

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| STATE:<br>West Virginia |      |
| COUNTY:<br>Cabell       |      |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY        |      |
| ENTRY NUMBER            | DATE |
|                         |      |

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Old Main - Marshall University

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Huntington (4th Congressional District)

|                        |            |                   |             |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| STATE<br>West Virginia | CODE<br>54 | COUNTY:<br>Cabell | CODE<br>011 |
|------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)   | OWNERSHIP   | STATUS   | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC   |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress<br>Public Acquisition:<br><input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | Yes:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> No |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

|   |                                     |  |  |                                   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural           | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation  | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial             | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | _____                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input type="checkbox"/> Military   | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious             | _____                                    | _____                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment          | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific | _____                                    | _____                             |

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
State of West Virginia

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Board of Regents

CITY OR TOWN:  
Charleston

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| STATE:<br>West Virginia | CODE<br>54 |
|-------------------------|------------|

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Cabell County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
4th Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Huntington

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| STATE<br>West Virginia | CODE<br>54 |
|------------------------|------------|

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| STATE: | CODE: |
|--------|-------|

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|                         |                   |              |      |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------|
| STATE:<br>West Virginia | COUNTY:<br>Cabell | ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
|                         |                   |              |      |

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

|           |   |                                    |  |   |                                |                                    |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                                 |                                    |  |   |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent          | <input type="checkbox"/> Good      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
|           | (Check One)                                 |                                    |  | (Check One)                                       |                                |                                    |
|           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Marshall University campus is two blocks wide and four blocks long with the exception of the northeast and southwest corners and interrupts Fourth Avenue for the four block distance. As one moves east along Fourth Avenue, before 16th Street, he is on a direct course with what has long been the main campus building of the University. Facing 16th Street and standing directly in line with Fourth Avenue, resting upon a knoll sets "Old Main." It is slightly sheltered from view by a large old beech tree, other smaller trees, a bust of John Marshall, and a flag pole. This northern side, as is the southern side, measures almost 400 feet in length while the front of the building is 140 feet wide. It is a three story building with the basement rising some three feet above the ground level. The entire building is constructed of brick and stone and all of the foundations are three feet in thickness. Portions of the building have a slate roof while others have composition shingles and still others are covered with roll covering. The building as it appears today is not just one building, but really five buildings; each completed in a different period, and each with the style of architecture predominant in its period.

The present front of the building, that part which faces 16th Street, was the last portion completed. It is the part which is 140 feet wide. It is Tudor Gothic in style of architecture, similar to Trinity College in Cambridge, England. In the middle section of the front stands a tower with two octagon columns standing out from the building. While the building is only three stories high, the tower portion is four stories in height with four columns rising six feet above the top of the section. Each of these four columns is of ornate brick work at the top. The third floor, on both sides of the tower, has two small peaked structures which add a note of decorativeness. The main entrance has stone steps. The entrance is at the base of the tower and is of arched stone.

The north side of the building is far from being a straight line. There are many projecting areas, some with square corners and others which are rounded. As previously mentioned, there are five sections to the building. The first section measures 96½ feet in depth.

The south side of the building shows a diminishing effect from front to rear. Being situated on a knoll, the front part of the building on this side is four stories tall with the basement being fully exposed.

Unlike the exterior of the building, which has seen only minor changes during the years, the interior has seen a great deal of change.

All told, the building contains approximately 125 rooms give or take a few partitions as cases warrent.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1870-1907

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering          | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | Architecture                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although for the last 65 years, everyone has considered "Old Main" to be a unit unto itself, this is not so. In reality, it is five buildings, each with its own story, each built at a different time, and each with its own architecture. Education is the hand which is clothed by the glove of tradition and Old Main is the glove which provides respectability to Marshall University.

Marshall University clings to the date of 1837 as its inception for it was in the fall of that year that Marshall Academy was founded. It was no more than a new name for an already in existence secondary school. In fact, its physical facility was a log cabin situated atop a hill. For some years prior to the inception of the Academy, this school was called Mt. Hebron. On March 13, 1838, the General Assembly of Virginia passed an act establishing Marshall Academy and named a board of trustees. It was named in honor of John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835. Throughout its history, the heart of the University has existed on that very spot from which it began, the site of Old Main.

Between 1837 and 1870, the school was akin to a ping-pong ball, bouncing between church control by the Methodists and the Presbyterians and state control. At one time, it was sold for debt only later to fall back into the hands of the state. 1867 was the year that the relatively new state of West Virginia regained control; control which extends to the present day.

Old Main saw its beginning in June, 1869, when the foundation was laid and a corner stone was set by the Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of West Virginia. By 1907, Old Main looked as we know it today.

Prior to 1907, the president of the college was called the principal and some outstanding men in American history held that post. During their tenure in office, they resided in the principal's apartment within the building. During the years 1872 and 1873, James E. Morrow held that post and it was during this time that Dwight W. Morrow was born. He first saw light within the halls of Old Main on January 11, 1873. He was to go on to be a great financier, American Ambassador to Mexico, and a Senator from New Jersey. His daughter Anne, a well known author, married John Lindbergh and lost her first child in the famous kidnapping case of the 1930's. Morrow was followed in office by James Beauchamp Clark, better known as "Champ." Clark served from 1873 to 1874, when he left the school due to a great deal of dissent over the failure of the state to support it financially. In 1935, James E. Allen, father of former U.S. Commissioner of Education, James E. Allen, Jr. became president.

No one who has ever attended Marshall can forget Old Main. In fact, alumni consider Old Main and the school itself to be identical. Old Main is Marshall University and Marshall University is Old Main.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

White, L. Marie, Metamorphose of Old Main, Library, Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia.

