

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

DEC 22 1989

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

West Virginia University Historic Properties

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Education at West Virginia University, 1867-1942; Architecture of West Virginia University, 1870-1942; Farm Properties of West Virginia University, 1850-1940; Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp of West Virginia University, 1921-1939

C. Geographical Data

These properties are scattered through the state of West Virginia. Most of them are located on the downtown campus of West Virginia University in Morgantown (Monongalia County) and front on University Avenue, which runs through that campus. They are shown on the attached sketch map. Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp is a 600+ acre site north of Weston in Lewis County, West Virginia; the nearest community is Jane Lew. Farm properties are located in the community of Arthurdale, in Preston County; along the Mileground near the intersection of US 119 and SR 705 east of Morgantown in Monongalia County; along Stewartstown Road east of SR 705 in Monongalia County; and north of Wardensville in Hardy County. Each property either has been or will be nominated with specific boundaries affecting that building or group of buildings.

See continuation sheet

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

William G. Lamer
Signature of certifying official

12.15.89
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Patrick Andrews
for Signature of the Keeper of the National Register

2/5/90
Date

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Discuss each historic context listed in Section B.

The four historic contexts for this multiple property nomination are "Education at West Virginia University, 1867-1942," "Architecture of West Virginia University Buildings, 1870-1942," "Farm Properties of West Virginia University, 1850-1940," and Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp of West Virginia University, 1921-1939." These contexts reflect the principal themes illustrated by the widely scattered holdings of the university. They are illustrated in buildings already listed on the National Register of Historic Places, those nominated with this form, and those remaining to be listed. The relevant criteria for each context are given with the context.

Education at West Virginia University, 1867-1942: This context is related to criteria A, buildings that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; in this case, that pattern is higher education in West Virginia. West Virginia University (WVU) is the state's only comprehensive land-grant institution and the only institution offering a full array of graduate and undergraduate programs. It is the flagship institution for higher education in the state. West Virginia University was created in 1867 as the state's land-grant institution under the terms of the 1862 Morrill Act, as amended in 1864 to include West Virginia. Throughout the nineteenth century, Morgantown had been a center of education for western Virginia, so it was logical that the legislature should consider that town when looking for a location for the new university. The trustees of the Monongalia Academy in Morgantown offered the legislature their academy and the site and property of the Woodburn Female Seminary, also in Morgantown, on the condition that the new agricultural college be located in or near Morgantown. The legislature accepted this offer on February 7, 1867 and immediately created the Agricultural College of West Virginia; the name was changed to West Virginia University the following year. WVU's first classes were held in the Monongalia Academy building (now demolished and not on the current campus), and students lived in the Woodburn Seminary building, which was on the site of current Woodburn Hall; the seminary building burned in 1873.

Since this section overlaps the context of "Architecture of WVU Buildings," only construction dates for buildings will be given here to illustrate the growth of the university. Aesthetic qualities will be addressed below. The first building constructed for the new university was University Hall (later Preparatory Building and, after 1899, Martin Hall), which was completed in 1870. While this was an auspicious beginning, the university was soon caught in the North-South tensions lingering as a result of the Civil War and creation of the state. Pro-Northerners, according to Charles Ambler and Festus P. Summers in West Virginia: The Mountain State, generally favored "co-education, retention of the Preparatory Department, rigid discipline, and a prescribed curriculum, and as generally the pro-Southerners opposed." The Preparatory Department was particularly important because, well into the early twentieth century, West Virginia had a very inadequate system of high schools to prepare students for university courses. New Hall (later University Building, and, after 1893, Woodburn Hall) was constructed in 1877, with the north addition completed in 1901 and the south wing in 1909-11. The first professors in law

