

VLR-12/6/01 NRHP-3/5/01

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 any 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 EDGAR A. LONG BUILDING (154-5008)

other names/site number CHRISTIANSBURG INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE

**2. Location**

street & number 140 SCATTERGOOD DRIVE N/A not for publication  
city or town CHRISTIANSBURG vicinity  
state VIRGINIA code VA county MONTGOMERY code 121 Zip 24073

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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.)

H. Alexander Wise, Jr. 12/29/00  
Signature of certifying official Date

**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**

State or 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 commenting or other official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this 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): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	0	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0	objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register  
0

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: SCHOOL

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL REVIVAL

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
roof ASPHALT  
walls BRICK  
other

**Narrative Description**

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

**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.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a 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.

**Areas of Significance**

EDUCATION  
ETHNIC HERITAGE (AFRICAN-AMERICAN)

**Period of Significance**

1927 -- 1947

**Significant Dates**

1927

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

BAILY, WILLIAM L. (registered architect - PA)  
HUFFORD, J.D. (contractor - Pulaski, VA )

**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  
# \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository:  
CHRISTIANSBURG INSTITUTE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreeage of Property** 2.7877 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing  
1 17 551760 4110630    2 \_\_\_\_\_  
3 \_\_\_\_\_    4 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

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**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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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CAROLINE M. BOTT  
CENTER FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY  
VIRGINIA TECH UNIVERSITY  
104 DRAPER ROAD  
BLACKSBURG, VA 24061  
(540) 231-5133

date    SEPTEMBER 18, 2000  
**Form Reviewed By:**  
JOHN R. KERN, DIRECTOR  
ROANOKE REGIONAL PRESERVATION OFFICE  
1030 PENMAR AVE., SE  
ROANOKE, VA 24013  
(540) 857-7585

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**Additional Documentation**

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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)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

CHRISTIANSBURG INSTITUTE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 433  
CHRISTIANSBURG, VA 24073  
(540) 231-7361  
(CONTACT: JACQUELINE EAVES)

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Continuation Sheet

(Edgar A. Long Building)  
(Montgomery Co., VA)

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## 7. Description

### Summary

The Edgar A. Long Building is a two-and-a-half-story Georgian Revival-influenced edifice that was constructed on the Christiansburg Industrial Institute campus in 1927. The structure served as an academic building on that campus until the school's closure in 1966 because of integration. The character-defining features of the structure include ornamental masonry work and a central hallway design that provides the primary circulation element for the interior rooms. Although the Long Building has undergone some alterations, most of the building remains in its original state. Today, the Long Building stands as the only remaining intact building on the industrial campus and as the Institute's only building named for an African-American. The building is not in use at present, but there are plans to use it as a museum and community learning center.

### Acknowledgments

A number of individuals assisted in the preparation of this report and should be acknowledged for their work and professional expertise. Foremost among these is the Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association, and of particular note, Elaine Dowe Carter and Jacqueline Eaves. Many individuals at Virginia Tech should also be noted, including Marcy Schnitzer of the Virginia Tech Service Learning Center, Anna Fariello of Virginia Tech's Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, and Elizabeth Gilboy and Antonio Marshall of the Community Assistance and Design Center. Two undergraduate students, Keiana Pottinger and Michele Dawson, who participated in Virginia Tech's Minority Academic Opportunities Program, also deserve recognition. Community individuals contributing to the project included architects Gibson Worsham and Donald Sunshine and developer Jack Via. Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, also contributed significantly to this report.

### Exterior

The Edgar A. Long Building is a two-and-a-half-story brick Georgian Revival-influenced school building that was constructed in 1927. The building sits on a 2.8-acre southern sloping site south of Scattergood Drive. The property is located west of Business Route 460 in the northwest portion of the town of Christiansburg, Montgomery County, Virginia. The site is near both commercial and residential dwellings. The Long Building is offset from the street approximately 50 feet and has no recognizable street access.

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## 7. Description (continued)

The foundation of the Long Building is concrete, and the exterior walls are 18-inch load-bearing brick. The exterior brickwork is a Flemish bond, which is broken into flush panels by soldier course elements. The building has visually balanced façades, and a central chimney adds to the structure's symmetry. It also has a classical rectangular plan and retains its original pattern of balanced fenestration on all façades.

Both the north and south facades of the building have twenty 4/4 sash windows with soldier course headers. The north façade has four triple sets of windows, each flanked by a single window. A tablet is set into the wall and reads "Edgar A. Long Building 1927." The south façade has four paired sets of windows and four triple sets of windows. The south façade also has an advanced central pavilion with a brick pedimented gable containing a half circular garret vent. This design is somewhat reminiscent of the Hill School's cruciform-plan design completed 40 years earlier.<sup>1</sup>

The entrances to the Long Building are located on the east and west façades. Large segmentally arched windows above the doors light the landings of the stairs at each end of the building. Plywood gables top both the east and west facades. The building has a classical cornice and a gabled deck on a hip roof that is covered in asphalt rolled shingling.

### Interior

The interior of the building retains its original floor plan with central hallways lighted by the arched window openings over the stair landings. The east-west running hallways are a defining part of the floor plan and provide the primary circulation element for the interior rooms. The interior of the building is exposed brick and wood framing. The interior has 12-inch load-bearing masonry walls, and the wood frame is characterized by 2"x4" partitions. Wood floor joists and roof rafters are also apparent. Diagonal bridging is used between the beams of the ceiling to brace the structure. Much of the original wood floor remains.

