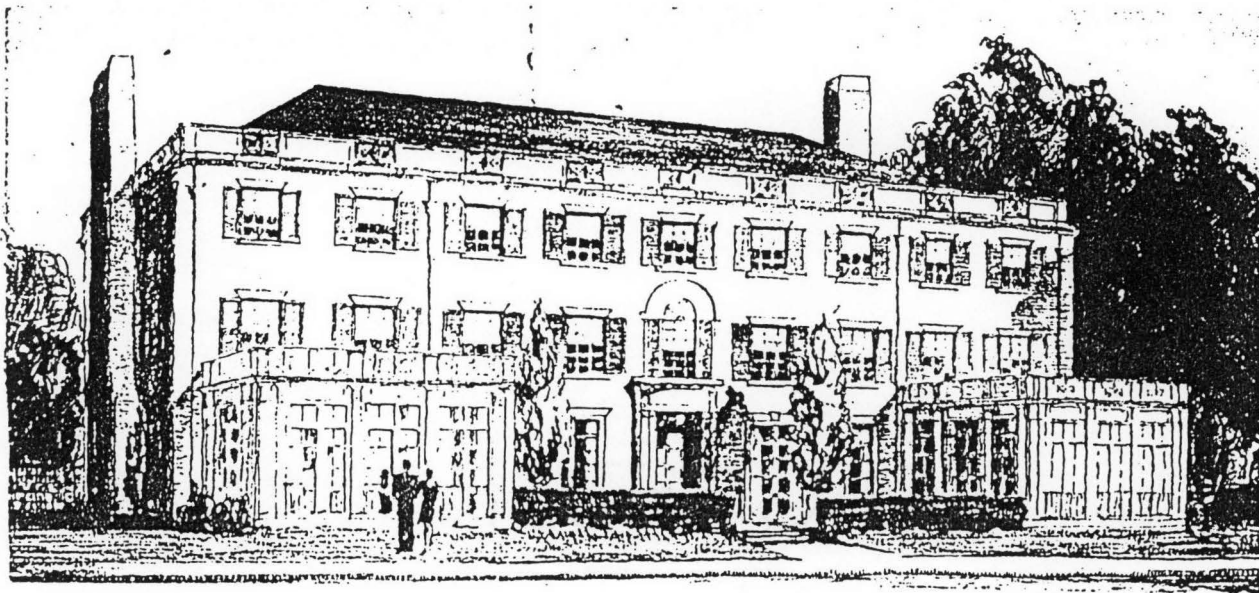
Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois

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Architect's Rendering, 1927 construction



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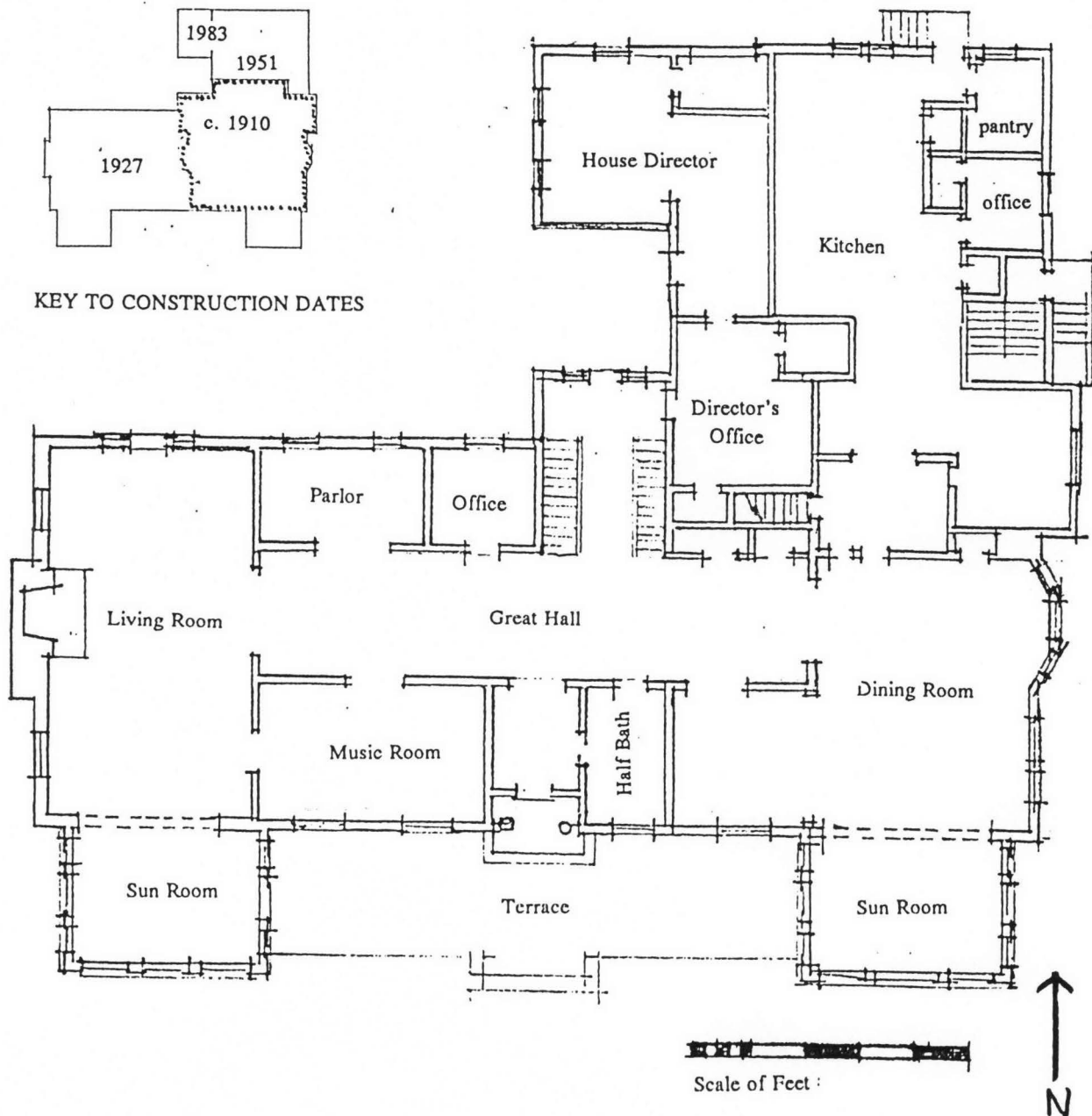
Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois

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First Floor Plan Sketch



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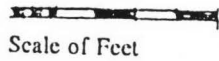
Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois

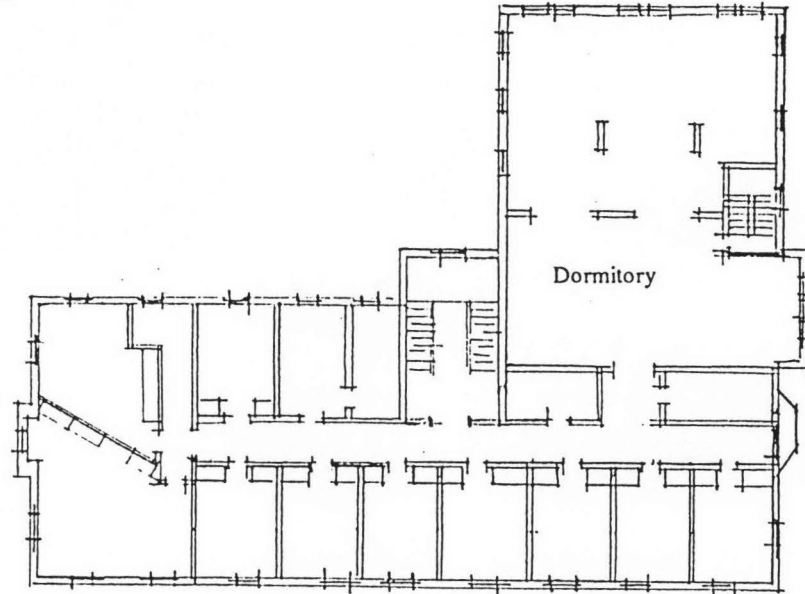
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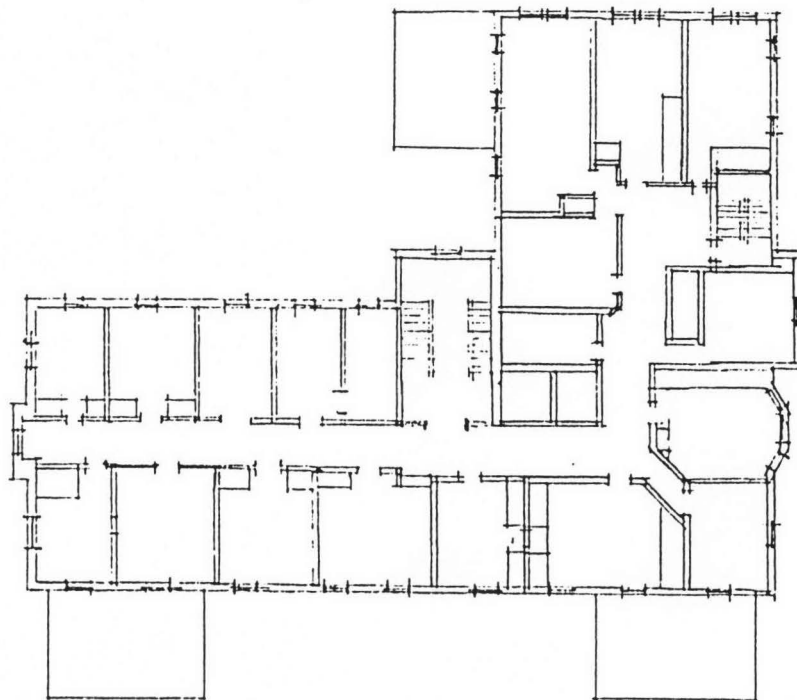
Second and Third Floor Plan Sketches



THIRD FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



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.

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 67) 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education

Period of Significance

1918-1940

Significant Dates

1918

1927

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hewitt, Emerson & Gregg Architects (1927)

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Stewart S. Hoew Archival Program, UI

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 6	3 9 5 8 1 0	4 4 0 0 5 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 Alice Edwards, Vice President and Lachian F. Blair, President

organization The URBANA Group date June, 1994

street & number PO Box 1028 telephone 217-344-7526

city or town Urbana state IL zip code 61801-9028

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 Omicron Chapter, Gamma Phi Beta (Attn: Jill Freeland, President, Corp. Board)

street & number c/o 1014 West Healey telephone 217-359-3435

city or town Champaign state IL zip code 61821

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Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House is eligible to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of significance of Education, contributing to the broad pattern of higher education at the University of Illinois. It meets the registration requirements of the property type "Fraternity or Sorority House" property type as defined in the approved "Fraternities and Sororities at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois." As established in that Multiple Property Documentation form, the Greek Letter Society houses, including the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, reflect a way of living which was an important supplementary component of the higher education process during the overall period of significance for the property type (1871-1940). The period of significance for the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, 1918-1940, reflects the date of the chapter's occupation of 1110 W. Nevada, and the ending date of the period established in the Multiple Property form.

Greek Letter Societies, in effect, were "useful adjuncts to the University educational system," having significant cultural and social roles, playing a major role in campus politics and in the formation of strong alumni ties, and providing important social and disciplinary forces for administrators.¹ The Greek Letter Society dwellings provided much needed housing for pre-World War II era students, establishing a ready means of socialization and house management, while giving the University an enforcement mechanism which it did not have with private lodgings. Fraternities were "unsupervised," however, sororities were required to have "housemothers" (now known as "House Directors") or chaperons who supervised the members in close cooperation with the University.² Finding proper housing for young University women during that era was particularly difficult. The first new dormitory, Busey, which was for women only, was opened in 1917, housing only 104 women students out of an approximate total of 1160. A second women's dormitory, Evans, was constructed in 1925, but no other such facilities were constructed until after World War II. Minimal campus church-organized housing for women was available (for approximately 55 women), but otherwise women had to find housing on their own.³

Two construction booms of Greek Letter Society dwellings have been documented: the first from 1906-1917 and the second following World War I and lasting until 1940. The peak of this activity was in the late 1920s, with at least 27 chapter houses being built between 1926 and 1930. The typically grand houses were frequently designed in the popular revival styles of the early twentieth century, and often included elegant furnishings and interior detailing, with exposure to tasteful surroundings thought to enhance the students' education and encourage dignified behavior.⁴ Despite these often well-designed confines, the mission of the Greek Letter Society dwellings was that of supplementing the University education experience with an emphasis on academic achievement, participation in activities, and overall socialization at the higher education level.

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Founding: Gamma Phi Beta and the Omicron Chapter

Gamma Phi Beta was founded at Syracuse University, November 11, 1874 by Frances E. Haven Moss of Syracuse (later of Urbana); Helen D. Ferguson and Minnie B. Williford of Utica, New York; and E. Addie Curtis of Syracuse, New York.⁵ The Omicron Chapter in Urbana was the fifteenth chapter of Gamma Phi Beta nationally. In an October 1912 article by Frances E. Haven Moss entitled "How It Happened," the impetus for Gamma Phi Beta's founding was her not being among the membership of the Alpha Phi Sorority at Syracuse. While she was eventually invited to be a member of that society, she apparently had not known of its existence, making her feel "entirely out in the cold."⁶ After discovering other young women in the same position of not belonging to Alpha Phi, "misery loves company according to the then Miss Haven," she and the others formed their own society. Syracuse University, University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin, Boston University, Northwestern University, Goucher College, University of California, University of Denver, Barnard College of Columbia University, University of Minnesota, University of Washington, Stanford University, University of Oregon, and University of Idaho preceded the Omicron Chapter at the University of Illinois.⁷ The Omicron Chapter is the only chapter with the distinction of being founded by a founder of the sorority.⁸

The granting of the local chapter came after several years' petitioning and active effort on behalf of the local organization. The Phi Beta Club, as it had been known, had been organized in March 1909 under the supervision of Professor and Mrs. C.M. Moss and Mrs. E.C. (Violet Jayne) Schmidt.⁹ Mrs. Schmidt was for some years the Dean of Women at the University of Illinois, a position created in 1897 in response to pressure to remove responsibility for student affairs from the faculty.¹⁰ Professor Moss became as nearly highly regarded within the Omicron Chapter organization as Mrs. Moss herself. Charles Melville Moss was courting Frances Haven at the time she helped found Gamma Phi Beta at Syracuse. Charles helped design the organization's pin and wrote the "Hymn to Gamma Phi Beta," in addition to helping to found the Omicron Chapter at the University of Illinois almost four decades later. A 1927 tribute to Dr. Moss reads, "We can only say that contact with such a man as Professor Moss leaves us with the desire to strive for the finer and more worthwhile standards which he held for the Gamma Phi Beta woman."¹¹ The local chapter began as a small group of five girls, growing to twenty-five active and twenty-six alumnae members at the time of its national initiation.¹²

The Phi Beta Quarterly of March 1913 notes the close ties between the alumnae members of Phi Beta who remained in the community and the importance of the continued contact with the active organization. The publication further notes:

Those of you who had any doubts as to whether the present Phi Betas would keep up their interest and work in the girls' activities would have them all dispelled if you could see how energetic our girls are in all good works. To illustrate, . . . a number of invited guests [attended a function of the Geneva Club over at the Y.W.C.A.;] eight Phi Betas were there. No two Phi Betas were sitting together, which shows that we girls conscientiously try to 'mix' among the other girls.¹³

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At that time, social activities in which Phi Betas participated included sewing parties, "ten o'clock spreads," and gatherings at Mrs. Moss's house. The house Phi Beta then occupied was presented with Christmas gifts including dinner chimes and a fireside set given by the alumnae (as a group), and a silver butter knife, a centerpiece, and a linen cover for the buffet presented by individual alumnae. The actives of 1912-13 presented a brown leather table runner with the Greek letters of Phi Beta on either end.¹⁴

The Phi Beta local sorority was installed as the Omicron chapter of Gamma Phi Beta on May 24, 1913 at ceremonies at their chapter house, then at 1002-1/2 West California, in Urbana. Alumnae officiating at the installation included Mrs. Frances Haven Moss. Other officials included representative alumnae from the Wisconsin, Michigan, Denver, and Northwestern chapters of the national sorority. Forty-four women were initiated into the sorority at this event, including both alumnae and members of the active chapter. The new chapter was introduced to the University community at an afternoon reception held at the home of Mrs. Moss, 806 South Matthews Avenue. A seven course installation banquet was held in the evening at the Beardsley Hotel in Champaign with sixty-one members of the sorority present.¹⁵

