



# OHIO HISTORIC INVENTORY

RPR Number:

1. No. <b>BUT-00032-01</b> REV		4. Present Name(s) <b>Western College Bridges and Lampposts</b>		2-01 <b>BUT-0003</b>
2. County <b>Butler</b>		5. Historic or Other Name(s) <b>Western College Bridges and Lampposts</b>		
6. Specific Address or Location <b>Western College Drive</b>		19a. Design Sources		2. County <b>Butler</b>
6a. Lot, Section or VMD Number		20. Contractor or Builder <b>Cephas Burns, stone mason</b> 21. Building Type or Plan		
7. City or Village <b>Oxford</b>		22. Original Use, if apparent <b>Pedestrian Related Road (vehicular) Related</b>		4. Present or Historic Name(s) <b>Western College Bridges and Lampposts</b>
9. U.T.M. Reference Quadrangle Name: <b>Oxford</b> <b>16 695576 4374726</b> Zone Easting Northing		23. Present Use <b>Pedestrian Related Road (vehicular) Related</b>		
10. Classification: <b>Structure</b>		24. Ownership <b>Public</b>		35. Plan Shape
11. On National Register? <b>YES</b>		25. Owner's Name & Address, if known <b>Miami University Oxford, Ohio 45056</b>		
13. Part of Established Hist. Dist? <b>YES</b>		26. Property Acreage		36. Changes associated with 17/17b Dates: 17. <b>Original/Most significant construct</b> 17b.
15. Other Designation (NR or Local) <b>Western Female Seminary Historic District</b>		27. Other Surveys		
16. Thematic Associations: <b>Seminary PRIVATE/College</b>		28. No. of Stories		37. Window Type(s)
17. Date(s) or Period <b>1917-1925</b>		29. Basement?		
18. Style Class and Design <b>Dominant Craftsman/Arts and Crafts</b>		30. Foundation Material		38. Building Dimensions
18a. Style of Addition or Elements(s)		31. Wall Construction		
19. Architect or Engineer		32. Roof Type Roof Material		39. Endangered? <b>NO</b> By What?
		33. No. of Bays Side Bays		
		34. Exterior Wall Material(s)		40. Chimney Placement
42. Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Continued on Reverse if Necessary)				
<p>This collection of stone masonry work by Cephas Burns includes cobblestone bridges and a series of cobblestone bases for light fixtures. There are a total of nine multi-arched cobblestone bridges on the Western campus that traverse the undulating landscape, spanning the campus ravines. Seven are for pedestrian use, ranging in length from 10 feet (maximum height 4-1/2 feet with a single arch) to 239 feet (maximum height 15 feet with multiple arches). Two are for automobile use, including one 73 feet in length and one 159 feet in length. In addition to the supporting arches, the bridges have railings of the same cobblestone, and several feature small arched openings at the base that mimic the arches below.</p>				
43. History and Significance (Continue on Reverse if necessary)				
<p>The work of Cephas Burns (1871-1935), an African-American stone mason whose grandparents were freed slaves, helps to define the pastoral and eclectic character of the former Western College campus. Burns was employed by Western College from 1914 to 1931. He was trained as a stone mason but also possessed talent in both design and engineering, which resulted in the series of arched cobblestone bridges that dot the Western campus. The bridges enabled pedestrian and auto movement on the campus, while adding to its visual character. Cephas Burns also built the cobblestone bases for campus light fixtures on both the bridges and along pedestrian paths. It is said that Burns personally selected the smooth round stones from nearby creeks for his trademark 'cannonball' stonework. While perhaps</p>				
44. Description of Environment and Outbuildings (See #52)				
<p>The bridges are in scattered locations that blend into the hilly and wooded landscape of the former Western College campus through their use of a graceful arches and natural materials. They traverse culvert, stream and hillside. Lampposts are situated on the bridges themselves and also on a long walkway in front of Mary Lyon Hall.</p>				
45. Sources of Information				
<p>Mitchell, Lawrence, Western Female Seminary National Register nomination, July 1979; MU Archives files; Walking Tour Brochure, Western College for Women Historic District; Curry, Lucy and Motil, Ohio Historic Inventory Form, 1976 and 1999.</p>				
46. Prepared By: <b>Judy Williams</b>		47. Organization: <b>Historic Preservation Consultant</b>		6. Specific Address or Location <b>Western College Drive</b>
49. PIR Reviewer:		48. Date Recorded: <b>07/30/2008</b>		
		50. PIR Review Date:		

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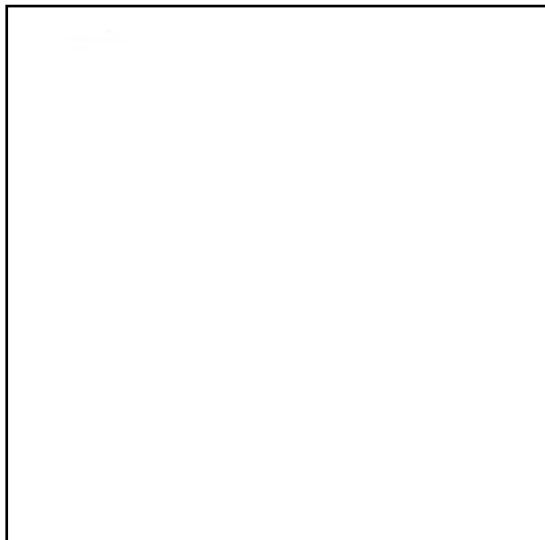
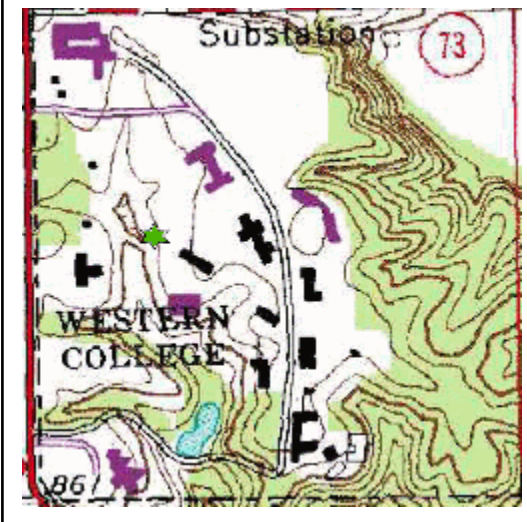
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8. Site Plan with North Arrow

54. Farmstead Plan :



Door Selection:

Door Position:

Orientation:

Symmetry:

Report Associated With Project:

NADB #:



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42. *Further Description of Important Interior and Exterior Features (Con't)*

43. *History and Significance (Con't)*

**known for his bridges, his other work included the stone facing for Kumler Chapel, Grey Gables, Stancote House and Corson House; foundation and chimney work for Western Lodge, the chimney of the Stillman-Kelley Studio, and the old gateway to the Western campus.**

44. *Description of Environment and Outbuildings (Con't)*

45. *Sources (Con't)*