

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

1. Name

historic Stone Chapel

and/or common Stone Chapel

2. Location

street & number Benton and Central Streets, _____ not for publication

city, town Springfield _____ vicinity of congressional district #7—Hon. Gene Taylor

state Missouri code 29 county Greene code 077

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

4. Owner of Property

name Drury College Board of Trustees

street & number 900 North Benton

city, town Springfield _____ vicinity of state Missouri 65802

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registrar of Deeds, Greene County Courthouse

street & number 940 Boonville

city, town Springfield _____ state Missouri 65802

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title 1. Springfield Historic Site Register has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1973 _____ federal _____ state _____ county local

depository for survey records City Clerk's Office
 City Hall

city, town Springfield _____ state Missouri 65802

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET STONE CHAPEL ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE 1

2. Missouri State Historical Survey
1981
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Stone Chapel, located on the residential campus of Drury College in the city of Springfield, Missouri is a two storey building constructed of grey limestone in the Gothic Revival style with Victorian Gothic details. It measures 95' from east to west and 65' from north to south. It is three bays wide and five bays deep with a clock tower standing at its southwest corner. The first floor was intended to serve as a conservatory of music, among other uses, while the auditorium area is located on the upper floor and seats between 1100 and 1500.

This building, which was designed in 1880, was to have been executed in brick. In 1881, however, it was decided to construct its walls and foundation entirely of limestone. Consequently, the building as completed does not exhibit the polychromy typical of the Victorian Gothic style, although the textural effects of the finished stonework create an analogous effect. The quarry-faced limestone blocks are laid in a random ashlar pattern. The margins of the quoin blocks have been smoothed to decoratively emphasize these areas. The heavy texture of the quarry-faced finish is relieved by many details in smoothed stone such as lintels, sills, horizontal string courses, cornices, window and door jambs and reveals, capstones, keystones and other accents. Further plastic treatment of the exterior includes projecting arches, stepped buttresses and molded dripstones with sculpted label stops. On the west front of this cruciform building, an arched and gabled portico is flanked by a clock tower on the south and a small corner tower on the north. The chapel is capped with a roof of multiple high gables and is faced with slates. The ridge of the transept is somewhat lower than that of the nave. Over the clock tower, the octagonal pyramidal spire is punctuated by four gabled stone dormers, each facing a cardinal point and holding a clock.

The exterior of Stone Chapel appears today as it did when completed in 1892. A careful renovation was accomplished between 1950 and 1953 by Sanford and Sons, a local architectural firm, which included the replacement of the original wooden framed spire which had rotted with one of steel construction and nearly identical appearance. Masonry joints were raked and pointed, badly weathered stones and cracked lintels were replaced and the original slate roof was rebuilt using the same material. Downspouts, flashing and guttering were also replaced where necessary. New electrically illuminated clock faces were installed to replace the original stone faces and the clock was electrified as part of this renovation. Finally, two, pointed-arched windows on the east as well as one on the north sides of the chancel were closed with grey limestone to accommodate the new chancel which was completed in 1955.

Early photographs show at least two earlier treatments for the doors of the west portico, the main entrance to the chapel. The present doors are inscribed as a gift of the class of 1917.

The interior of Stone Chapel has undergone much more extensive modification than the exterior. The auditorium retains its original plan and its is dominated by its original hammer beam ceiling of dark wood with added iron tie bars. This auditorium and its foyer are lit by stained glass windows, reputedly of Belgian origin, along the north and south which pierce walls faced with painted plaster. The remainder of the dark

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woodwork of the auditorium, the chancel itself and the furnishings are largely the result of renovations from 1949 to 1955 by Sanford and Sons. During this period, the organ pipes, which originally dominated the east end of the chancel were removed. The organ was electrified and sound chambers were constructed on either side of the chancel. Balconies in the west end and the transept arms were removed and replaced with smaller steel reinforced constructions of the same type. The auditorium was refloored with quarter sawn oak, and the seating pattern was changed from one organized around two side aisles to the present centrally aisled plan. In addition, in 1960-1961 a further renovation by Richard Stahl, a Springfield architect, resulted in the installation of steel reinforced stairs faced with wood, on all levels of the west foyer, the installation of steel stairs in enclosed wells to the north and south of the new chancel and the renovation of the remainder of the first level.