The Omicron Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta

The chapter was noted by the national organization for its consistently high standing in scholarship. On campus, the chapter was noted for "the originality of its stunts" and yearly participation in the "homecoming," a University of Illinois creation.¹⁶ ("Stunts" were apparently farces which were performed in conjunction with special occasions such as Homecoming.) The national organization made note of several of the Omicron chapter's customs, including engraving the name of the freshman having the highest scholastic record upon a silver loving cup. The national organization further noted that one of the chapter's "prettiest" customs was the remembrance of Founders' Day by flowers and greetings from college and alumnae girls and by personal calls from the pledges, each of whom brought a white rosebud to Mrs. Moss.¹⁷ The Omicron chapter furnished two officers at the national level of the sorority: Augusta Krieger Ekblaw served as a Secretary and Miriam Gerlach was a business manager of the magazine between the chapter's installation and 1921. Additionally, Juliet Lita Bane was Chairman of the cookbook committee at the national level.¹⁸

While the "cookbook committee" is a much-dated sign of the times, sororities, perhaps conversely, addressed women's issues, providing a nurturing, encouraging environment for the continuing education of women. A June 1913 issue of *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, the quarterly magazine of the national organization provides some insight into the values and interests of collegiate women. According to *The Crescent*, the University was incorporated in 1867, first admitting male students in 1868, and female students in 1870. Noting that the University ranked ninth in size among all collegiate institutions, and fourth among all state universities, *The Crescent* states, "To carry on the work in such a great institution requires an instructional corps of more than five hundred people, seventy-three of whom are women."¹⁹ The publication further notes that 980 women were registered at the University, including that:

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[Women] are given equal share on the class committees and on class day programs; they are always represented on the additional staff of the various student publications. One entire day of interscholastic week--the day on which the May Pole Dance and The Girls' Stunt Show are presented--is given over to the women.²⁰

Sororities were among the supportive venues for women as the University developed in the early twentieth century. The national Gamma Phi Beta Sorority commented that:

The comfort of the girls on the campus has been carefully considered. Very recently the Women's Building [on the quadrangle, now the English Building], which as its name suggests, is devoted entirely to the women, has been so enlarged that it is now one of the most complete and attractive buildings on the campus. The Y.W.C.A. has at the present time almost completed a new building which will furnish accommodations for fifty girls. This year it is expected that [the University] shall [grant] appropriations for a residence hall for women. Hence the future for the girl at Illinois looks very bright.²¹

The Gamma Phi Beta Sorority was among the earliest Greek Letter Societies to settle on the Urbana side of the campus, while Champaign had been the earliest and main locale for Greek houses. In 1915, the *Alumni Quarterly and Fortnightly* printed the rumor that Urbana may eventually become the sorority center instead of Champaign. At that time, the new dormitory for women was under construction (later to be known as Busey Hall), and a women's athletic field was nearby, making Urbana "considerably more attractive to girls than before."²² The *Alumni Quarterly* further notes that, "A new sorority row on Nevada Street is not at all improbable."²³ Until 1915, the only sorority house on the Urbana side of campus was Gamma Phi Beta, then located at 1002-1/2 West California Avenue, now the site of Krannert Center for Performing Arts.

The Gamma Phis who returned to the University of Illinois campus in 1918 found themselves in the fortunate situation of having not one, but "two residences," as they phrased the acquisition of a duplex at 1110 West Nevada in Urbana. The sorority then had twenty-seven active members living in the duplex, with four additional members who did not live in the house.²⁴ The well-appointed duplex was an oversized Four Square house type, constructed of brick with a steeply-pitched hip roof, petite dormers over each of the two sides on the facade, and separated low-pitched hip roof porches with separate stairs. The interior included corner brick fireplaces on each of the duplex sides, and extensive woodwork including door and window surrounds.

Mary Cooper wrote about the Omicron Chapter in *The Crescent* of January 1919, noting that the new chapter quarters were not the only change for the actives. She wrote of a complete "revolution" of academic study, including a change from semesters to quarters, but moreover, a change in campus life due to World War I:

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Instead of fellow-students among the men, we now have a very distant and segregated association in classes among student-soldiers. . . All organized houses on the campus are now living under slightly revised Woman's League rules, which have been so revised in order to conform with the general change in the academic life here. Military regulations have made it necessary to change the hour of closing of such functions as dances and open house, and this necessarily changes the hour of beginning as well. All university dancing now takes place between the hours of seven and ten-thirty, and open house is allowed from six-thirty until eight-thirty. At first these regulations seemed rather stringent and unnecessary, but upon giving them a trial they have been accepted as very satisfactory. As war measures they are a great success, and as rest and sleep providers they are wonderful.²⁵

Miss Cooper further noted that curricula changes had occurred as a result of the S.A.T.C. [Student Army Training Corps], with several new courses being for S.A.T.C. men only, including a course in war issues. For women, courses in home nursing, first aid, and food conservation were added. In addition to the impacts of World War I, a flu epidemic, "one of our most formidable foes" according to Miss Cooper, changed a number of functions in the 1918-19 year. Instead of many dances and social functions, the sorority was dealing with the flu and quarantine. Gamma Phi Beta's rush activities had to be conducted outdoors, anywhere but the duplex, or any theater or confectionery.

In February 1927, the Omicron Chapter was in the midst of an intensive finance drive for a "new house" by fall, a campaign which had begun sometime in 1926.²⁶ The campaign occurred in the midst of the peak of Greek Letter Society dwelling construction, when a new chapter house was opened on campus on the average of every month of the academic year.²⁷ By early 1927, plans were progressing rapidly since the architects--Hewitt, Emerson & Gregg--had begun to draw up the specifications for the building. With a successful campaign, the girls were spending December around the great fireplace of their new quarters, planning the details of the interior. While an earlier (May 1927) reference refers to the site next door for the new house, the house was actually constructed around the first chapter house--the duplex. The architects' plans of 1927 are faint and worn in places, but a schedule is given for "old construction to remain and old construction to be removed."