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and medicine were appointed in 1878. WVU still has the only College of Law in West Virginia; it also has the oldest and most comprehensive medical education program in the state. It was not until 1886, when the first railroad line reached Morgantown from Fairmont, that the university could claim to easily attract students from all over the state. The passage of the Hatch Act in 1887 led to the creation of WVU's Agricultural Experiment Station in the next year. While many land-grant institutions were co-educational from the beginning, it was not until 1889 that West Virginia University admitted its first ten women students to degree programs. The first woman, Harriet Lyon, graduated in 1891. Commencement Hall (later Reynolds Hall) was completed in 1892 and demolished in the mid-1960s for the Mountainlair (student union). With the passage of the second Morrill Act of 1890, President Eli Marsh Turner and the Board of Regents pressured the Legislature to appropriate funds for Machinery Hall (destroyed by fire in 1899) to house engineering classes and Science Hall (now Chitwood Hall); the latter was constructed in 1893 and completed the plan for Woodburn Circle. In the 1890s, President James L. Goodnight was able to reorganize the school into a true university format, with 4 colleges (Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Mechanic Arts, Agriculture, and Law). In 1897, women were admitted to all departments of the university except the military courses. The university also acquired its first farm property in the 1896 and sold it in 1898, when it acquired the Gilmore farm for dairy experimental farming.

Gradually, as the university's functions increased in scope, new specialized buildings were constructed in the early 20th century, and what is now the downtown campus of the university began to assume its present appearance. A new library building (now Stewart Hall and referred to hereafter as Stewart Hall to avoid confusion with the Main Library/Wise Library) was completed in 1902 on the site of the old Methodist Cemetery. Mechanical Hall and the Armory were both also completed in 1902 to house the engineering and military science programs, both required by WVU's designation as a land-grant institution. Mechanical Hall was destroyed by fire in 1956, and the Armory was demolished in the mid-1960s to accommodate the new Mountainlair. The state's only two-year school of medicine was also established in 1902. In 1904-5, the president's house (now Purinton House) was constructed to allow President Daniel B. Purinton to live on campus. The university hoped that this would allow the school to attract quality administrators and to centralize the administration on campus.

The extension program began in 1912 and was strengthened by the 1914 Smith-Lever Act, which created the Cooperative Extension Service; this program eventually gave the university a presence in each of the state's 55 counties through the county agents located there. In that same year, WVU established the nation's first mining extension program to train coal miners; this recognized the importance of mining in the state's economy, and the university has continued to play an important role in this area. WVU's enrollment first reached 1,000 students in 1914. The next year, the West Virginia Senate appointed a committee to consider moving the university from Morgantown to a more central location. President Frank B. Trotter pushed for the construction of new buildings to anchor the university in Morgantown. In addition to

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stopping the discussion about moving, the 1918 construction of Oglebay Hall provided modern facilities for agricultural research, a central part of WVU's mission; this building now houses the Psychology Department. The 1918-19 construction of the original Woman's Hall (renamed Stalnaker Hall in 1972, with 1935 additions) provided the campus' first dormitory; it was built on Observatory Hill, so named until students celebrating a football victory burned the observatory in 1919. It was also during this period that the university began to acquire more farm properties near Morgantown and elsewhere in the state. At these sites, the university could finally "practice what it preached" in agricultural research at its own sites. These sites remain an important part of the university's holdings.

In 1921, the university began to develop Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp as part of its cooperative extension program; this was the first such camp in the nation. The Engineering Experiment Station was established in the same year. The Law Building (renamed Colson Hall in 1972) was completed in 1923. The Chemistry Building (now Clark Hall) was completed in 1925, the same year that old Mountaineer Field (demolished in 1987) was completed. The School of Mines was established in 1926; later renamed the College of Mineral and Energy Resources, it would be housed in the Mineral Industries Building (now White Hall) after 1942. The College of Education was established in 1927. The 1928 construction of Elizabeth Moore Hall to provide a lounge and physical education facilities for women marked the university's growing awareness of its female students. The Men's Field House (now Stansbury Hall) was completed in 1929 to provide a home for the basketball team; it has since been extensively remodeled.

Expanding its academic mission, WVU established a formal Graduate School in 1930. During the 1930s, construction slowed on campus, but the first section of the Main Library (now Charles Wise Library) opened in 1931. WVU officials decided to adopt a plan for the library that allowed for expansion from the beginning. Men's Hall (now Boreman Hall South) opened in 1935 to provide the first official men's dormitory on campus. The School of Pharmacy was established in 1936. The next year, a four-year forestry program was created in the College of Agriculture and Forestry, and the School of Physical Education was established. The Perley Isaac Reed School of Journalism was established two years later.

During World War II, the Mineral Industries Building (now White Hall) opened in 1942, with an immediate goal of providing research facilities related to the war effort. This was the first classroom building built since the completion of Chemistry Hall in 1925. While less than 50 years old, this building has overriding state significance as defined on its National Register form. Also in 1942, Terrace Hall (a dormitory, now Dadisman Hall) and the Health Center were completed; neither of these is eligible for the National Register.