The basement level has two main rooms, one on each side of the central hallway. The south side room is open and has a brick fireplace along the center of the wall closest to the hallway. The north side room is subdivided into three areas: the left side contains a restroom and an electrical room, the center is a kitchen, and the room on the right is used for storage.

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## 7. Description (continued)

On the first floor there are again two rooms divided by the central hallway. Temporary subdivisions in the south side room have been made to accommodate storage and meeting room space. One subdivision is made of plywood and has the original interior doors incorporated into its wall.

The second floor is similar to the first, with two main rooms divided by the central hallway. In the south side room there is some fire damage on the ceiling joists, though the date and cause of the fire have not been determined. Fire damage is also apparent in the attic on the south and west gables. There is stairwell access to the attic on the north side of the hallway and there is a ladder in the attic that leads out onto the roof through a hatched door.

### Alterations

Erosion has caused a change in the grade on the north façade of the building, which has resulted in the in-filling of the basement windows with brick. Similarly, but not because of erosion, most of the south façade basement windows have also been in-filled. A number of the window openings on the north and south facades of the building have been boarded over; however, much of the original window framing exists. Originally each entrance had an architrave surround with a classical entablature; both of these elements have been removed from the current structure, as have the original gutters. The original slate roof was hipped with one brick gable on the south façade. The roof has undergone several alterations, the most recent being the addition of plywood gables on the north, east, and west facades. On the interior of the building all plastering has been removed, as have the original room divisions. All alterations of the Edgar A. Long Building occurred after the Montgomery County School Board sold the property in 1967.

## 8. Statement of Significance

Constructed in 1927, the Edgar A. Long Building, located in Christiansburg, Virginia, is an important legacy of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute.<sup>2</sup> The Institute played a major role in secondary school education of African-Americans from Reconstruction to the Civil Rights era. Over its 100-year history, the Institute served as a private academy, a training school, a teacher education facility, and a regional high school. A major part of its significance lies with its association with the Booker T. Washington system of practical education and its long association with the Friends' Freedmen's Association of Philadelphia. The Long Building stands as the only remaining intact building on the high school/industrial campus.

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(Edgar A. Long Building)  
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## 8. Statement of Significance (continued)

### Justification of Criteria

The Edgar A. Long Building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the state level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of education and African-American ethnic heritage. The period of significance extends from 1927, the date of construction of the Long Building, until 1947, when the Friends' Freedmen's Association deeded this twentieth-century Christiansburg Industrial Institute property to the school boards of Montgomery and Pulaski counties and the City of Radford. The Long Building is the only structure on the Christiansburg Industrial Institute site that remains intact from the period. Although it has undergone some alterations, the structure of the building remains in its original state and stands as testimony to the major role the Christiansburg Industrial Institute played in the education of African-Americans in western Virginia and neighboring states of the Appalachian South.

### Historical Background

#### Founding of the School by Captain Schaeffer and the Friends' Freedmen's Association, 1866-1896

The history of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute dates to its founding in 1866 by Captain Charles S. Schaeffer, a Union Army officer and an assistant superintendent of the Freedmen's Bureau, and is significant because the Institute opened five years earlier than the public school system in Montgomery County. Schaeffer was later appointed a field agent for the Southwestern Virginia Schools under the care of the Friends' Freedmen's Association of Philadelphia (1868), and he was also appointed Assistant Superintendent of Education for the State of Virginia (1869). He operated the private school for freedmen, which later became known as the Hill School, with assistance from the Freedmen's Bureau until 1869 and with assistance from the Friends' Freedmen's Association until 1885, when the school was deeded to the Freedmen's Association.<sup>3</sup> The transfer of the school was a significant event in the school's history because it marked the beginning of the transition from a literacy and religious curriculum to an agricultural and industrial curriculum.



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## 8. Statement of Significance (continued)

### Booker T. Washington Era of Education, 1896-1915

In 1896 Booker T. Washington entered into an agreement with the Friends' Freedmen's Association to take charge of organizing an industrial department at the Christiansburg school.<sup>4</sup> From his post at Tuskegee, Washington agreed to serve as supervisor of the Institute, and he appointed Charles L. Marshall, an 1895 Tuskegee graduate, to serve as principal of the school and to develop the industrial program.<sup>5</sup> Washington remained as supervisor of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute until his death in 1915, after which Robert Moton, Washington's successor at Tuskegee, executed those responsibilities until 1934.

To accommodate the expanded industrial focus of the school, 87 acres of land on the north bank of Crab Creek, two miles west of the existing school, were purchased.<sup>6</sup> This site served as the new campus for the high school and industrial training programs, while the elementary school continued at the Hill School site. The campus continued to grow with an aggressive building program in 1901 and the acquisition of an additional 85.63 acres of farmland in 1905.<sup>7</sup>

In 1906 Edgar A. Long, also an 1895 graduate of Tuskegee Institute, became principal of the school upon Marshall's death. Long sustained Booker T. Washington's plan for agricultural instruction and continued Marshall's building campaign.<sup>8</sup> He also began community outreach and extension at the school. It is significant to note that during Long's tenure as principal, the school was reported to have the highest ranking of the schools evaluated and funded by Julius Rosenwald.<sup>9</sup> Long remained principal of Christiansburg Institute until his death in 1924. He was remembered by the Friends' Freedmen's Association at their January 6, 1925 meeting in the following way: "During the eighteen years in which Edgar A. Long served as Principal the school made substantial progress, the outstanding marks of which were the erection of Baily-Morris Hall, the hospital, a farmer's cottage, and the raising of the \$50,000 Endowment Fund, all of which enterprises were in large measure the result of his initiative."<sup>10</sup>