The chapter's review of the new house speaks of the architects' aim:

to produce a structure distinctly domestic in character. Of Georgian style of architecture, the severity of the front elevation is relieved by two projecting enclosed porches, one opening into the dining-room, and the other off the living-room. These porches are connected by a terrace, which will be faced by a box hedge. An interesting effect has been achieved by placing two tall evergreen trees against the building,²⁸ the vertical lines forming a relieving contrast to the predominating horizontal ones. Opening onto the terrace are the living-room, dining-room, and music-room, while to the rear are the great parlor, guest room, office and kitchen. A town girl's room, chaperon's

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suite, a pressing and sewing room, and large closets for storage and linen are also on the second floor. Two large dormitories on the third floors will accommodate forty-one. The basement is in two sections, the east half for service and the west half forming the chapter room.²⁹

Interior embellishments at that time included plans to hang the portrait of Mrs. Frances Haven Moss, painted by Mr. Prucha, a Chicago artist, in the front hall, facing the door. (Mrs. Moss's portrait remains in the front hall.) The woodwork was finished in ivory enamel (and remains so today), and the furnishings of the lower floor were "in strict harmony with the Colonial period which the architecture of the house suggests."³⁰ An ornamental lattice fence ran along the north and west sides of the house's lot, something the girls hoped would form a background for a formal garden about which the girls were dreaming. One reference notes a "mud lake" being transformed "into a delightful sunken garden," but whether this garden was constructed is not known.

December 17, 1927 saw the first formal dinner dance held in the new house, and the splendid new quarters were reportedly filled with the fragrance of cedar, glowing with low-light amber lights and candles, and decorated with holly branches and mistletoe.³¹ Now that the new house was in full use, interior details were of the utmost concern. The Mothers' Club donated a six-piece Colonial tea service which adorned the buffet just in time for the January 7 and 8, 1928 open house. The Mothers' Club also assisted with the open house by its "untiring work in the making of curtains and drapes for the first floor."³²

The strong history of participation of members of the Omicron Chapter emphasizes the importance of the supplementary role the house and society played in the overall educational experience for women. Honors, including scholastic achievement and participation in campus activities, have been an important part of the sorority's emphasis. In 1913, honors included Phi Beta Gertrude Elliott being elected secretary of the Senior class, Willie Cary being pledged to Athenean Literary Society, Margaret Huntington being a member of Alethenai Literary Society with Margaret Dodge being a pledge, and Katherine Theilen being pledged to Phi Beta Kappa national liberal arts and sciences honorary fraternity.³³ In 1919, the initial school year of Gamma Phi Beta's house, then the duplex, Lois Marie Scott was President of Woman's League, Mortar Board, and the Alethenai Literary Society. In the same year, Marian McAnally achieved a Perfect Scholarship Record, Astrid Dodge was elected to Theta Sigma Phi honorary journalistic society, and Sophie Theilen received archery honors and was on the first basketball team.³⁴ That same year, four Gamma Phis were on the staff of the *Daily Illini*, the student newspaper.

For 1927-28, the first year in the new house, the honors continued, including twelve honor students whose names were carved on the Bronze Tablet as well as being elected to Phi Beta Kappa. One student's name, Geraldine Turner, appeared on Mortar Board for the fall semester. Member Winifred Garland was elected president of Omicron Nu, the honorary home economics sorority, and Mildred Wainwright was a pledge to Kappa Beta Pi, the honorary law sorority; Wainwright was also woman's editor of the *Illio*, the University's year book. Other honors that year included Mona Shimmin serving as chair of the Twin City

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Girl Reserves and the only sophomore to sit on the year's Y.W.C.A. Cabinet, and three women "wore the orange scarf of Torch, the highest junior activity organization on campus."³⁵

While activities have remained an important part of the sorority, the specific functions have changed over the years. The Christmas 1912 event was in the form of a children's party, with the invited young men to attend in juvenile costumes. These "children" ended up being Little Boy Blue, who entered blowing his horn, a clown jingling bells, the boy "in the Norfolk suite," and other "youngsters." "Of course the little girls" were chaperoned by Mrs. Hunt and Dr. and Mrs. Moss. The March 1913 issue of *The Phi Beta Quarterly* goes into much detail about the event, including the girls' attire--a baby doll dressed in white embroidery and blue ribbons, two sunbonnet babies, etc.--and the "party games dear to the hearts of children" including "Farmer in the Dell" and "Whisk Broom."³⁶ Perhaps less odd was the Valentine dance held two months later in the Knights of Pythias Hall, with strings of red hearts and poppies hanging from the central chandelier to the side walls. "Stunts" apparently remained popular in the early twentieth century, with one active commenting:

There have been stunt shows and stunt shows this year. If there is anything around this university of which there is always a profusion, it is stunt shows. If you ever have aspirations toward belonging to any sort of a society it means you must put on at least three stunt shows, one on being pledged, another just for the general amusement of the members of the order, and a third before initiation.³⁷

Apparently skilled at wit, the Omicron Chapter produced a newsletter entitled, at one time, the "Gamma Fly Paper," a pun on the organization's name, accompanied by the slogan, "Stick to us and we shall stick to you."

The types of activities available for participation obviously changed somewhat throughout Gamma Phi Beta's history. Gamma Phi Freshman Vernalee Burpo made the final cut for the beauty section of the 1925 *Illio*, meeting the approval of Chicago Tribune movie editor May Tinee who narrowed the selection to twelve contestants, from whom popular vote (held from a display at the Illinois Union Building) selected eight.³⁸ Some of the activities and honors have been more scholastically oriented. A February 1927 issue of *The Crescent* reported that the girls had been working hard at activities. Ruth Hibbs was elected to Kappa Delta Pi honorary education fraternity, and Ruth Johnson made Daubers, an honorary art organization; she also sang in the operetta *Listen Lester*.³⁹ Gamma Phis also participated in the Sophomore Cotillion committee and the Junior Prom Committee, and Marion Scott was appointed to Second Cabinet of the Y.W.C.A. which was an honor not often given to sophomores.