While no original plans for the chapel have been located, those from the renovation of 1960-1961 show that the original walls of the first level remain, although the hall has been opened up, and some doors have been blocked and other doors have been added.

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 checked="" 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 1880-1892 **Builder/Architect** Williams and Franklin of Cincinnati, Ohio

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Stone Chapel, Springfield, Missouri is significant as the oldest surviving building on the campus of Drury College. It stands as the first major stone building to have been constructed in Springfield, and it was recognized even by early Missouri historians as one of the "handsomest and most impressive school buildings in the state". In addition, this building is a fine local example of Gothic Revival design with Victorian Gothic features and in its various roles as chapel, conservatory of music, college library, office building and public meeting hall, it has served both the college and community since its construction.

(For further information, see continuation sheets)

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Drury College was founded as Springfield College by Missionary Congregational pastors and held its first term in 1873.¹ It was renamed Drury College the following year after Samuel F. Drury, a major contributor.²

The idea for a chapel had been proposed in 1876, but it was not until 1880 that gifts of \$5,000 each from Mr. F. Marquand of New York and Mrs. Valeria Stone of Malden, Massachusetts allowed construction to begin. The cornerstone was laid on November 16th of that year at a ceremony attended by 150 members of the National Council of the Congregational Church brought from St. Louis on a special train provided by the Frisco Railroad. The event had been conceived as a means of increasing the reputation of Drury College and of acquiring more financial support for the chapel. The following year Mrs. Stone contributed an additional \$20,000 towards its construction and it was decided to name the building for her and to construct it entirely of grey limestone. It was to be the first major stone building in the town of Springfield. Since no local firm was prepared to execute such an elaborate building in stone, Mr. Henry C. Lindsley of St. Louis was chosen to superintend the construction and the masonry contract was awarded to Mr. Robert Davidson of Cincinnati, Ohio.³

Early in 1882 construction was halted because funds ran out. By that time, however, the first level was completed and ready for occupancy.⁴ Unfortunately, late in 1882 the building was gutted by fire because the furnaces donated by Mr. A.C. Barstow had been improperly installed.⁵ Through generous contributions from the citizens of Springfield, the chapel was rebuilt in 1883 to its condition previous to the fire.⁶ The building was finally finished in 1892, but only with the help of funds raised from the people of Springfield.⁷

It was realized from the beginning that Stone Chapel was an ambitious undertaking for a small college. That the building was finally completed is due largely to Nathan J. Morrison, Drury's first president, although the building was not finished until the term of Dr. Ingalls, Drury's second president. The ambitious scale of the chapel and the somewhat unconventional design which includes two major levels was the result of the original intention of the designers that the building serve several functions and act as a civic center as well as a college office complex and auditorium. Indeed, the chapel has served both the city and the college since its construction.⁸ It has been the location of concerts, chautauquas, civic meetings and other educational functions. Important public lectures have been held here, including one by Alexander Kerensky, the President of Russia after the fall of the Czar.⁹ The chapel has been the location of commencements, baccalaureates and the awarding of honorary degrees, including those to General Omar Bradley, General Jonathan Wainwright, Admiral Stanford Caldwell Hooper, Congressman Walter Judd and composers Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein.¹⁰

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FOOTNOTES

- ¹History of Greene County, Missouri, (St. Louis: Western Historical Company, 1883), p. 813.
- ²Ibid.
- ³All the information in this paragraph concerning the origins and early construction of the chapel is taken from Nathan J. Morrison, "Drury College: A History of its Founding and Remarkable Career by its First President", Springfield Daily Republican, installments from December 8, 1887 to February 22, 1888.
- ⁴Ibid.
- ⁵Paul Roulet, History of Drury College at Springfield, Greene County, Missouri (Unpublished manuscript, Drury College Library, 1902), pp. 130-132.
- ⁶Roulet, pp. 132-134.
- ⁷George W. Parker, The Later History of Drury College, 1894-1904 (Unpublished thesis, Drury College Library, 1905), p. 19.
- ⁸The building itself leads one to this conclusion and this use plan is noted in a number of sources. It was a part of Morrison's original thinking and he was the individual most responsible for the construction of Stone Chapel.
- ⁹Kerensky's scheduled visit is mentioned in several issues of Drury Mirror, but there were postponements. That he did finally arrive is confirmed in "Kerensky Addresses", Drury Mirror, November 12, 1948.
- ¹⁰This information is available through the Drury Alumni Office and is noted in Historical Sites of Springfield, Missouri (Springfield: Historic Sites Board, 1975).

