1. NAME

**Mansion of Senator Henry Gassaway Davis**

2. LOCATION

**Davis & Elkins College**

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Structure</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

**Davis and Elkins College Board of Trustees**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**Randolph County Courthouse**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**Title of Survey:**

**DATE OF SURVEY:**

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

**CITY OR TOWN:**

**STATE:**

**CODE:**
Graceland Hall is constructed of West Virginia granite, in Norman French style, with many of West Virginia's native timbers used throughout the inside.

Stonework, used even in the towering chimneys, gives the building an appearance of great strength and solidity. Windows were made by a workman from Tiffany's.

A dominant feature on the first floor is a tiled fireplace surmounted by a wooden mantle held up by wooden Corinthian columns. The staircase harmonizes in style with the fireplace. A feature in the library is a Biblical scene depicted in Dutch tiles.

The interior is basically unchanged except for modern lighting and heating facilities and the furniture and interior decor. The building is essentially the same as it was when occupied by Senator Davis.

A few of the original pieces of furniture are retained, with the possibility of many more being returned to Graceland by Mrs. Bruce Lee Kennedy, contingent upon certain plans for the future use of the building.

A stone gatehouse with simple, attractive style complemented the house, but it was recently dismantled to widen a road.

Graceland and Halliehurst are further described in a recent issue of the Preservation News, organ of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
Graceland Hall was built at Elkins, West Virginia, around the beginning of the present century by U. S. Senator Henry Gassaway Davis (1823-1916). It was first occupied by the Senator in 1892.

On the national scene, Davis is best known as the Democratic candidate for Vice-President of the United States in 1904, at the age of 80, when he and Parker were defeated by Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Davis' second claim to fame was his status as United States Senator from 1871 to 1883. In this undertaking he was doubtless motivated by the example of his cousin, Senator Arthur P. Gorman, long a dominant figure in Maryland Democratic politics.

Born in Baltimore, 1823, he began life as a working man and served as brakeman, conductor, and station agent on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, an association which doubtless led to his life-long interest in railroads. With capital accumulated during Civil War days, he began construction of a network of railroads in northern, central, and eastern West Virginia, thus being more than anyone else responsible for the coal and lumber industries of this part of the State. With his son-in-law, Stephen B. Elkins, he started the development of western Maryland and eastern West Virginia by the extension of the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh Railway to Elkins which it reached in 1889. In 1902 this became the Western Maryland Railroad when they sold it to the Gould interests. Davis' success as a railroad builder was recognized by his appointment in 1890 to membership on the Intercontinental Railway Commission and soon thereafter to the chairmanship of the Pan-American Railway Committee.

Davis is considered to be co-founder with Elkins of the City of Elkins and Davis and Elkins College, being on the original board of trustees.

Graceland Hall enjoyed the visits of many prominent national figures in the days when this type of entertainment was popular. It now serves as a residence hall for 40 students, but this occupancy will be terminated with completion of residence halls now under construction.

Davis' daughter Hallie is perhaps the only woman who was the mother, wife, and daughter of a United States Senator. She married Senator Elkins, who served as Secretary of War, while her son Davis served a brief term in the Senate also. She donated her home, Halliehurst, next door to Graceland, to form the nucleus of a new campus for Davis and Elkins College.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Callahan, J. M. History of West Virginia Old and New...and West Virginia Biography. 2 vol. Chicago, 1923.
Atkinson, George W. and Gibbens, Alvaro F. Prominent Men of West Virginia. Wheeling, 1890.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name and Title: Clifford M. Lewis, S.J., acting for State Liaison Officer

Organization: West Virginia Antiquities Commission

Date: July 8, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: Old Mountainair, Room 39, WYU, Morgantown, W. Va.

CITY OR TOWN: Morgantown

STATE: West Virginia

CODE: 47

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [X] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name

Title Acting for State Liaison Officer

Date July 8, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date