Miller, Doris C., A Centennial History of Huntington, West Virginia, 1871-1971, Franklin Printing Company, Huntington, W.Va., 1971.

Ambler, Charles H. and Festus P. Summers, West Virginia, The Mountain State, Prentice-Hall Co., Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1940.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |          |         | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |         |         |         |
|--|----------|---------|---|---------|---------|---------|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE |         | LONGITUDE   |         |         |         |
|  | Degrees  | Minutes | Seconds   | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW   | °        | '       | "   | °       | '       | "       |
| NE   | °        | '       | "   | °       | '       | "       |
| SE   | °        | '       | "   | °       | '       | "       |
| SW   | °        | '       | "   | °       | '       | "       |

O  
R

UTM  
375119  
4253517

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 Acre

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 | COUNTY: | CODE |
|        |      |         |      |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Edward R. Bleau, Field Agent

ORGANIZATION: West Virginia Antiquities Commission

DATE: December 28, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Old Mountainlair, West Virginia University

CITY OR TOWN: Morgantown

STATE: West Virginia

CODE: 54

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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  State  Local

Name

Maurice G. Brooks

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

June 4, 1973

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

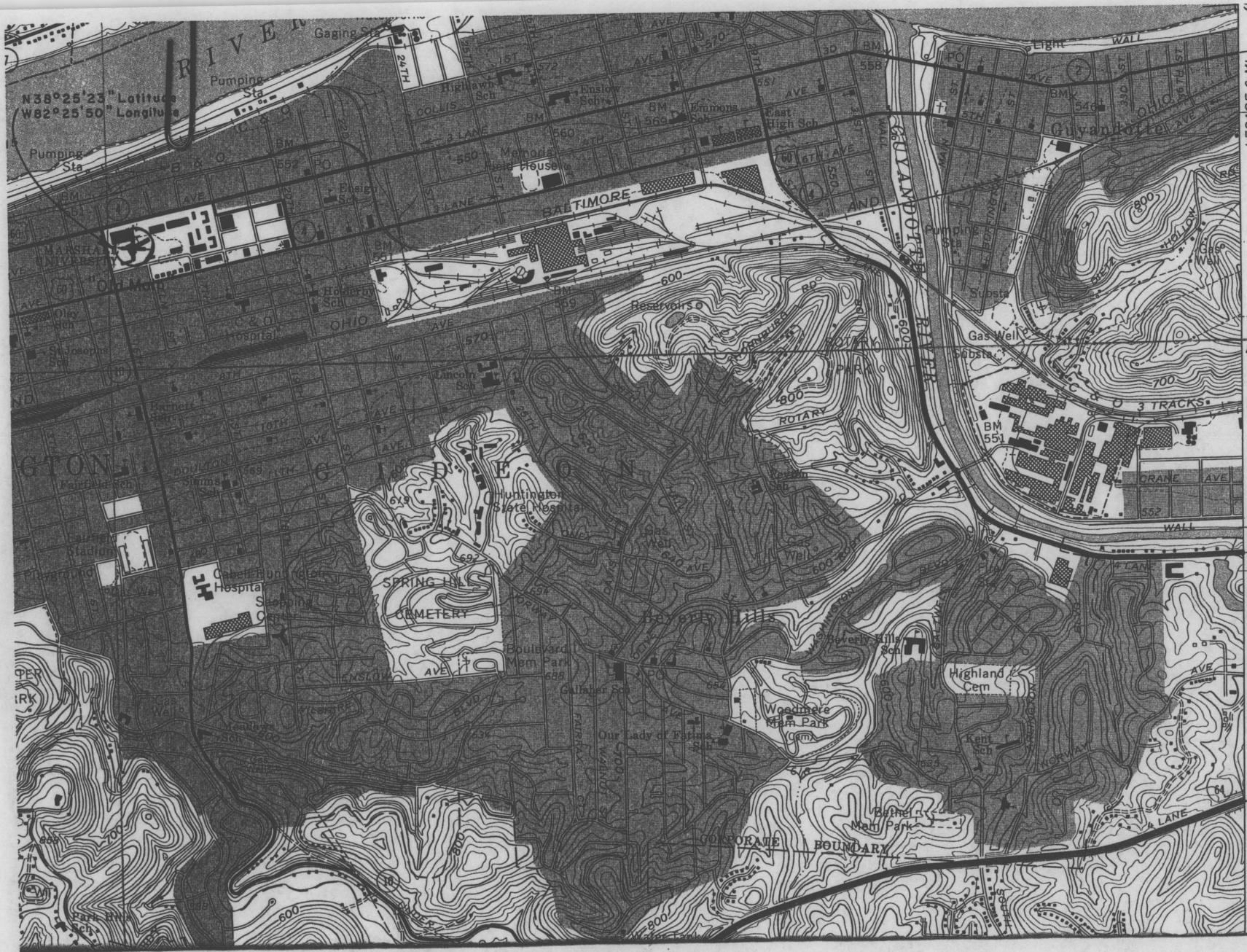
Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS







N38°25'23" Latitude  
 W82°25'50" Longitude

LESAGE 6 MI. V  
 POINT PLEASANT 40 MI. V  
 4253  
 25'  
 4  
 60  
 BARBOURSVILLE 4.7 MI. V  
 SAINT ALBANS 32 MI. V  
 1.9 MI. TO U.S. 60  
 HARLESTON 41 MI. V

OLD MAIN, MARSHALL  
 UNIVERSITY  
 CABELL COUNTY  
 WEST VIRGINIA  
 UTM REFERENCES  
 17/315100/4253540