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Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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Continuation sheet STONE CHAPEL

Item number 9

Page 1

"Kerensky Addresses", Drury Mirror, November 12, 1948.

Morrison, Nathan J. "Drury College: A History of Its Founding and Remarkable Career by its First President", Springfield [Missouri] Daily Republican, December 8, 1887 - February 22, 1888.

Parker, George W. The Later History of Drury College, 1894-1904. Unpublished thesis, Drury College Library, 1905.

Roulet, Paul. History of Drury College at Springfield, Greene County, Missouri. Unpublished manuscript, Drury College Library, 1902.

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CONTINUATION SHEET STONE CHAPEL ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1

2. State contact person - Noelle Soren
Historic Architecture Specialist
Department of Natural Resources 314/751-4096
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical Sites of Springfield, Missouri. Springfield: Historic Sites Board, 1975.

History of Greene County, Missouri. St. Louis: Western Historical Company, 1883.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name "Springfield, MO."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	4	7	4	5	4	8	4	1	8	8	6	3
Zone			Easting					Northing					

B

Zone			Easting					Northing					

C

Zone			Easting					Northing					

D

Zone			Easting					Northing					

E

Zone			Easting					Northing					

F

Zone			Easting					Northing					

G

Zone			Easting					Northing					

H

Zone			Easting					Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 56 and 57, Block Q, Harwood Lisenby and Boyd's Addition, Springfield, Greene County, Missouri

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

1. Dr. David M. Quick
name/title Historian

organization Springfield Historic Site Board

date Feb. 11, 1981

street & number City Clerk's Office, City Hall

telephone 417/836-5152

city or town Springfield

state Missouri 65802

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

title date

For HCRS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

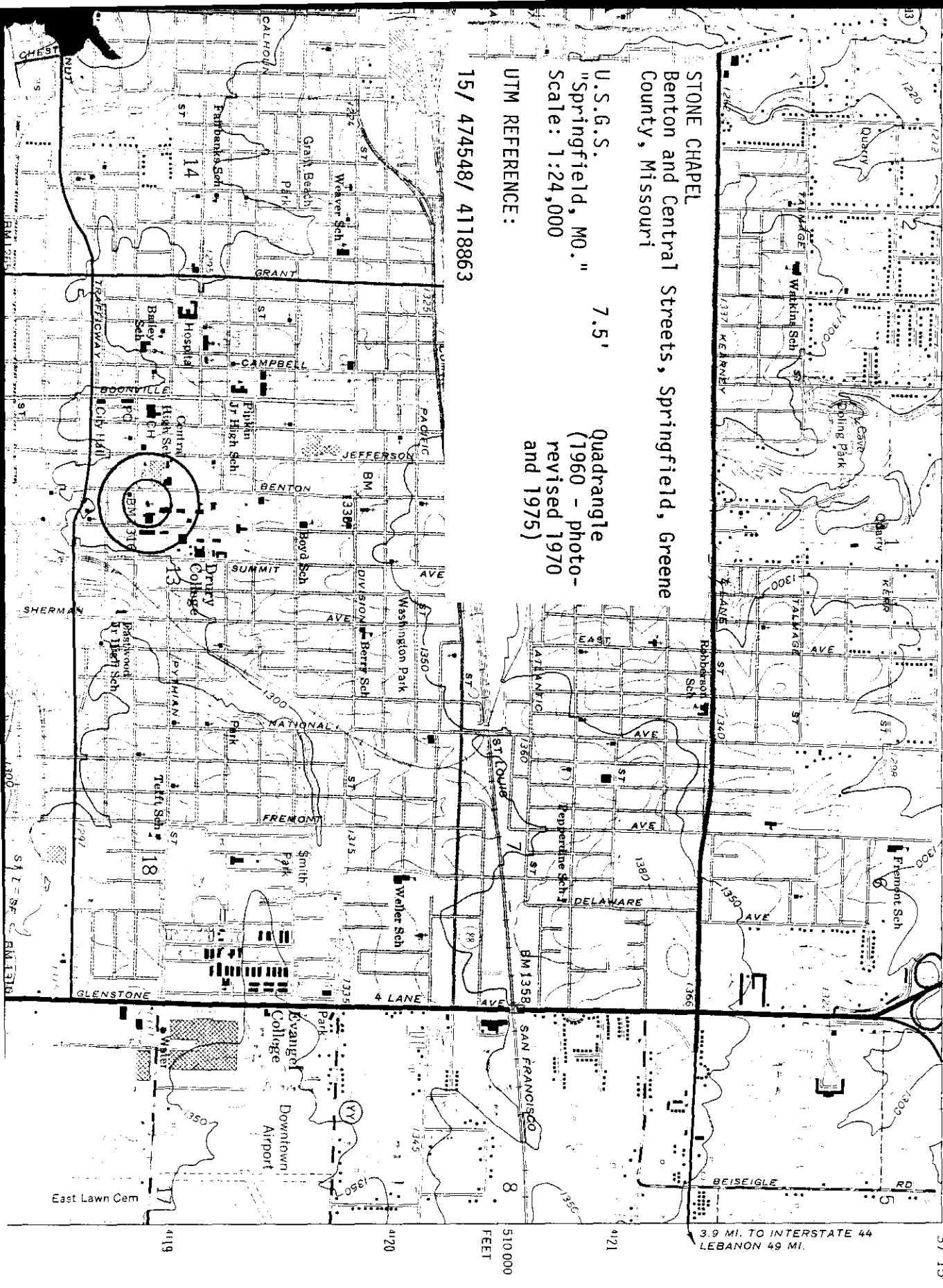
BOLIVAR 27 MI. 471 1730" 270000 FEET 475 R. 22 W. R. 21 W. 476 FAIR GROVE 13 MI. 32 MI. TO MO. 32 477 STRAFFORD 9 MI. 37°15'

