Form 10-300

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Greenbrier County Library and Museum

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Supreme Court Library Building

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 60, West and Courtney Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
Lewisburg

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE:
54

COUNTY:
Greenbrier

CODE:
025

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)

☐ District ☐ Building
☐ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

☐ Public ☐ Private
☐ Both

STATUS

Public Acquisition:
☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied
☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted
☐ Preservation work in progress
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious
☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Transportation ☐ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Lewisburg

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Lewisburg

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE:
54

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Office of the Clerk of Greenbrier County

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Lewisburg

STATE:
West Virginia

CODE:
54

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:
This is a two story brick, locally fired, located to the southwest of the Thomas Edgar survey for the town of Lewisburg. Erected in 1834 by James Frasier as a Law library and study for the jurors, judges and attorneys of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia.

The entrance on the North side of the building opens into a large room with twin fireplaces on the east end facing two wide doors on the west end of the room. These open into a smaller room which has similar fireplaces on the western side of this smaller room. From this smaller room a door leads to a rear hall with an outside entrance on the north.

The stairway to the second floor is located on the south side of the small hallway at the west end of the building.

The second floor is one large room except for a small hallway and the top landing of the stairway.

Inasmuch, as this hallway and stairwell section of the building is not "tied-in" with the original brick, it would seem that this is a later addition, enclosing the stairway to the second floor.

Each fireplace is adorned with large mantels and the walls are lined with shelves.

The condition of the building is excellent, now being occupied by the Greenbrier County Library and Museum.

The general architectural style is that common to Virginia of this period of History.

In the period of restoration a section of the original wall was not painted or disturbed because it showed the names and dates of several Civil War soldiers who were either billeted here or who were patients in the building when it served as a military hospital.
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [ ] 20th Century
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [x] 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(s) (If Applicable and Known) 1834 to present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- [x] Aboriginal
- [ ] Prehistoric
- [ ] Historic
- [ ] Agriculture
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [x] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On April 8, 1831, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia decreed that an annual session of the Supreme Court of Appeals be held in Lewisburg, Greenbrier County to serve the increasing population west of the mountains. The first session was held on August 1, 1831. Lewisburg, being such a great distance from Richmond, was not too well equipped with references to the law except that which the attorneys brought with them. So it was that the jurors persuaded a Mr. John Frasier, who operated a nearby inn, to erect a building to serve as a Law library and study. This was leased to the State of Virginia until the court sessions ended in 1864.

All law books were removed to Richmond at this time and for several years the building was occupied by the Masonic Lodge. Their charter still hangs on the museum wall, dated 1796.

The Greenbrier College for Women came in ownership and, in 1935, the College Trustees deeded it to the town to be used as a library and museum, as it is today.


### Geographic Data

**Latitudes and Longitude Coordinates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corner</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
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Approximate acreage of nominated property: 1/2 acre

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries.

**State: UTM 17 548060 4188100**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Code</th>
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**Form Prepared By**

C. Doyle Kester, Research Field Agent

**Organization**

W.Va. Antiquities Commission

**Address**

Old Mountainlair, WVU

**City or Town**

Morgantown

**State**

West Virginia

**Date**

June 19, 1970

**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 [x] Local [ ]

**Name**

Dallas B. Shaffer

**Title**

State Liaison Officer

**Date**

July 26, 1971

**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
CONTOUR I
DA*IK
IS
TnlS
MAP IS
AVAILABLE
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGIC
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC P

Wagner Hill
Baker Hill
Hominy School
North Caldwell
Salome Spring
Hollinger-Lewis School

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGIC
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC P