NPS Form 10-900
Oct. 1990

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER
LISTED

JUL 0 2 2008

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 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Fernand-Strong House

Other name/site number

2. Location

Street & number 1515 University Drive ☐ not for publication

City or town Lawrence ☐ vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Douglas Code 045 Zip code 66044

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.)

Patrick Zollner 5/16/08

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Kansas State Historical Society

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 official /Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I herby certify that the property is — Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

☐ 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:)

Fernand-Strong House
Name of Property

Douglas County, KS
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] private
- [ ] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	total

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

"Historic Resources of Lawrence"

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling, residence

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling, residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian:
Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation: Stone
Walls: Wood: weatherboard
Roof: Asphalt composition shingles
Other:

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

Fernand-Strong House
Name of Property

Douglas County, KS
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register

- ☒ **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 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 it 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.)

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Community development

Period of Significance

ca. 1872-1939

Significant Dates

ca. 1872, 1919, 1934, 1939

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Frank Strong

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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:

Fernand-Strong House
Name of Property

Douglas County, KS
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

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

1
Zone: 15 | Easting: 304764 | Northing: 4314800

2
Zone | Easting | Northing

3
Zone | Easting | Northing

4
Zone | Easting | Northing

☐ 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 Dale E. Nimz, Historic Preservation Consultant

Organization _____ Date November 15, 2007

Street & number 1928 Countryside Lane Telephone 785-842-8992

City or town Lawrence State KS Zip code 66044

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 SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

Name William Tsutsui and Marjorie Swann

Street & number 1515 University Drive Telephone 785.842.0586

City or town Lawrence State KS Zip code 66044

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 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 Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

Description

The Fernand-Strong House, 1515 University Drive, Lawrence, Kansas, is a detached single family residence in a residential neighborhood. The property is located a little more than one block west of the west boundary of the University of Kansas campus. Facing north, the house is set back from the street on a large lot (almost one acre) with a gravel entrance lane and tree row to the east. The Italianate style main block was constructed about 1872 with a large historic addition (ca. 1905) to the east and southeast. The house is in good condition. The architectural integrity is fair; the house has substantial integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Exterior

With additions and alterations, the Fernand-Strong House has an irregular plan. There is a central rectangular block two rooms wide with a square entrance tower at the northeast corner. There is a large east wing, a rear south wing with two-story and one-story sections, a room attached to the southwest side, and an enclosed screened porch to the northwest. Interior rooms are arranged around a long entrance hall with a stair to the second floor on the west side of the hall. The house is two stories tall with an ell-shaped cellar under part of the main block and crawl spaces under the east, south, and west wings. The main north façade has three bays.

The house is wood-frame and weatherboard construction with a stone foundation. The main block has a steep gable roof and the east and south wings have hipped roofs. The main roofs are covered with red asphalt shingles. A one-story rear section has a shed roof, the southwest room addition has a gable roof, and the northwest screened porch has a low shed roof.

A prominent one-story entrance porch wraps around the east front, the east side, and the southeast rear of the house. At the northeast corner and the southeast corner, there are steps and entrances to the porch. The porch has a low-sloping roof covered with modern membrane roofing. It is supported on Classical Revival columns and square brick piers with a stone cap. The porch ceiling is sheathed with narrow wooden beaded board. There is wooden tongue and groove flooring and there is no porch railing. The porch floor is supported on brick piers with stone footings. The screened porch to the northwest is three screened bays wide and five bays long with an entrance to the west. It is supported on square wooden posts with wood frame and weatherboard bulkheads.

On the second floor of the original block, there are narrow round-arched 4/4 double-hung wooden windows in the north, west, and south walls. These have 2/2 wooden storm windows. The projecting bay window on the first floor has three 4/4 windows with eight-light wooden storm windows. The entrance tower has a 1/1 double-hung window on the second floor and rectangular single-light windows

on the third floor. The east and south wings have paired 1/1 wooden double-hung windows except for one remaining 2/2 double-hung window on the second floor in the west wall of the south wing. The southwest addition has a bank of four-light wooden windows with wooden storm windows.

The front entrance door is wooden with four raised panels surmounted by two small rectangular lights. The entrance has a wooden storm door. The rear entrance door is wooden with two lower recessed panels and two upper narrow lights. There is an interior brick chimney in the east wing.

The house is relatively unornamented. The square entrance tower is a major element; it has a pyramidal roof surmounted by metal cresting. Also, there is a projecting front bay window with ornamental recessed molded bulkhead panels. There are ornamental round-arched moldings over the second floor windows in the north, west, and south walls of the main block. Windows in the east and south wings have a projecting crown molding.

There are no surviving historic outbuildings associated with this residence. A historic stone-lined well six feet in diameter is located approximately thirty yards southwest of the house. A modern non-contributing one-story wood-frame double garage (ca. 2003) is located southeast of the house. The garage has a gable roof oriented north-south, synthetic sheathing, and a concrete foundation.

Interior

On the first floor, interior rooms are arranged around a long side entrance hall with a second floor stair on the west wall. The hall leads to the rear kitchen, which has a floor level two inches lower than the other front interior rooms. There is a large living room to the east. On the west side, there is a library/office, dining room, and den. The screened porch is entered from the dining room. The southwest room is entered from the den.

As a result of several additions and alterations, the interior of the Fernand-Strong House has a mixture of historic and modern features. Decorative elements include an ornamental brick fireplace with a stone mantel on the interior wall of the living room. The stair has an open wooden balustrade with dark stained ornamental spindles and molded handrail. The stair has a large square newel post with chamfered corners and a molded cap. Throughout the first and second floors, there is wooden tongue and groove flooring. Moldings include a simple wooden baseboard and door and window trim. There are base blocks in the stair hall and living room. Door and window openings in the living and dining room are ornamented with upper projecting crown moldings. Generally, the interior doors are wooden with four raised panels. There is a transom over the door to the library/study. In this room, there are three molded recessed panels under the bay windows, but the west panel has been altered.

On the second floor, there is an open stair landing with railing, a large master bedroom suite with bathroom to the west, a rear bedroom, two east bedrooms, and a central bathroom entered from the stair landing.

The interior entrance and the stair to the cellar are located under the stairway to the second floor. The cellar has an ell plan with a unexcavated crawl space in the southwest corner. There is a brick cistern in the northeast corner of the cellar wall. Concrete reinforcing walls have been constructed in several places to support the original stone foundation. It appears that the cellar stair has been moved to the present location.

Alterations

Generally, alterations to the Fernand-Strong House can be interpreted in four stages. The first three stages occurred at least fifty years ago. The dates and extent of the historic changes are based on limited evidence and are subject to re-interpretation if new information is discovered. The existing stone cellar and foundation suggest the size and plan of the earliest Italianate house constructed about 1872. The main block was rectangular, possibly with a rear shed-roofed wing or an ell to the east (stage 1). Originally, the house may have had sawn wooden ornamentation characteristic of the Italianate style.

Later, probably between 1887 and 1919, the major two-story addition to the east and southeast was constructed (stage 2). The one-story room addition to the southwest has a rough-cut stone foundation. If it was constructed later than 1872, it could have been a separate addition or part of the major addition constructed during stage 2. The screened porch to the northeast appears to date from the early twentieth century (stage 3). The Fernand-Strong House was rehabilitated with substantial alterations to the interior in 2000-2001 (stage 4).

There are a number of relatively minor exterior alterations. The stone foundation has been parged with concrete. Aluminum storm windows have been installed over the windows in the east and south wings. There is modern metal guttering. The screened porch has a modern metal awning supported by aluminum tubing. Modern replacement (vinyl) windows have been installed in the south façade. The south window well to the basement is covered with plywood.

The interior of the Fernand-Strong House has a mixture of historic and modern features. Some historic moldings have been reused with replicated elements. In the rehabilitation, historic doors and door hardware were reused, but several openings were changed. The historic door hinges, locks and some enamel knobs were re-used. The floors and doors have been refinished. Generally, plaster on the walls

has been covered or replaced with gypsum board. In the study, the ceiling has been covered with acoustic tile, probably from the 1950s.

To support the stair landing, a modern square molded post has been installed. The interior floor of the entrance tower was removed to open the tower to the top. Windows in the tower were replaced. Modern wooden flooring has been installed in the south den. The kitchen has modern flooring, cabinets, and wood trim. On the second floor, the bathrooms are modern. Both have modern linoleum flooring. The master bedroom suite has carpet covering the wood floors.

Statement of Significance

The Fernand-Strong House is significant according to criterion A in the area of community development for its association with the historic urban development of Lawrence. The house is significant according to criterion B for its association with the life of Frank Strong, one of the most important chancellors of the University of Kansas. The Fernand-Strong House has significant historical associations with two of the contexts outlined in "Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas"--the City-building Period, 1864-1873, and the Quiet University Town Period, 1900-1945.

The Fernand-Strong House, 1515 University Drive, is located on the western part of the ridge known as Mount Oread which rises above the original Lawrence town site. When the house was constructed, this was a rural property in Wakarusa Township. The house is located on land first claimed by one of the prominent early settlers of Lawrence, James S. Emery. Students researching the history of the house at 1515 University Drive (see references) have been intrigued by the possibility that it could be Emery's residence. However, evidence of the chain of title summarized in the owner's abstract and a detailed map from the 1873 Atlas of Douglas County correlated with the limited physical evidence from the house itself indicates that the oldest part of the existing building (the west block) was constructed ca. 1872 for the owners, J. J. and Cyrena Fernand. The east wing is a later addition--probably when Castle H. Spencer owned the property and lived in the house from 1887 to 1919.

Architectural history

Although the architectural integrity has been altered by additions and rehabilitation, the house is an example of the Late Victorian Italianate Style Residence property type. The design has several identifying features characteristic of the Italian Villa type such as the asymmetrical plan, the corner entrance tower, a projecting bay window, and narrow round-arched windows. According to Virginia and Lee McAlester, Italianate was the predominant style in American houses constructed between 1850 and 1880 and was particularly common in the expanding towns and cities of the Midwest.[1] In 1872 Lawrence was located at the western edge of this region and growing rapidly.

Chronology

James Emery was a member of the second party of free-state settlers sponsored by the New England Emigrant Aid Society.[2] His party reached the Lawrence town site on September 11, 1854. Emery soon claimed one hundred and sixty acres under the preemption law in the southwest quarter of Section 36, Township 12S, Range 19.

[1] McAlester, A Field Guide for American Houses (New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986), 212.
[2] Andreas, A. T. History of Kansas, (Chicago, IL: A. T. Andreas, 1883), 313.

On September 21, the Lawrence Town Association elected Mr. A. D. Searl as surveyor and then auctioned farm claims on September 22, 1854. The Emery farm claim was located just west of the town site. At the time, James Savage recalled in 1870, "our new city and its adjoining farms were then in danger of being all taken up by outsiders before our surveys were completed. To remedy this evil, O. A. Hanscomb was selected to occupy the east side, where he now is; while Mr. Haskell had already moved over to the place now occupied by his sons, John and Dudley Haskell. Henry Hovey went directly to improving his claim [now owned, in part, by C. W. Babcock and Adam Rottman]; so did F. Fuller [the claim where he now lives, beyond the windmill]. Houghton, as I have before related, was put on the hill near where H. W. Baker's house now is; while Judge Emery went on the hill, where he still owns a good house, with quite a tract of land adjoining."[3]

James Emery and his wife, Mary, sold the south half of eighty acres of the southwest quarter of Section 36 to Samuel N. Wood on February 19, 1858. Emery sold the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 36 to William Brindle on April 25, 1859. Emery received a United States patent for a one hundred and twenty acre tract on July 20, 1860. The tract was located on the east half of the southwest quarter and the northwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 36, Township 12, Range 19. The patent confirmed Emery's title and validated the two earlier transactions.

James and Mary's daughter, Agnes, who was born in 1861, recalled the story behind these transactions in 1954. "Father entered one hundred sixty acres of land under the preemption law. Our farm was on the hilltop. The first house was some kind of inexpensive shelter. While Father was on one of his frequent trips East, and before Mother joined him in Lawrence, Sam Wood 'jumped' our claim. When Father returned, he found Mrs. Wood living in the first little house." Ms. Emery went on to explain that sometime later when the claim was divided, the Woods took the poorer part of the acreage because they wanted the big spring in the middle of the pasture land. She also recalled that, "in the beginning, Father had constructed some type of cabin on his claim, but before Mother came, he replaced it with a frame house which stood on the present site of Samuel Hunter's house. Before the well was dug, we went down into the pasture for all the water we used. Our well was famous over the area. Men came for miles to get drinking water from it." Agnes Emery only lived on this farm for a few years until the spring of 1867. When Agnes was old enough for formal schooling, the Emerys moved down to a residence on Louisiana Street just west of downtown Lawrence. They did not sell the rural property until after James Emery died in 1899.[4]

James Emery was a significant leader in early Kansas and Lawrence history. After attending a public meeting in Boston in January, 1854, to protest against the admission of Kansas as a slave state, he

[3] Savage, James, "Recollections of 1854--No. 5," Western Home Journal 21 July 1870.
[4] Emery, Agnes, "Reminiscences of Early Lawrence," (Lawrence, KS: Self-published, 1954), 12-13.

became deeply interested in the issue and immigrated to the territory. He served as a justice of the peace for Lawrence in the territorial period. Emery was elected as representative to the state legislature in 1862 and 1863. He led the group that lobbied for the location of the state university in Lawrence and was appointed a regent in 1864. Emery also served as United States district attorney from 1864 to 1867.[5]

Since Agnes Emery referred to the house that *stood* [emphasis added] on the present site of Samuel Hunter's house, it appears the Emery house from the territorial period was replaced. Samuel Hunter's name was not recorded in the Lawrence telephone directories from 1950 through 1955. A tract of land held in J. S.Emery's name was still recorded in the 1921 Douglas County Atlas. Possibly, Samuel Hunter's house was constructed after 1921.

In any case, the Fernand-Strong House stands on the tract Emery sold to Samuel Wood. Wood left Lawrence in the spring of 1859 and moved first to Chase County and then to Council Grove in Morris County, Kansas. Samuel and Margaret Wood sold their remaining portion of the south half of the southwest quarter of Section 36 (sixty acres). In fact two deeds were recorded for the same property, one to Sidney Breese on April 21 and one to Henry Simpson on May 2. Later on December 7, 1860, William Coffin won a judgment against Samuel Wood and bought the land at public auction. Apparently, Coffin secured his title and sold the property to William A. Simpson on March 19, 1862.

Construction of the Fernand-Strong House probably followed the sale of a one-acre tract from William and Louisa Simpson to Cyrena G. Fernand for a consideration of $400 on February 13,1871. Cyrena and her husband, J. J. Fernand, recorded a mortgage of $472.75 on January 9, 1872. That mortgage was fully paid on September 15, 1872, one day after the Fernands signed another two-year mortgage for $840 to Pliny Rice. Since the amount doubled in just a year, the new mortgage on the one-acre tract suggests that a residence had been constructed and increased the property value. That is confirmed by a detailed map in the 1873 Atlas of Douglas County showing the C. G. Fernand residence on a one-acre tract in the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 36, Township 12, Range 19. The house was located just south of the road that divided the north and south halves of the quarter.[6]

Possibly, the Fernands were friends or business associates of the Emery family since the second mortgage holder, Pliny Rice, was Mary Rice Emery's father and the father-in-law of James S. Emery. Cyrena and J. J. Fernand only owned the property for about eighteen months. They sold to Mary Emery on July 15, 1873, for a consideration of $2,000. James and Mary Emery quickly sold the property to

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[5] Portrait and Biographical Record of Leavenworth, Douglas, and Franklin Counties, Kansas (Chicago, IL: Chapman Publishing Company, 1899), 233-235.

[6] See "Part of City of Lawrence, Grant & Wakarusa Townships," p. 33 and "Grant and Wakarusa Township," p.19, Atlas of Douglas County (New York, NY: F. W. Beers, 1873).

Rhoda M. Sibley for a consideration of $1,500. Rhoda Sibley and her husband sold to Saidee D. Bennett on February 5, 1875. Saidee Bennett was not listed in the Lawrence city directory, but Guy Bennett (Moore & Bennett, grocers, 132 Massachusetts) was listed as residing in Wakarusa in 1875-76.

The Bennetts lived in the house for a relatively longer period than other owners during this period, but they also sold to Jacob Rynerson on March 4, 1881. Rynerson and his wife, Mary, sold to John Egner on October 10, 1881, and Egner quickly sold to Elizabeth B. Cox on December 21. Elizabeth and her husband, E.A. Cox, sold to U. W. Hertz on February 10, 1883. Later that year on September 3, Hertz acquired a one-acre tract to the east from George M. Walker and his wife. U. W. Hertz and his wife, Huldah, sold the property to Elijah D. Place and his wife, Catherine, on July 8, 1885. Elijah Place was a widower when he sold a nineteen-acre tract including the Fernand-Strong house to Castle H. Spencer on May 24, 1887. The C. H. Spencer residence, located on the eastern part of an ell-shaped nineteen-acre tract in Section 36, was recorded on the map of Lawrence and surrounding tracts in the 1902 Standard Atlas of Douglas County.[7]

From this transaction to the present, the house at 1515 University Drive has significant associations with the University of Kansas. As the university grew, more buildings were constructed and the campus expanded to the west on the Mount Oread ridge toward the Fernand-Strong House. By 1921, the University of Kansas had expanded to the road that ran along the center line of Section 36. Between the university and the Fernand-Strong House, the University Heights and University Heights, Part 2, subdivisions had been subdivided and bordered the Spencer property line.[8]

Because of the proximity to the university, several residents at 1515 University Drive had significant associations with the University of Kansas. Castle Spencer's son, David, probably entered the university in the fall of 1889 because he graduated in the class of 1893. David H. Spencer studied from 1893 to 1896 at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, then returned to the University of Kansas where he worked as pharmacy dispensing clerk from 1896 to 1898. He earned a pharmacy degree in 1897 and served as pharmacy instructor from 1898 to 1903. David Spencer then left for sixteen years to operate a pharmacy in St. Joseph, Missouri.

In May, 1908, the Spencer house, was used as the first student hospital at the rapidly growing University of Kansas. The Kansan announced on May 7 that the Regents had approved a plan for a Benefit Health

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[7] Standard Atlas of Douglas County (Chicago, IL: George A. Ogle & Company, 1902). The same tract was recorded in the Plat Work & Complete Survey of Douglas County, Kansas, compiled by A. W. Armstrong and D. B. M. Soudea (Topeka, KS: cPublished for Frank Shanklin, 1909), 11. Even though he died in 1899, J. S. Emery was still listed as the owner of a fifty-acre tract in the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 36.

[8] See "Part of the City of Lawrence and Environs," p. 12 and "Map of Wakarusa Township," pp. 30-31, in Standard Atlas of Douglas County, Kansas (Chicago, IL; George A. Ogle & Co., 1921).

Association and the Spencer house, "a quarter of a mile northwest of the Engineering building" on the University campus, was rented for a hospital. Students supported their "hospital" with a voluntary health fee of two dollars from each student. However, the hospital frequently changed location since at least five residences were used for that purpose during the years from 1908 to 1932 when Watkins Hospital was constructed on the main campus.[9]

Castle Spencer, a widower, deeded the property to his daughter May Hotchkiss Spencer on May 5, 1908. David Spencer returned to Lawrence in 1919 and served as assistant professor of pharmacy until he retired in 1944. Finally on November 22, 1919, May Spencer MacQuivey and her husband Alson sold a five-acre tract to Dr. Frank Strong and his wife Mary for $7,000.[10]

Dr. Frank Strong was Chancellor of the University of Kansas from 1902 until 1919. He and his wife Mary lived the Chancellor's residence at 1345 Louisiana Street. This building (no longer extant) was constructed in 1893 just east of Spooner Library. After his resignation, the Strongs retired to the house at 1515 University Drive and Frank Strong lived there until he died on August 6, 1934. Strong was one of the most important leaders in the history of the University of Kansas. At a crucial time, his leadership helped build the physical and institutional foundations of the university. When Strong became chancellor in 1902, the University of Kansas had many inadequacies. As historian Clifford Griffin concluded, "faculty salaries were too low, faculty members too few, buildings, equipment, and library books too scarce." The appropriate relationship of the university to the state and the relative spheres of work for the university at Lawrence and the Agricultural College at Manhattan were still to be determined.[11]

Strong was president of the University of Oregon in 1902 where his attempts as reform had created resistance. One of his references for the position at Lawrence described Strong as a man of "remarkable scholarship, of almost super-human energy and force" and that he was "most honorable and aboveboard in all his transactions." After an interview in April, 1902, the regents offered him the position of chancellor. One regent commented that the regents, students, faculty, alumni, newspaper editors, and citizens generally, were solidly behind him.[12]

Strong believed that the university should lift up the mind and spirit. He emphasized the importance of graduate study and faculty research which required a significant increase in funds. In return he promised that the university would give much to the state. The university would prepare students to solve the pressing economic and industrial problems of the future. From the beginning of his

[9] Robert Taft, The Years on Mount Oread (Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas Press, 1955), 143.
[10] "Death Notice," D. H. Spencer, Graduate Magazine, University of Kansas, (March 1949), 22.
[11] Griffin, Clifford, The University of Kansas (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1974), 220.
[12] Griffin, University of Kansas, 222.

administration, Strong was determined to expand the university's publicity and improve its image. Strong supported the reactivation of the Alumni Association and an alumni publication, Graduate Magazine.[13]

While the ability to lead was important, the key to a successful administration was the ability to extract funds from the state legislature. Chancellor Strong had this ability and he was fortunate that economic conditions in Kansas were favorable for most of his tenure, especially in the first decade. By 1912, the University of Kansas was far better off than in 1902. Total income rose from approximately $219,000 in fiscal 1903 to over $606,000 in fiscal 1912 and in area and buildings the Lawrence campus nearly doubled in size.[14]

The Strong administration added about ninety-five acres to the original site as the campus expanded along the crest of Mount Oread to the west and down the slopes. In the ten years after 1902, seven new structures were constructed as well as Dyche Hall, the Natural History Museum, which was under construction when Strong arrived. The Board of Regents in 1904 also commissioned a comprehensive plan for the university's physical development by landscape architect George Kessler. In addition to the physical expansion of the university, Chancellor Strong also greatly improved the Graduate School, Law School, and School of Medicine while presiding over the creation of the Schools of Journalism and Education.

Chancellor Strong envisioned that the final jewel in the array of campus buildings would be a large central administration building. This would stand "for a hundred years as the center of the University architecture as well as the University life." Although the legislature appropriated money for the east wing in 1909, the west wing was not funded until 1917 and the central section was not finished until late in 1923.[15] Completed a few years after Chancellor Strong's retirement, the completed administration building was named Strong Hall in his honor.

Although he remained at the University of Kansas, Chancellor Strong strongly considered leaving Kansas in 1913-14 because of a change in state government. The legislature of 1913 replaced the separate Boards of Regents of the University, the Agricultural College, and the Emporia Normal School with a single Board of Administration. The well-intentioned members meddled in the University's affairs and their directions conflicted with Strong's ideal of what a great state university should be.[16] Nevertheless, the Chancellor continued to lead until the shock and suffering of the University community caused by World War I finally forced him to offer his resignation in the spring of 1919.

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[13] Griffin, University of Kansas, 227.
[14] Griffin, University of Kansas, 237.
[15] Griffin, University of Kansas, 237-241.
[16] Griffin, University of Kansas, 329, 349.

Strong himself opposed America's entering the war and he believed that the cooperation of all universities in the war effort would subvert their true function. Yet once Congress declared war in April, 1917, Strong supported training at the university as well as the students and faculty who volunteered for service. However, the strain of wartime events impaired his health and leadership. As he said, "the death of so many that have been students during my administration, and the calamitous history of the Students' Army Training Corps, with the appalling list of those who succumbed to the Spanish influenza, caused personal shock from which I found it very difficult to recover, and helped to produce an overwhelming desire to be relieved of the responsibilities attaching to the office." The Chancellor also faced strong and growing resentment among alumni for his single-minded direction of the university's affairs and a dispute that erupted in 1919 about the respective roles of the faculty and administrators in setting university policy.[17]

Frank Strong died intestate on August 6, 1934. His widow, Mary E. Strong, was appointed administratrix of his estate. In less than a year on May 6, 1935, she had their five acres platted as Strong's Addition to the city of Lawrence. The covenants for this addition forbid the construction of apartment houses, rooming houses, or business buildings and required that all residences constructed should cost at least $6,000. Another clause stated, "no portion of this tract shall be conveyed to or used or occupied by any person other than of the white or Caucausian [sic] race, either as owner or tenant."[18] After the platting of Strong's Addition, the property's legal description became "Lot no. Three, the west thirty-five feet of Lots No. Eighteen and Nineteen, in Strong's Addition, an addition adjacent to the City of Lawrence, in Douglas County, Kansas."

Mary E. Strong sold the property to James Naismith on March 31, 1939. Naismith, famous as the inventor of basketball, also was a basket ball coach, KU professor, and religious leader. He purchased the house to be a home for himself and his new second wife, Florence May Naismith. After a honeymoon in Canada, the bridal couple returned to Lawrence on September 1 to live at 1515 University Drive. Naismith died at the residence on November 28, 1939, and then his body lay in state at the house before the funeral.[19]

During World War II, the house was rented to students until Mrs. Naismith sold the property to Raymond and Alberta Stuhl on April 14, 1947. Later that year on November 24, the Lawrence City Commission annexed Strong's Addition making it a part of the city.[20] Raymond Stuhl was a cello player and professor of fine arts at the University of Kansas. His wife, Alberta, was a professor of piano. Both

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[17] Griffin, University of Kansas, 388-389.
[18] Recorded June 6, 1935, plat book 3, page 49.
[19] Webb, Bernice Larson, The Basketball Man James Naismith (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1973), 317.
[20] Ordinance No. 2150, recorded February 6, 1948 Book 163, p. 155.

taught music students in the house at 1515 University Drive for almost fifty years. The duo also toured extensively throughout the Midwest and recruited students to the University of Kansas. Raymond Stuhl died on August 28, 1994 and Alberta died on January 2, 2000.[21]

After her death, the property was sold to the present owners, William Tsutsui and Marjorie Swann. The house was in deteriorated condition when purchased and has been substantially rehabilitated.

[21] "Obituary," Raymond H. Stuhl, Lawrence Journal-World 29 August 1994; Alberta B. Stuhl, Lawrence Journal-World 21 January 2000.

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Maps

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Other

Abstract of Title to Lots 3 and 17, West 35 feet Lot 2 & West 15 feet Lots 18 and 19, Strong's Addition, City of Lawrence.

Pedrotti, Brian. "Historic Preservation Report: 1515 University Drive," prepared for Professor Dennis Enslinger, Preservation Planning, UBPL 802, April 21, 2002.

Siegrist, Michael. "Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination," prepared for Professor Shelly Hickman Clark, Historic Preservation Law, Spring, 2003.

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies Lots 3 and 17 and the west thirty-five feet of Lot 2 and the west fifteen feet of Lots 18 and 19 in Strong's Addition, City of Lawrence.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the Fernand-Strong House.

PHOTO LABELS
Fernand-Strong House, 1515 University Drive, Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas

Photographer: Dale Nimz, 1928 Countryside Lane, Lawrence, KS 66044
Location of negatives: Kansas Historic Preservation Office

Exterior

KS_Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House1.tif, view from north northwest, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House2.tif, view from northwest, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House3.tif, view from northeast, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House4.tif, rear entrance, view from east, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House5.tif, rear view from southeast, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House6.tif, rear view from south, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House7.tif, rear view from southwest, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House8.tif, screened porch from southwest, 10/27/07.

Interior

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House9.tif, view of front entrance, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House10.tif, view of hall and kitchen, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House11.tif, view of tower interior, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House12.tif, view of living room fireplace from east, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House13.tif, view of living room from south, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House14.tif, view of library/study from east, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House15.tif, view of dining room from east, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House16.tif, view of stair from east, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House17.tif, view of stair from north, 10/27/07.

KS_ Douglas County_Fernand-Strong House118.tif, entrance doors, second floor landing, view from north, 10/27/07.