SPRINGFIELD QUADRANGLE
MISSOURI—GREENE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
LEBANON 49 MI. 93°15'
3.9 MI. TO INTERSTATE 44
LEBANON 49 MI.

STONE CHAPEL
Benton and Central Streets, Springfield, Greene
County, Missouri

U.S.G.S.
"Springfield, MO."
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM REFERENCE:
15/ 474548/ 4118863

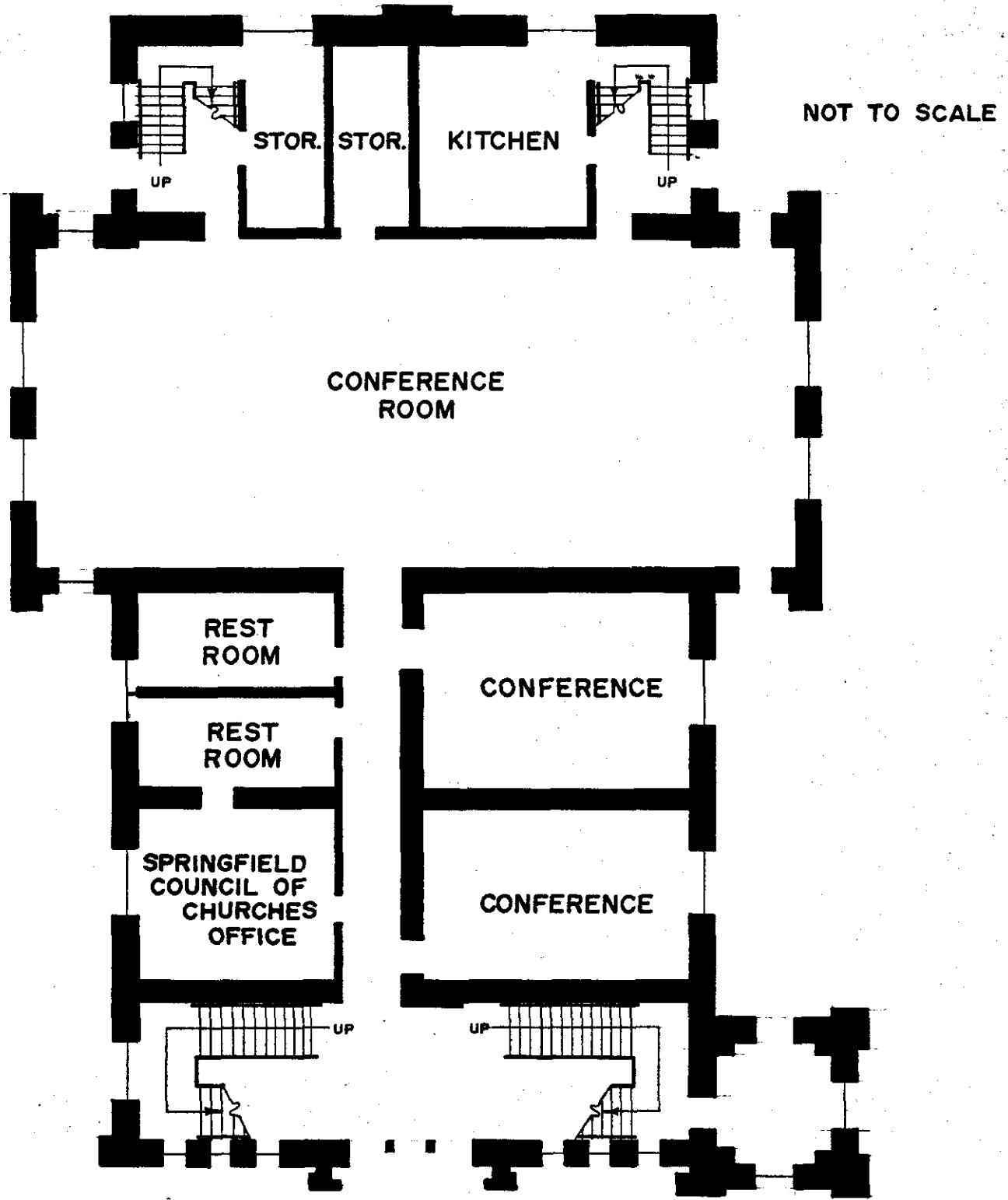
7.5'
Quadrangle
(1960 - photo-
revised 1970
and 1975)