### Construction of the Edgar A. Long Building, 1927-1928

Following Long's death and a short term by his wife, Anna P. Long, as principal, Abraham M. Walker, a graduate of Hampton Institute, became principal of the Institute. It was under Walker that the plans for a new school building (eventually named the Edgar A. Long Building) were begun. In April of 1925 the Friends' Freedmen's Association decided to begin a campaign to raise \$75,000, which would be used in part for the construction of the Long Building.<sup>11</sup> The Association's treasurer, J. Henry Scattergood, approached the General

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## 8. Statement of Significance (continued)

Education Board, a New York-based philanthropic organization dedicated to higher education and education in the South. In 1926 Rockefeller's General Education Board agreed to donate \$25,000 for the Long Building, provided that the Friends' Freedmen's Association raise twice that amount.<sup>12</sup>

William L. Baily, a registered architect with Baily & Bassett of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a member of the Friends' Freedmen's Association, was the architect of the Long Building, and J.D. Hufford of Pulaski, Virginia, was the contractor.<sup>13</sup> The building's design is reminiscent of many public schools of the time. Both the north and south facades were heavily fenestrated to provide adequate light and ventilation for the classrooms. The east and west facades had no classroom windows to avoid shadowing over students while they worked.

The ground breaking for the Long Building was held on February 7, 1927 -- there Principal Walker was quoted as saying that the new school building would meet pressing needs, add to the opportunity of the school to do good work, and enlarge its responsibility to perform faithfully the tasks before them. He ended by saying that the building's completion would "mark a new era of usefulness for the Institute."<sup>14</sup> It is significant to note that, as with most construction on the Institute's campus, students performed a large amount of the excavation and construction work. Specifically for the Long Building, students did the excavation work and laid the underground soil pipe at a cost of \$2,000.<sup>15</sup> It is also important to note that of all the buildings erected on the school's campus, the Long Building is the only one that was named for an African-American.<sup>16</sup>

The Long Building, which officially opened for classes in December of 1928, was used for all academic classes, including physiology, history, agriculture, Latin, English, Bible, mathematics, public speaking, general science, reading, biology, chemistry, and music. It also provided recreation space where physical education and indoor games took place during the winter months. In deference to Booker T. Washington's plan for practical education, the building also offered classroom space for instruction in sewing, cooking, and agriculture.<sup>17</sup> During the period of significance, the basement was divided into two rooms that housed a cafeteria and a men's restroom. The first floor had four classrooms, two on each side of the central hall. The second floor was also divided into four rooms, three of which were used for classes and one of which was used as the school's library.<sup>18</sup>

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## 8. Statement of Significance (continued)

Following completion of the Long Building, the school's enrollment peaked at over 300 in 1931. The next year, the Institute became accredited as a standard four-year high school by the State Board of Education and by the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States.<sup>19</sup> During this time, the Institute was involved in many statewide educational and health initiatives as well as in local projects, which resulted in favorable relations between the school and the community.<sup>20</sup>

### Transition to Public Institution, 1934 -1947

In 1933 the Friends' Freedmen's Association proposed to deed the school property to the Montgomery County School Board with the suggestion that the Christiansburg Institute become a regional high school for African-Americans.<sup>21</sup> After some discussion, the School Board agreed to the deed transfer of the Hill School property and entered into a one-year lease for the Christiansburg Industrial Institute property; the lease began on July 1, 1934 with the board's management and operation of the Christiansburg Institute as a regional high school. This event is significant in the history of the school because it marks the change from a private to a public institution and also the end in "industrial" supervision from Robert Moton at Tuskegee Institute.

In 1935 Montgomery County renewed its lease for a five-year period, and the following year 27 Christiansburg Institute students received aid from the National Youth Administration, a student program that was affiliated with the Works Progress Administration under Roosevelt's Second New Deal.<sup>22</sup> In 1938, the National Youth Administration, in cooperation with the County School Board, began the Resident Vocational Training Project at Christiansburg Institute. Forty youths between the ages of 18 and 25 were selected from the Works Progress Administration relief roll to come to Christiansburg and spend three months in work and intensive training -- agriculture for boys and homemaking for girls.<sup>23</sup> The program was continued for the 1938-1940 school years.

### Public Education at the Christiansburg Institute, 1947-1966

Following several more lease agreements, the Friends' Freedmen's Association made a final deed of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute to the school divisions of Montgomery County, Radford City, and Pulaski County in 1947.<sup>24</sup> This transfer is significant because it marks the final transition of the school from a private philanthropically supported institution to a public institution. Under this new arrangement, enrollment grew to 340 students, but the industrial and vocational focus of the curriculum diminished. That same year the dormitories were closed and students were transported daily to and from school. In 1950 "Industrial" was removed from the school's name and the school took on the characteristics of a regular

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## 8. Statement of Significance (continued)

public high school. The farm operations all but ceased, and the self-help idea was almost totally eradicated. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 marked the school's final days. Within the next four years, the Christiansburg Institute's students and teachers were integrated into the surrounding schools, and in 1966 the school graduated its final class.