Athletic honors were becoming more frequent into the early twentieth century as women's participation in sports increased. Virginia Supple was captain of the junior hockey team and therefore a member of the varsity team and Lois Baker made the junior first hockey team and was initiated into W.A.A. (Woman's

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Athletic Association).⁴⁰ Supple was evidently quite the athlete. In 1925, she was captain of the freshman basketball team (and continued to varsity play), and was a tennis champion at the University.⁴¹ Gamma Phi Florence Whyte was elected vice president of Terrapin, an honorary swimming organization, in 1934.⁴²

While some of the activities of the early chapter or club may have been dated, many of the women followed through on their education, seeking careers, albeit stereotypical for the times. The March 1913 issue of *The Phi Beta Quarterly* lists twenty-eight alumnae in its directory, seventeen of whom were teaching, one of whom was a librarian, two of whom were with Y.W.C.A.s, and only eight of whom were "at home" (representing less than one-third of the alumnae.)⁴³ Increasingly, Gamma Phi alumnae were having successful careers, including Rose Briem, Class of 1921, who went on to direct a staff of seventy in the editorial section of General Foods Corporation in New York.⁴⁴ In 1925, Gamma Phi pledge Kathleen Dean was the only woman in the Ceramics Engineering School, and had "all the men working hard to keep up with her in classes."⁴⁵ In May 1928, Vaille Dry was among the five law students who made a straight A average for the semester.⁴⁶ The following year, as a senior, Miss Dry was elected to the Order of Coif, the highest honor in the Law School, and was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa.⁴⁷

The emphasis on participation in activities continues to be illustrated, for example, in a 1937 issue of *The Omicron News*, with one of the lead stories entitled "Omicron Members Busy These Days in Campus Work: Actives, Pledges now Representing Chapter in all Major Activities." At that time, the activities included senior jacket committee, the ever-popular Sophomore Cotillion committee, "Orange Feathers" (a freshman organization), and the sponsoring committee to bring Mrs. Margaret Wells Wood, state social hygienist, to visit the campus in March. Honors included participating in Alpha Lambda Delta, an organization recognizing scholarship of freshman women.⁴⁸ The Omicron Chapter received special recognition from Gamma Phi Beta at their national convention of 1938, held in Del Monte, California. At that time, the chapter had the highest membership of any chapter, and was first in scholarship of the then twenty-two sororities on the University's campus.⁴⁹

Continuing on to the end of the period of significance, in December 1940, Gamma Phi Beta women were among the pledges of the Society of Illustrators, an art school honorary; junior Joanne Sellers was chosen "Woman of the Week," October 28, 1940, for *Illini Lite*; and that same year, Gamma Phi Beta won the Homecoming stunt show with a skit called "Damma Ifa Data."⁵⁰ Gamma Phi was also recognized by the University of Illinois Alumni Association in 1940, receiving the trophy given to the organized house securing the largest complete membership in the Association; with fifteen seniors, Gamma Phi enrolled one hundred percent of its graduates in the Alumni Association.⁵¹

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Integrity

The Gamma Phi Beta House retains a good degree of integrity, meeting the registration requirements and aspects of integrity defined in the Multiple Property form. The house retains its original location; original design, materials, and workmanship, or respectful and reversible adaptation; and sensitive handling of the setting to retain qualities of feeling and association appropriate to the original and continued use as a sorority house. The 1951 addition is to the rear of the original building, and is relatively small in area in comparison to the overwhelmingly dominating historic building. The 1983 addition is quite small in scale and is not visible until clearing the building's west elevation in the parking lot at the rear of the building. Both additions were a result of contemporary needs for the continued use of the historic building. While many of the windows have been replaced in the historic section, the fenestration openings have not been altered, and in each case, the window was replaced with like sash and the muntin pattern replicated through applied muntins. The building continues in all ways to present its original handsome Georgian facade, relating favorably with the Busey-Evans women's dormitories across the street, representing a handsome grouping of early twentieth century buildings for women. The historic integrity of the building's exterior continues on the interior, which retains its original public or common spaces and interior detailing.

Today, the Omicron Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta continues to occupy its original house. The sorority is one of twenty-seven on campus, four of which do not have chapter houses. Gamma Phi Beta is among few sororities at the University to have such a continuous history at one location. The Omicron Chapter continues to carry on the traditions of the Greek Letter Societies on campus, maintaining its historic house in fine order and maintaining the strong patterns of participation established early in the sorority's development.

Endnotes

1. Karen L. Kummer, Dana L. Pratt, Lachlan F. Blair, and Linda Bastyr, "Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois," (Multiple Property Documentation form [MPD], May 1989), E.5.

2. MPD, p. E.11.

3. MPD, p. E.12.

4. MPD, E.13.

5. "Phi Beta Sorority Made Gamma Phi Beta Chapter," *Daily Illini*, 25 May 1913.

6. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XII (October 1912): 303.

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7. Ibid.

8. Lindsey Barbee, *The Story of Gamma Phi Beta* (Gamma Phi Beta, 1921), p. 75.

9. "Receives Charter of Gamma Phi Beta," *Daily Illini*, 21 May 1913, p. 1.

10. Barbee, p. 75; MPD, E.6.

11. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXVII (February 1927): 72.

12. Ibid.

13. *The Phi Beta Quarterly*, Vol 2. (March 1913): 4.

