

# ATTACHMENT 1

HART, FREELAND & ROBERTS  
ARCHITECTS - ENGINEERS  
THIRD NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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June 16, 1954

Dr. Henry Hill  
George Peabody College  
Nashville, Tennessee

Re: Fire Damage  
George Peabody College  
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

At your request, we have made today, an inspection of the fire damage to the Demonstration School Building and we wish to report our findings as follows:

- 1) The worst damage occurred in the auditorium and on the Second and Third Floors of the main building.
- 2) The worst damage on the Third Floor occurred in the corridors and stair halls.

(a) Corridors:

1. The acoustical ceiling was entirely destroyed and some of the plaster underneath damaged. In most places, the wood furring for the acoustical ceiling is gone.
2. Windows, doors and trim and metal lockers are burned and destroyed.
3. The walls will need replastering.
4. Light fixtures and drinking fountains are missing or ruined.
5. The asphalt tile floors are blistered and ruined and will need replacing.
6. The electrical panel boards are damaged and will need replacing.
7. The elevator doors and frames suffered severe damage on the Third and Second Floors.

(b) Stair Halls:

1. The stair halls suffered the same damage as the corridor and in addition, the wood handrails are missing in some stairs, metal doors, transoms and frames are ruined and destroyed, windows and plaster damaged and the standpipe hose burned.

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It is not customary for metal stair hall doors and frames to suffer such severe damage and it was noted that the doors had an excessive amount of glass in them and that the door closers had been removed from them. These doors should have been kept closed at all times.

- (c) The rooms on each side of the corridors suffered damage in varying degrees, some worse than others, some severe. Windows were damaged, glass broken, entrance doors and frames and trim charred badly.
  - (d) The Cafeteria and Kitchen suffered only minor smoke and water damage. The fire hose and fire extinguisher in this room were not damaged.
- 3) The Second Floor suffered the same damage as the Third Floor, but in a slightly lesser degree. The rooms on the extreme west and east ends are in fairly good condition. In the corridor, the wood furring for the acoustical ceiling was burned off. The electrical panel boards are burned out and will possibly need replacing.
- 4) The auditorium suffered severe damage to the finish flooring, plaster, stage, electrical system, stage furnishings, plaster, radiator enclosures and possibly to the radiators.
- (a) The finish floor is completely charred and there is some damage to the sub-flooring. The sand fill under the sub-flooring is wet and this entire flooring system should be removed down to the concrete slab and replaced.
  - (b) The stage framing and finish will have to be replaced.
  - (c) The entire ceiling will have to be replaced.
  - (d) Panel boards, dimmers, fixtures, etc., are destroyed.
  - (e) The room will have to be entirely replastered and the stage tile wall furring rebuilt and replastered.
  - (f) The large concrete girder and the five concrete beams above the stage which support the Cafeteria and promenade above are damaged. The concrete is cracked and spalled off of portions of all of the above beams. These beams should have all loose and damaged concrete knocked off and then should have about two inches of concrete mortar gunited on them.

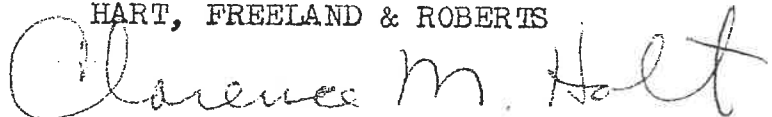
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- 5) The First Floor and Basement suffered only smoke and water damage which is quite extensive.
  - (a) The Gymnasium suffered water damage and will need a new floor and paint job.
  - (b) It is recommended that when the building is repaired that the exits for the auditorium and the Gymnasium be revised to comply with the existing fire laws.
- 6) Except for the damage above the stage, the building is structurally sound and you should have no fears about a collapse of the building, however it is the opinion of the writer that the building is in no condition to conduct classes, as its present condition and the work of replacing damaged items will interfere immensely with the proper conducting of school classes.
- 7) The extent of the damage to the electrical system is not readily discernible and cannot be estimated until an electrical contractor can check it and test it. This is also the case for the plumbing and heating systems.
- 8) The damage to the exterior consists of the following:
  - (a) The cut stone key blocks above the windows of the auditorium on the west, north and east walls are severely damaged and should be replaced. The brick work around these key blocks is also damaged and should be replaced.
  - (b) There is smoke damage on the brick on the north wall of the main building and elsewhere on the stone trim and if this damage cannot be washed off, the entire building should be sand blasted lightly to secure the same color all over the building.

We trust that the above information is what you desired and if we can serve you in any other way, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Yours very truly,

HART, FREELAND & ROBERTS



Clarence M. Holt