Christiansburg Industrial Institute alumni born in the 1920s and early 1930s who attended school there before 1947 remember their school with pride. Walter Lewis, Sr., spoke of the Institute as a "high school with sort of a college atmosphere." Students received a "good solid education," took pride in their outstanding football team, and had one of the best bands around. "When they marched down the street everyone knew it. They had drum majors that were fantastic." Aubrey Mills, Sr., remembered dedicated teachers, outstanding educational facilities, and practical instruction in trades, brick masonry, barbering, and shop and automotive work for students not interested in academic subjects. Agricultural crops and livestock grown on the Institute farm fed boarding students and those who ate in the school cafeteria. Farm chores also provided disciplinary work for students who misbehaved. Despite the fact that Aubrey Mills remembered that male and female students used separate entrances to the Edgar A. Long Building and that there were always chaperones between the girls and the boys, both Aubrey Mills and Walter Lewis met their wives at the Christiansburg Industrial Institute. Aubrey's wife Mary Mills enjoyed the Institute, made good friends there, and learned sewing and mathematics, which enabled her to work for 30 years after graduation, first in a Blacksburg dress shop and then as manager for an outlet clothing store in Christiansburg. William, "Billy," Alexander observed that going to the Institute gave blacks from the New River Valley an opportunity to know blacks from other communities. Lewis, Aubrey Mills, Alexander, and Elaine Dowe Carter all emphasized the extended sense of black community they gained from attending the Christiansburg Institute with students from other parts of Virginia and other states. Lewis, A. Mills, and Carter all referred to the distinctive note the Friends' Freedmen's Bureau played in support of their school. Finally, Carter recalled that the Christiansburg Industrial Institute opened many conceptual doors. In her words, the "Christiansburg Institute represented an enormous expansion of educational and extracurricular activities . . . it was an expanding opportunity." Elaine Carter doubtless spoke for many fellow students when she observed that Christiansburg Industrial Institute alumni still talk about going to school there "as though it was yesterday."<sup>25</sup>

### Preservation of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute

Former students formed the Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association in 1976, incorporated as a 501(c)3 in 1978, and preserved the memory of the Institute by providing scholarships for individuals who are pursuing higher education. In 1996 the Alumni Association received title

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## 8. Statement of Significance (continued)

to the one-and-a-half-acre parcel where the Edgar A. Long Building sits, and in 2000 they received the adjoining 1.2877 acres of land to the east of the Long parcel. The Association received the parcels as a donation from Jack E. Via, a developer who purchased the Christiansburg Industrial Institute after the school closed in 1966.<sup>28</sup> The Association hopes to use the Edgar A. Long Building to interpret and preserve the Christiansburg Industrial Institute's heritage of community service and education. Its rehabilitation and use as a museum and community learning center will provide living testimony for a school that, in the words of its alumni, "laid the foundation for the educational, spiritual, and political development and training of a newly emancipated people and played a part in the educational history of the states bordering Virginia."<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

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<sup>1</sup> The Hill School, which was nominated to the state and national registries in 1977 and 1978, is part of the Old Christiansburg Industrial Institute (154-5004) campus located approximately two-thirds of a mile to the east of the site of the Long Building.

<sup>2</sup> The Christiansburg Institute underwent several name changes over its 100-year history -- Christiansburg School (1866-1874), Christiansburg Normal Institute (1874-1885), Christiansburg Industrial Institute (1885-1905), Christiansburg Normal and Industrial Institute (1905-1950), Christiansburg Institute (1950-1966). For the purposes of this narrative, "Christiansburg Industrial Institute" will be used because this was the primary name of the institution during the period of significance.

<sup>3</sup> Harrison, Charles H. *The Story of a Consecrated Life: Commemorative of Rev. Charles S. Schaeffer Brevet-Captain U.S.V.* J.B. Lippincott Compay, Philadelphia, 1900. Montgomery County Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Deed Book Z, p.51.

<sup>4</sup> In 1895 the Friends' Freedmen's Association invited Booker T. Washington to address their annual meeting, which was half a year before he gained national prominence among American whites with his famous Atlanta Exposition speech: "In all things that are purely social we can be as separate as the fingers, yet one as the hand in all things essential to human progress." At the Friends' meeting he spoke about the success of education at Tuskegee and emphasized the importance of manual training for blacks. The following year Washington agreed to take the Christiansburg Industrial Institute under management of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute and enlarge and widen its field of usefulness for an expenditure of \$2,000 per year. Friends' Freedmen's Association, Executive Board Minutes, 3/10/1896. Friends Library, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, microfilm.

<sup>5</sup> Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 4/17/1897. The purpose of an Industrial School as stated in a Tuskegee Institute Annual Catalogue was "to provide an opportunity for young coloured men and women to acquire sound vocational training so that upon graduation they may be thoroughly equipped for active service and leadership in promoting moral, educational, industrial and economic betterment in the community of their future choice." Jones, Lance G.E. *Negro Schools in the Southern States*. Oxford at the Clarendon Press, 1928, p.64.

<sup>6</sup> Thirty-three acres were purchased 11/21/1898 (Deed Book 46, p.273), and 54 acres known as the "Adams Tract and adjoining "Hix Property" were purchased 3/14/1899 (Deed Book 48, p. 547).

<sup>7</sup> A barn, boy's dormitory, shop building, and teacher's cottage were constructed, and 85.63 acres were purchased 11/13/1905 from Charles and Nellie Marshall and Edgar and Annie Long (Deed Book 54, p. 139).

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**8. Statement of Significance (continued)**

<sup>8</sup> Baily-Morris Hall, named for Elliston P. Morris, President of the Friend's Freedmen's Association, and Joshua L. Baily, a firm and generous supporter, was dedicated January 1, 1912. The building served as a combination girl's dormitory, dining room, kitchen, assembly hall, administrative offices, and chapel. Long also oversaw the construction of a new cottage for the Farm Instructor and construction of the Christiansburg Colored Hospital on the grounds of the Christiansburg Institute.

<sup>9</sup> Christiansburg Industrial Institute Annual Catalogue, 1916. The Rosenwald Schools were schools that received support from Julius Rosenwald. Rosenwald served as vice-president and treasurer (1895) of the mail-order concern of Sears, Roebuck & Co., president (1910), and chairman of the board of directors (1925). He contributed large sums for the promotion of education in the southern U.S. and for the aid of the Jewish population in the Middle East and German children during and after World War I. He favored the Tuskegee model of education, gave his first gift to black rural schools in 1912, and subsequently established the Julius Rosenwald Fund, a charity for the economic, medical, and cultural advancement of blacks in America. Leavell, *Philanthropy in Negro Education*, pp.76-80.

<sup>10</sup> Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 1/6/1925.

<sup>11</sup> Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 4/9/1925.

<sup>12</sup> See Leavell, *Philanthropy in Negro Education*, pp.66-71. The Christiansburg Institute's request to the General Education Board was referred to Jackson Davis, a Virginia native who was affiliated with the GEB from 1915 until 1946 and who was ultimately the GEB's vice-president and director; see the Jackson Davis Collection in the Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia. See Agreement, General Education Board and Christiansburg Industrial Institute in the Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 10/14/26. In a letter dated 2/10/1928, the Friends' Freedmen's Association informed the GEB about their completion of the said challenge.

<sup>13</sup> In a letter dated 5/13/1926, William Baily made reference to blueprints and an elevation for the Long Building, but these were not included in the microfilm; see Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 3/1926. J.D. Hufford submitted the low bid of \$29,787 for the project, but the final contract price was negotiated at \$29,921; see Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 3/8/1927.

<sup>14</sup> Principal's Annual Report, Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 3/1/1927.

<sup>15</sup> Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 1/11/1927.

<sup>16</sup> On 6/14/1927 the Friends' Freedmen's Association decided to name the new academic building the "Edgar A. Long Building 1927." They also agreed to buy furniture for the building in the amount of \$1,485.25; see Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes.

<sup>17</sup> Principal's Annual Report to the Board of Managers, 3/1/1928, Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes.

<sup>18</sup> Friends' Freedmen's Association, Executive Board Minutes, 3/28/40. Friends Library, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, microfilm.

<sup>19</sup> The 1931 Annual Report to the Board of Managers of the Christiansburg Industrial Institute states that in that year the Institute gave instruction to the largest number in any one year in its history. Three hundred and thirty students were enrolled -- 198 of which attended the Industrial campus. At the time of its Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary School's accreditation, the Christiansburg Institute was one of only three African-American high schools in Virginia to be so accredited; see Annual Report of the Principal, Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 1932.

<sup>20</sup> The Ninth District Conference, composed of teachers of ten counties and three cities in southwestern Virginia, held its annual meetings at the Institute for the purpose of promoting better teaching; the State Department of Health also held a Doctors' Helpers Institute there during the summer of 1932, which was the first of its kind to be held for African-Americans in the western part of Virginia. In addition, the Health Department also held annual five-day institutes where instruction in home nursing, baby care, and home sanitation was given. Friends'

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**8. Statement of Significance (continued)**

Freedmen's Association Minutes.

<sup>21</sup> The Christiansburg Industrial Institute was the last of 47 schools that the Friends had helped to start and support in North Carolina and Virginia after the Civil War. Within two decades after the war, all of the schools except Christiansburg were turned over to local school boards. The "regional high school" idea was forwarded by J. Henry Scattergood to the Division Superintendent of Montgomery County Schools in a letter dated 8/8/1933. The idea was looked upon favorably by the Virginia Commission on Interracial Cooperation and was adopted by several school systems in Virginia. Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes.

<sup>22</sup> 1935-1936 Annual Report, Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes.

<sup>23</sup> Friends' Freedmen's Association Minutes, 3/31/38.

<sup>24</sup> Deed Book 151, p.54. The deed agreement was partially a result of Senate Bill 42 of the Acts of the General Assembly 1946, which authorized the school boards of two or more counties and/or cities to jointly acquire and operate school properties, and partially the result of five years of federal funding support.

<sup>25</sup> Interviews conducted in April 2000 by Virginia Tech Service Learning students, compiled for this report by John Kern.

<sup>26</sup> Jack Via also donated two parcels of land approximately 82 feet east of the north-east corner of the Long Building property to the Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association; the first was 0.026 acre in 1986 where now stands a replica of the school's smokehouse that is used as a museum, and an adjacent 0.517 acre in 1990. Deed Book 510, p.31 and Deed Book 672, p.428.

<sup>27</sup> Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association, Christiansburg Institute History, 1996.

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9. Bibliography

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### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated parcel, comprised of 2.7877 acres, is portrayed on the Montgomery County Tax Map number 496 tax parcels 24-1C and 24-1B.

### **Boundary Justification**

The nominated parcel includes all contiguous property owned by the Christiansburg Institute Alumni Association that is associated with the Edgar A. Long Building.