Although after the period of significance, it is important to carry WVU's story up to the present to show how the campus (and therefore, the setting for the above

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buildings) has changed. After World War II, WVU's enrollment grew as veterans returned to college under the provisions of the G.I. Bill of Rights. Enrollment in the fall of 1946 reached 6,010, 1,500 more than expected. New buildings were constructed to accommodate the growth. The university acquired Deahl Hall to house the forestry program; this building was demolished in 1987. Land for the Evansdale Campus, approximately 1 mile to the north of the downtown campus, was acquired, beginning in 1948, and the Core Arboretum was established in that year. Two surplus buildings acquired from the federal government in 1947 and 1948 were converted into a cafeteria and student union (first Mountainlair); both of these buildings have since been demolished. The campus expanded in 1947, when the land between Beechurst and University avenues was purchased to house the next "quadrangle" of Armstrong (1950), Brooks (1951), and Hodges Halls (1952). After intensive discussion around the state, Governor Okey Patteson announced in 1951 that he had chosen WVU as the site of the state's new Medical Center; the School of Dentistry was established the same year. The College of Business and Economics was created in 1952. The Music Building (now Eiseland Hall) was completed in 1954. In 1956, WVU became the first state university in the nation to use revenue-bond financing for capital improvements; student fees from tuition were placed into this fund to provide a more steady source of income for construction projects. The Medical Center campus began to take shape in 1957 with the completion of the Basic Sciences Building. When that building opened in September 1957, the first class of dental students in the state's history began their courses. Arnold Hall (dormitory) was completed the same year. WVU expanded its graduate program in 1958 with the creation of the Kanawha Valley Graduate Center; this later became the West Virginia College of Graduate Studies, a separate institution. Enrollment in 1958 stood at 6,216.

In 1961, WVU lost its status as the state's only university, when Marshall College persuaded the legislature to change its name to Marshall University. Throughout the decade of the 1960s, WVU grew rapidly. The state's first teaching hospital was completed on the Medical Center campus in 1960, and the first class of nursing students entered at that time. WVU began to develop the new Evansdale Campus, with the completion of the Engineering and Agricultural Sciences buildings and the Agricultural Sciences Annex in 1961. President Paul A. Miller, during 1963-65, established the Appalachian Center (which included the cooperative extension program), the Creative Arts Center (now College of Creative Arts), Center for Regional Social Studies (now Regional Research Institute), and Institute of Biological Sciences to promote interdisciplinary research and cooperation. The College of Human Resources and Education was created in 1965, the same year that the new Forestry Building (now Percival Hall), and the first two units of the Towers Residence Hall opened on the Evansdale Campus. The new Creative Arts Center (Evansdale), Chemistry Research Laboratory (downtown), Mountainlair (downtown), and last two units of Towers opened in 1968. Allen Hall was completed on the Evansdale Campus in 1969, and the Coliseum opened the next year on the Evansdale campus. The School of Social Work, which had begun as the Department of Social Administration in 1940, was created in 1971. The College of Law moved into its new Law Center in 1974. The university's innovative

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Personal Rapid Transit System, the first in the country, was completed in 1979. Enrollment stood at 22,000 at the end of the decade.

The new Mountaineer Field opened in 1980, as did the Evansdale Library and the renovated Colson Hall (now a library). The Erickson Alumni Center, designed by Michael Graves, opened in 1986 on the Evansdale Campus. In 1988, construction began on a new Business and Economics Building on the site of the old Mountaineer Field; new research facilities for engineering and a new building for the College of Mineral and Energy Resources are under construction at the Evansdale Campus. Ruby Memorial Hospital opened in 1988 to replace the old hospital; it is now managed by a non-profit corporation, which is building other facilities in the area.