14. Ibid., p. 5.

15. "Phi Beta Sorority Made Gamma Phi Beta Chapter."

16. Barbee, pp. 75 and 78.

17. Ibid., p. 78.

18. Ibid., p. 75.

19. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XIII (June 1913): 233.

20. Ibid., p. 236.

21. Ibid.

22. *Alumni Quarterly and Fortnightly Notes*, 15 October 1915, p. 48.

23. Ibid.

24. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XIX (January 1919): 61.

25. Ibid., p. 59.

26. In 1925, the Omicron Chapter's house (the duplex), owned by the Chapter, was valued at \$40,000, tied with the universities of Michigan and Oklahoma for value, and exceeded only by the chapter house at the University of Washington, which was valued at \$46,000.

The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta, Vol. XXV (September 1925): 237-42.

27. MPD, p. F.2.

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28. The placement of these continues to be retained with replacement evergreens.
29. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXVII (December 1927): 467.
30. Ibid.
31. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXVIII, (February 1928): 75.
32. Ibid.
33. *The Phi Beta Quarterly*, March 1913, p. 5.
34. *The Crescent*, January 1919, p. 61.
35. *The Crescent*, December 1927, p. 469.
36. *The Phi Beta Quarterly*, March 1913, p. 6.
37. *The Crescent*, January 1919, p. 62.
38. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXIV (September 1924): 513.
39. *The Crescent*, February 1927, p. 72.
40. Ibid.
41. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, September 1925, p. 239.
42. *The Omicron News*, Christmas 1934, p. 2.
43. *The Phi Beta Quarterly*, March 1913, p. 11.
44. *The Omicron News*, November 1931, p. 1.
45. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXV (December 1925): 453.
46. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXVIII (May 1928): 209.
47. *The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta*, Vol. XXIX (May 1929): 200.
48. *The Omicron News*, December 1927, p. 2.
49. *The Omicron News*, Vol. VIII (October 1938): 1.

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50. "Gamma Phis Win at Stunt Show," Daily Illini, 27 October 1940.

51. Omicron Chapter, Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, unidentified scrapbook dating to 1940-41, located at the house (in the basement luggage storage room).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois
Section number 9 Page 24

Bibliography

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Alumni Quarterly and Fortnightly Notes, 15 October 1915.

Barbee, Lindsey. *The Story of Gamma Phi Beta*. Gamma Phi Beta, 1921.

The Crescent of Gamma Phi Beta Vol. XII (October 1912), Vol. XXVII (February 1927), Vol. XII (June 1913), Vol. XIX (January 1919), Vol. XXV (September 1925), Vol. XXVII (December 1927), Vol. XXVII (February 1928), Vol. XXIV (September 1924), Vol. XXV (December 1925), Vol. XXVII (May 1928), and Vol. XXIX (May 1929).

Kummer, Karen L.; Pratt, Dana L.; Blair, Lachlan F.; and Bastyr, Linda. "Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois." Multiple Property Documentation form, 1989.

Omicron Chapter, Gamma Phi Beta Sorority. Unidentified scrapbook dating to 1940-41. Located at 1110 W. Nevada, Urbana (basement luggage storage room).

The Omicron News, Christmas 1934, November 1931, December 1927, and October 1938.

"Phi Beta Sorority Made Gamma Phi Beta Chapter." *Daily Illini*, 25 May 1913.

The Phi Beta Quarterly Vol. 2 (March 1913).

"Receives Charter of Gamma Phi Beta." *Daily Illini*, 21 May 1913.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana, Champaign Co., Illinois

Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campus of the University of Illinois

Section number 10

Page 25

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 14 and 15 in the Forestry Heights Addition to the City of Urbana.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lots which have historically been associated with the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

MULTIPLE NAME: Fraternity and Sorority Houses at the Urbana-Champaign Campu
s of the University of Illinois MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Champaign

DATE RECEIVED: 9/28/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/12/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/28/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/12/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001270

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10.28.94 DATE **Entered in the
National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___ count ___ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___ historic ___ current

DESCRIPTION

___ architectural classification
___ materials
___ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___ summary paragraph
___ completeness
___ clarity
___ applicable criteria
___ justification of areas checked
___ relating significance to the resource
___ context
___ relationship of integrity to significance
___ justification of exception
___ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___ acreage ___ verbal boundary description
___ UTMS ___ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___ sketch maps ___ USGS maps ___ photographs ___ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House
1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The URBANA group (A. Edwards) May '94

regs: @ house

view: south/main facade
looking north

photo # 1-9

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1110



Gammiz Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The URBANA Group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

View: detail-main (south) entrance
looking north

photo # 2-9



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The URBANA group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

view: main/south facade and east elevation showing
semi-hexagonal bay from earlier bldg.
looking NW

photo # 3-9



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The URBANA group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

view: main/south facade and west elevation
(UT Music Bldg. appears @ rear/left)
looking SE

photo # A-9



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The UKBANT group (A. Edwards) May 1941

negs: @ house

view: rear/north elevation

looking SE

photo # 5-9



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The URBANA group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

view: half of main hall - 1st floor

looking west into living room

photo #6-9



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The UKRANIA group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

view: staircase off main hall; phone closet
to right

looking NE

photo #7-9



Gammaz Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbana, Champaign Co., IL