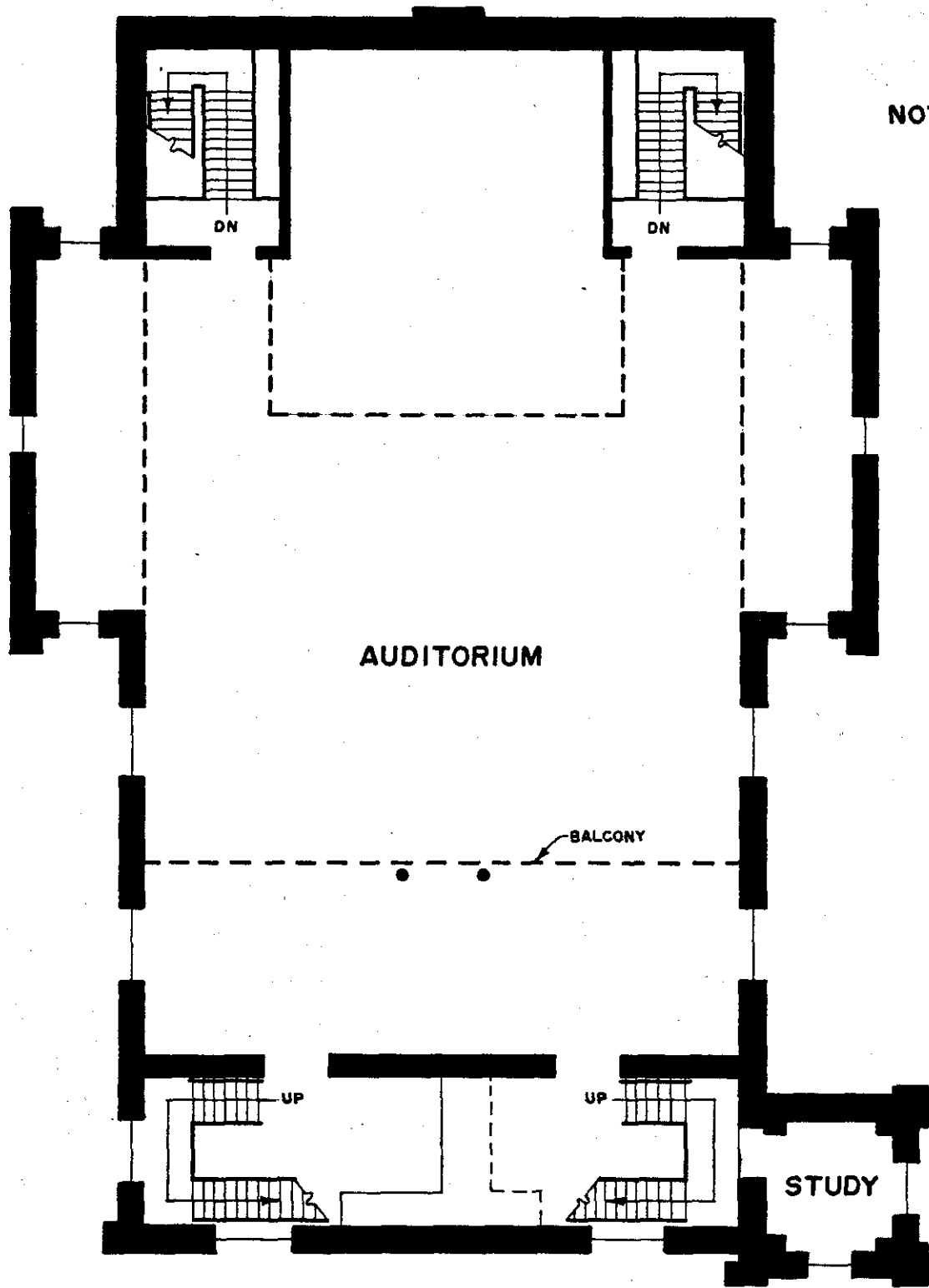
510 000
FEET

7358 1 SW
(BASSVILLE)

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
STONE CHAPEL
SPRINGFIELD, GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI



SECOND FLOOR PLAN-AUDITORIUM
STONE CHAPEL
SPRINGFIELD, GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI



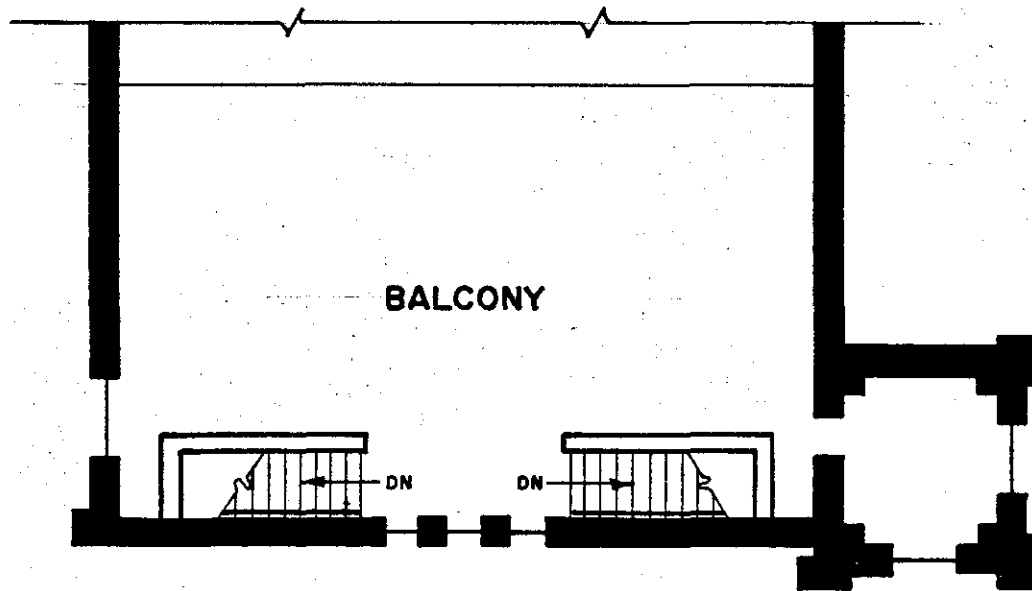
NOT TO SCALE

THIRD FLOOR PLAN-BALCONY

STONE CHAPEL

SPRINGFIELD, GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI

NOT TO SCALE



1

STONE CHAPEL, DRURY COLLEGE 1 of 3
Benton and Central
Springfield, Missouri
Photographer: David Quick
Date : January, 1981
Neg. Loc. : Springfield Historic Site
Board, City Clerk's Office,
City Hall, Springfield,
Neg. Location: Missouri 65802