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**Photographs**

1.
  1. Subject: Edgar A. Long Building (same for all buildings)
  2. Location: Montgomery County, Virginia (same for all photographs)
  3. Photographer: John R. Kern (same for all photographs)
  4. Photo date: May 2000 (same for all photographs)
  5. Original negatives archived at Virginia Department of Historic Resources; VDHR negative number 18242 (same for all photographs)
  6. Description of view: South and east facades
  
2.
  6. North and west facades
  
3.
  6. East and north facades
  
4.
  6. Interior: central stairwell and hallway, looking west
  
5.
  6. Interior: basement level, south side

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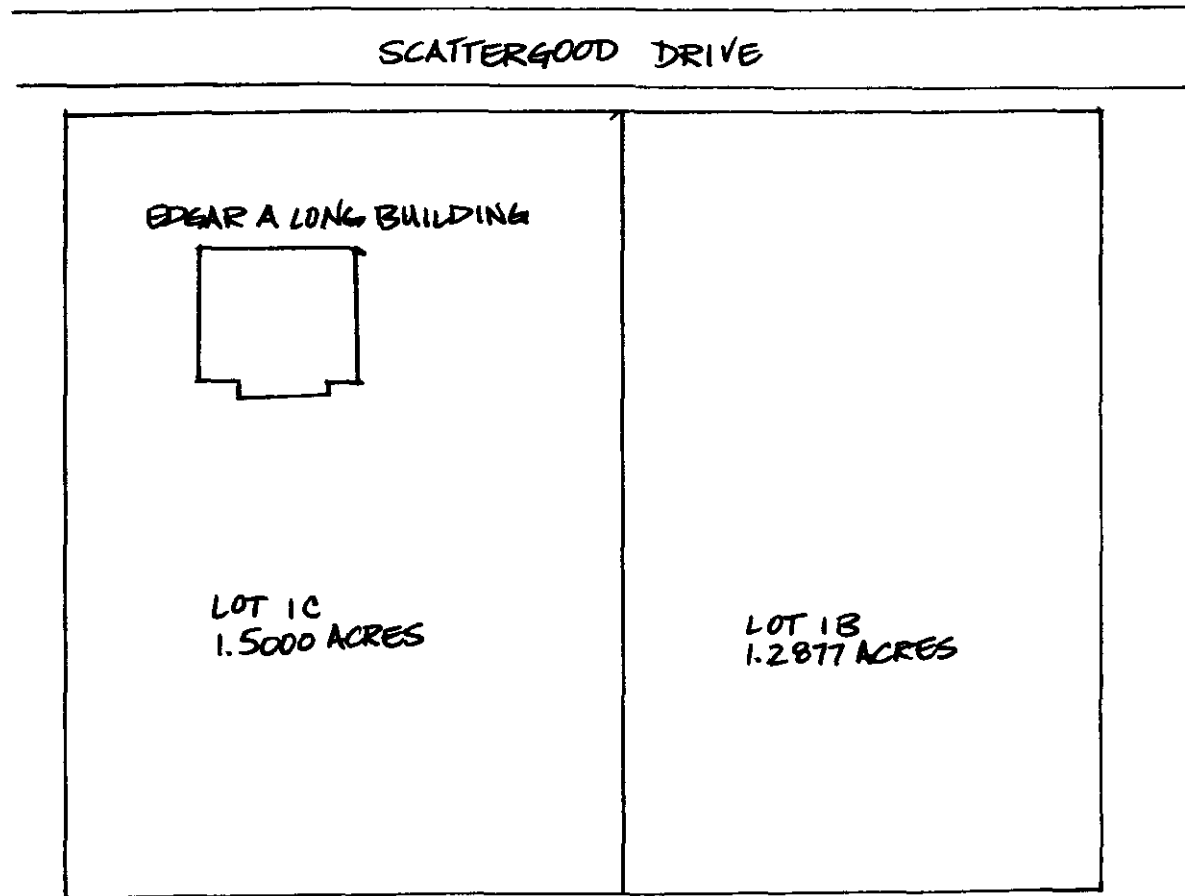
**Exhibit A -- Property boundary map for Edgar A. Long Building.**

**Exhibit B -- CAD sketch of Edgar A. Long Building first floor plan during the period of significance.**

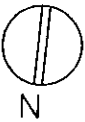
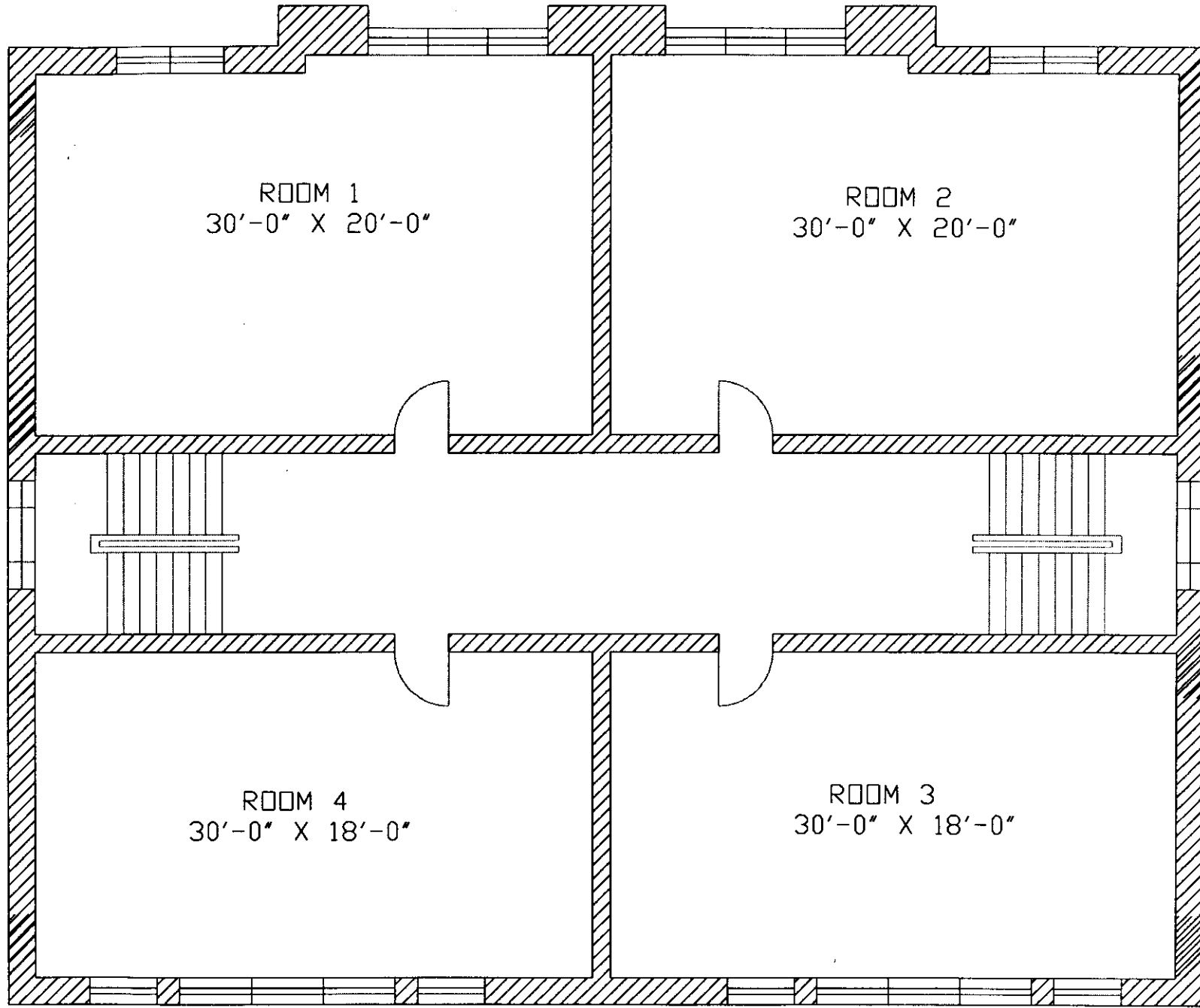
**Exhibit C -- Sketch of Christiansburg Industrial Institute campus circa 1967.**

Exhibit A

Edgar A. Long Building Property Boundary  
Montgomery County, Virginia  
Scale: 1" = 75'



**Exhibit B**



FIRST FLOOR  
EDGAR A. LONG BUILDING  
1927-1947

SCALE: 1"=8'

