



TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
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October 23, 2018

Mr. Bruce Nelson
State of Tennessee Real Estate Asset Management (STREAM)
Tennessee Tower, 24th Floor
312 Rosa L. Parks Ave.
Nashville, TN 37243

RE: STREAM; Disposal and Demolition of Building at 88 Hermitage Avenue, Nashville, Davidson County, TN

Dear Mr. Nelson

We are writing to once again comment on the proposed disposal of the school at 88 Hermitage Avenue. It is our understanding that if the building is sold to the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (Metro), then the building will be demolished to make way for the new Nashville School of the Arts. In our letter to you dated September 28, 2017, we found that the school was eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a Colonial Revival influenced school building. It has since been discovered that the school housed the school for blind African American children. Therefore, our office now finds that the school is eligible for both its architecture and its significant history. Thus the disposal and eventual demolition would result in an adverse effect.

We strongly encourage the preservation of the significant historic resource. If the state continues with the disposal of the school to Metro, then we would recommend the transfer with a protective covenant to ensure continued use of this historic property. We would also like it known that if Metro does acquire the property and later needs federal funds, permits, or licenses to build the new school, a review would need to be completed by our office under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If the building is demolished before the Section 106 process has been completed, then the project could be considered a Section 110(k) violation and the federal agency could pull their assistance. You should continue to consult with our office to resolve the adverse effect. Please direct questions and comments to Casey Lee (615-253-3163). We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

E. Patrick McIntyre, Jr.
Executive Director and
State Historic Preservation Officer

EPM/cjl

Cc: Mr. Steve Berry, Director of Public Property, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County