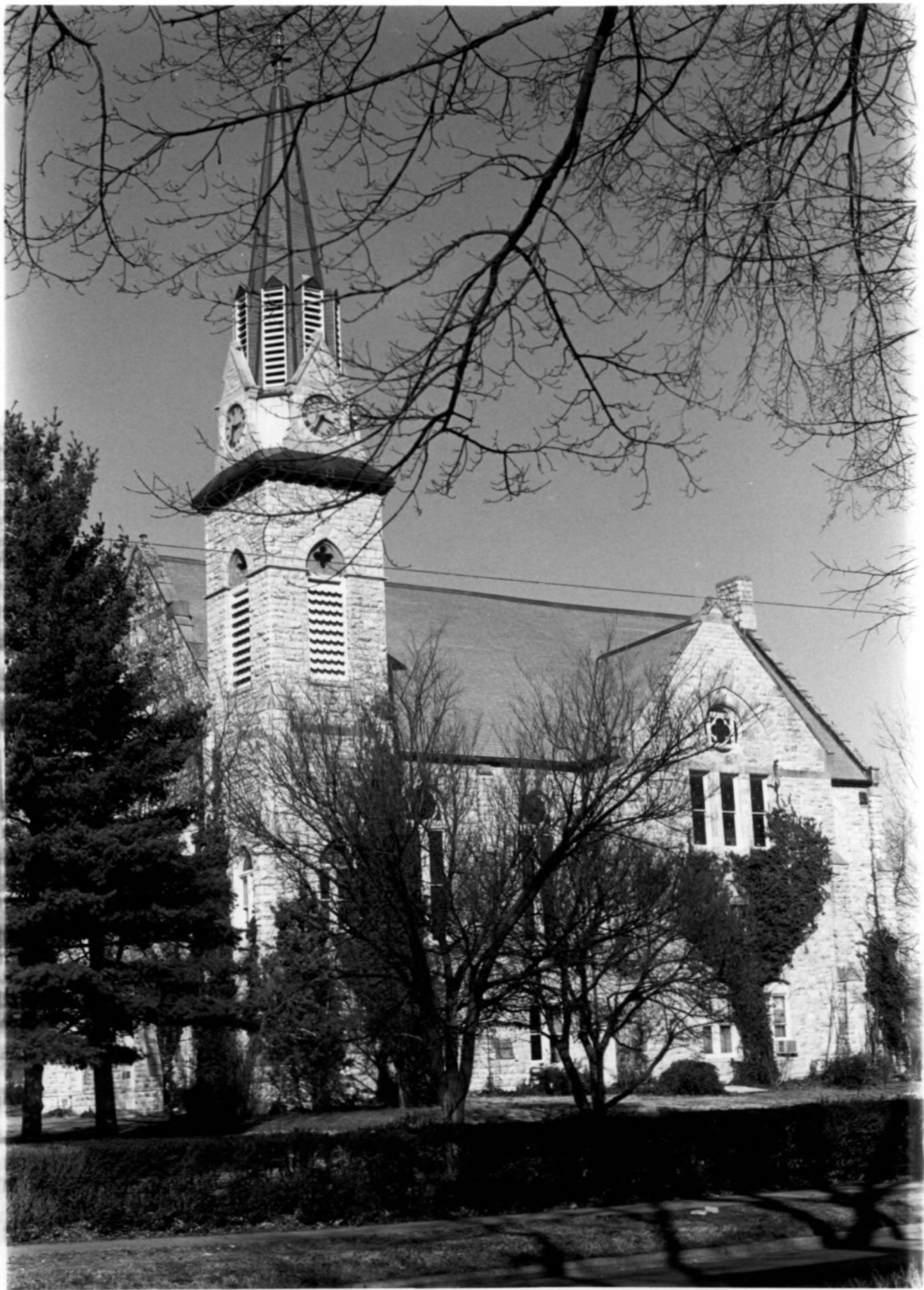
View of west facade and tower.
Springfield,
Missouri, 65802

NR 4 B



STONE CHAPEL, DRURY COLLEGE 2 of 3
Benton and Central
Springfield, Missouri
Photographer: David Quick
Date : January, 1981
Neg. Loc. : Springfield Historic Site
 Board, City Clerk's Office,
 City Hall, Springfield,
 Missouri 65802

View of south facade and tower showing
landscape.



STONE CHAPEL, DRURY COLLEGE 3 of 3
Benton and Central
Springfield, Missouri

Photographer: David Quick

Date : January, 1981

Neg. Loc. : Springfield Historic Site
Board, City Clerk's Office,
City Hall, Springfield,
Missouri 65802

Interior detail of auditorium showing tied
timber trusses and ceiling.



EXTRA
PHOTOS