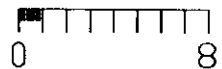
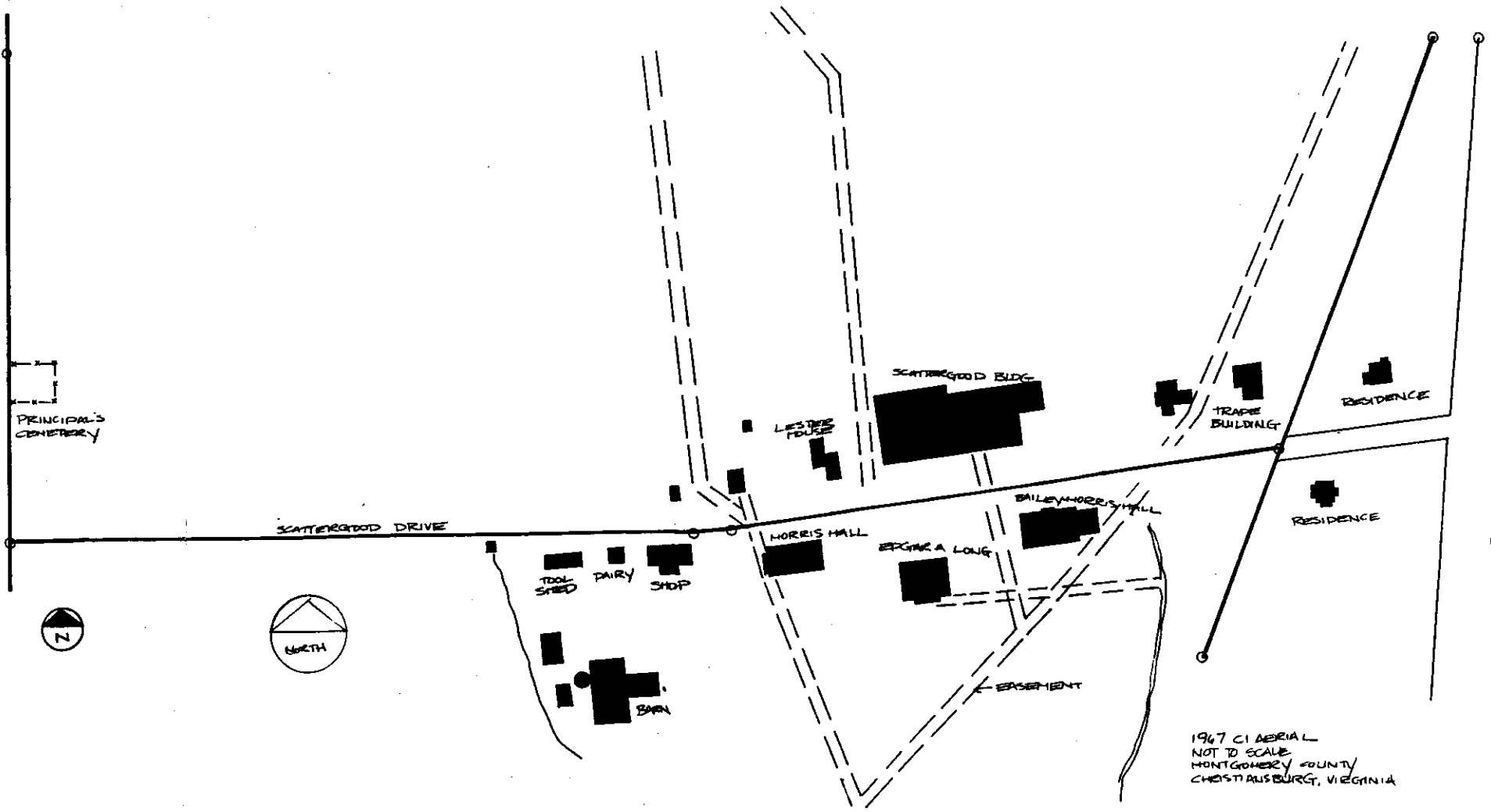
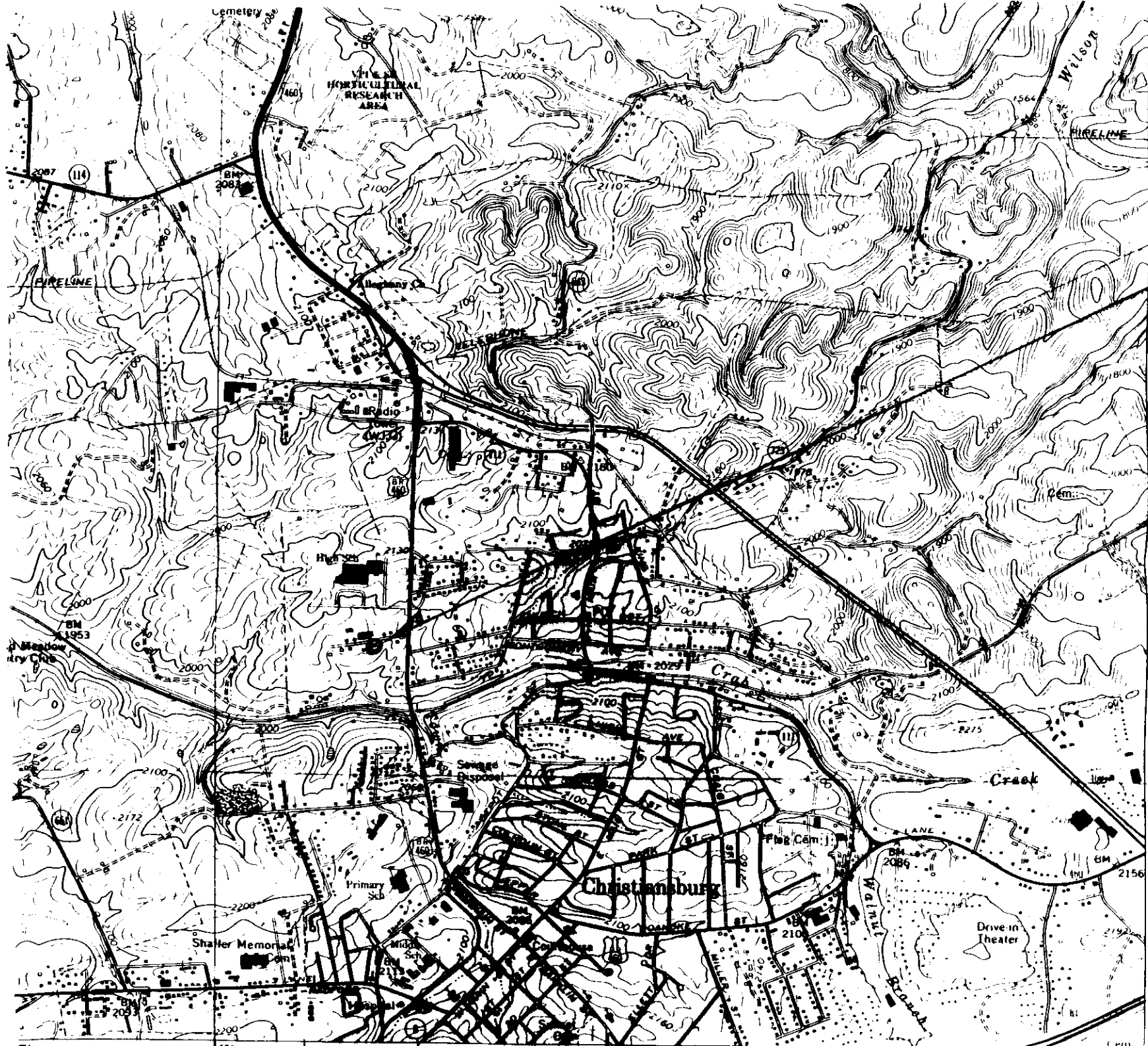


Exhibit C

Christiansburg Industrial Institute Campus Circa 1967.  
Montgomery County, Virginia  
Scale: 1" ≈ 210'





10'  
 4113  
 Edgar A. Long B1  
 Montgomery Co. VA  
 UTM reference:  
 4112  
 17/551160/411063  
 BUCKSBURG  
 USGS

4111  
 41090000m N  
 17/551160  
 17/551160