photo: The URBANA group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

view: detail - fireplace - west wall - living room

photo #8-9



Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House

1110 W. Nevada

Urbane, Champaign Co., IL

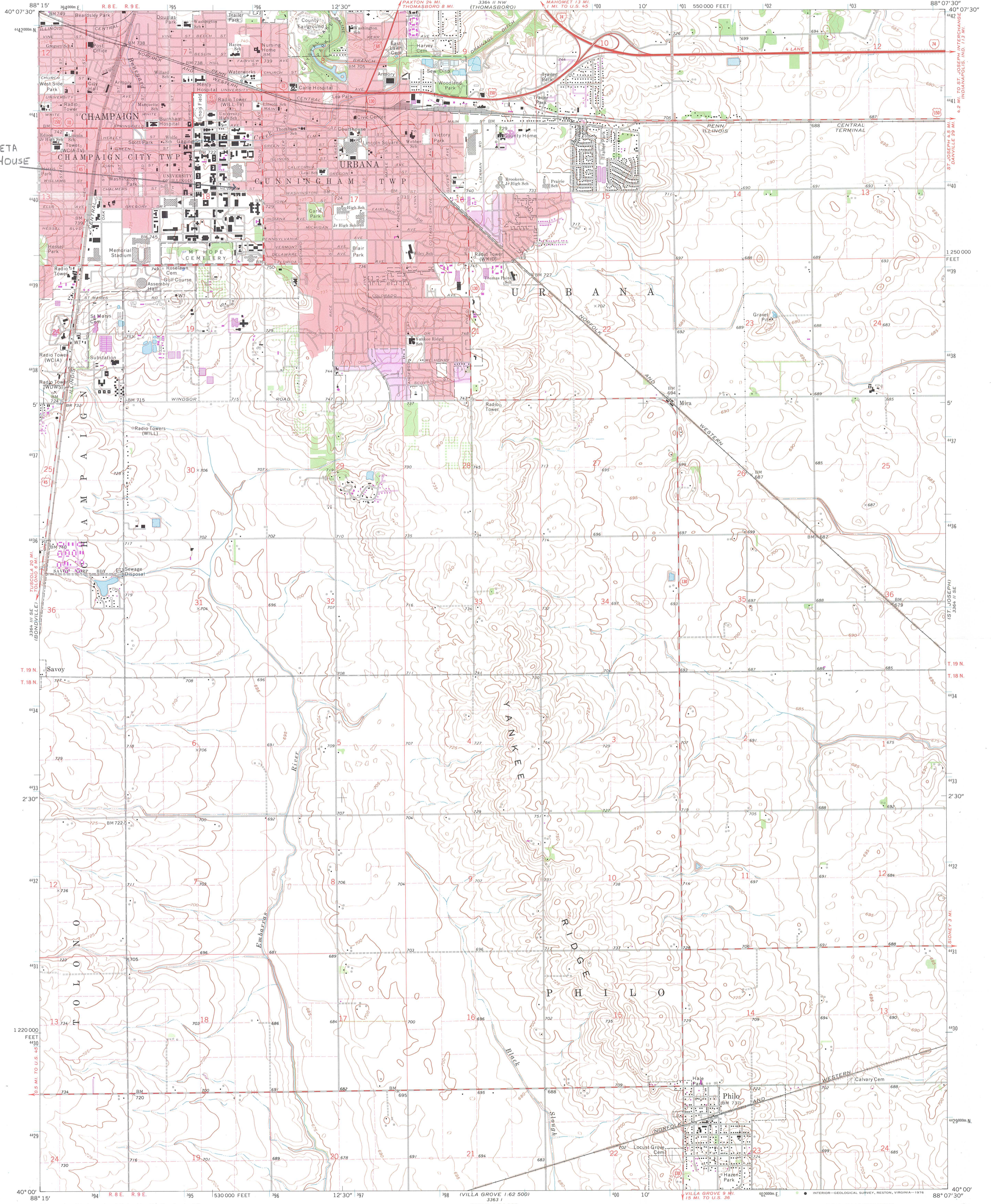
photo: The UKAANA Group (A. Edwards) May '94

negs: @ house

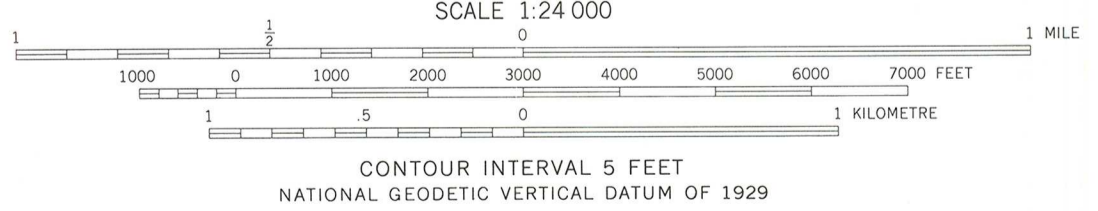
view: looking south in living room toward
west sunroom

photo # 9-9

GAMMA PHI BETA
SORORITY HOUSE
ZONE 1G
E 395810
N 440050
4440020



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Topography by planimetric surveys 1949-50 and 1957. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970.
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Illinois coordinate system, east zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1975. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

 Interstate Route
 U. S. Route
 State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

URBANA, ILL.
SW 1/4 URBANA 15' QUADRANGLE
N4000—W8807.5/7.5
1970
PHOTOREVISED 1975
AMS 3364 II SW—SERIES V863





**Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency**

Old State Capitol • Springfield, Illinois 62701 • (217) 782-4836

September 23, 1994

Ms. Beth Boland
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
800 N. Capitol Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20421



Dear Beth:

Enclosed please find the documentation for the following properties in Illinois nominated to the National Register of Historic Places by the State Historic Preservation Officer:

Hotel Waukegan, Waukegan
Lazy A. Motel, Springfield vicinity
Marissa Academy, Marissa
Bloomingdale School/Village Hall, Bloomingdale
Randecker's Hardware Store, Bloomingdale
✓ Gamma Phi Beta Sorority House, Urbana
Montgomery County Courthouse, Hillsboro
South Fulton Churchhouse, Astoria vicinity

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ann V. Swallow
Survey & National Register
Coordinator

encl.