Architecture of West Virginia University, 1870-1942: This theme is related to criteria C, buildings that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, etc. Several of WVU's buildings are notable examples of a particular architectural style or provide examples of campus planning. It is important to recognize that the university's campuses have evolved for almost 120 years, with apparently little large-scale planning until recent years. The hilly topography on the downtown campus and the gradual encroachment of residential and commercial uses on the campus have meant that the university's buildings are crowded together, with open space at a premium. Still, Woodburn Circle evolved as a grouping of three late nineteenth-century buildings, with Woodburn Hall as the most prominent. This Second Empire building is one of the finest of its style in the state, particularly because Morgantown architect Elmer Jacobs designed the north and south additions in the same style as the original center section. Stewart Hall, designed by the Philadelphia firm of Wilson Brothers, is one of the best examples of Romanesque Revival architecture in the state. Woodburn Circle and Stewart Hall are already on the National Register. The Olmsted Brothers firm did a design for part of the WVU campus east of University Avenue, including the site of Stewart Hall, but the only part of the plan that seems to have been implemented was the siting of Stewart Hall.

In the early twentieth century, four Neo-Classical Revival buildings were constructed. Purinton House was built in 1904-05 in the Colonial Revival style, with J. Charles Fulton as architect. Oglebay Hall and Stalnaker Hall were completed in 1918 in the Neo-Classical Revival style; no architect has been identified with either building. The last of this grouping is Elizabeth Moore Hall, completed in 1928 and one of the best examples of Georgian Revival architecture in the state. The building was designed by the architectural firm of David, Dunlap, and Barney of Philadelphia. The interior was designed by Mary Coggeshall and Annette Jukes of New York City, with the advice of Lenna Lowe Yost, who had pushed for the construction of this building. All four of these buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the WVU Neo-Classical Revival Thematic Grouping.

The next three important buildings constructed, Main Library (Wise Library), Men's

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Hall (Boreman Hall South), and the Mineral Industries Building (White Hall), were built using the red brick and stone trim found on Oglebay, Stalnaker, and E. Moore Halls. While Boreman Hall South retains much of the Neo-Classical Revival detailing of the campus's earlier buildings, the Main Library and the Mineral Industries Building are more "modern." The symmetry of the Main Library is set off by the setback roof and the tower; the latter was designed as part of the original structure. Perhaps Mineral Industries could be best described as a variation of what Richard Guy Wilson calls "stripped classicism." This style was used for public buildings done by the Public Works Administration in the 1930s and early 1940s and had very little ornamentation because critics argued that that was wasteful. Wilson notes, in The Machine Age in America, 1918-1941, that "the boring facelessness or impersonality of the many stripped classical governmental buildings has a certain machine-like repetition and represents -- in retrospect -- the growing bureaucracy necessary to administer the modern industrial state." None of these buildings have the exterior details of those earlier buildings. Instead, the interior spaces, with an impressive use of marble in the hallways and entries, are more important in the Main Library and Mineral Industries Building (White Hall). The Robert Lepper mural in Mineral Industries is also a valuable part of that structure; it is described further in the nomination for the Main Library and the Mineral Industries Building. Davis, Dunlap, & Barney also designed the Main Library, and may have designed Chemistry Hall (Clark Hall).

The West Virginia firm of Warne-Tucker-Silling, of Charleston, designed Men's Hall, while its successor firm of Tucker-Silling designed the Mineral Industries Building. H. Rus Warne was a prominent architect who went to Charleston from Parkersburg in the late 1910s. He became one of the most important professional architects in the formative stages of the architectural profession in West Virginia and was an organizer of architects in the state, helping to form the first state chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Warne established one of the state's most prominent firms, Warne-Tucker-Patteson, in the 1920s. That firm eventually became Warne-Tucker-Silling in the late 1920s or early 1930s. The firm was responsible for some of the finest buildings in the state, and Warne was one of few professional architects whose buildings can be found in all parts of state, although he did comparatively little work in the northern and eastern panhandles because there were other well-established architects in those areas. Tucker was associated with the firm through the 1920s and into the 1940s, although not as much is known about him. Cyrus E. Silling entered the firm as a junior partner, and, he, in turn, became one of the state's most prominent architects in the mid-twentieth century. Silling designed the WVU medical center and Coliseum, the National Bank of Commerce building and Imperial Towers in Charleston.¹

The firm was known as Tucker & Silling when it designed the Mineral Industries Building (White Hall) and the 1951 addition to the Main Library. The quadrangle formed by the Chemistry Building, Main Library, and Mineral Industries Building, with the Colson Hall on the west across University Avenue, was designed to mirror Woodburn Circle. Due to extensive interior changes in Colson and the Chemistry Building and

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new large-light windows, those buildings have been determined to be ineligible for the National Register. However, the quadrangle plan still remains, so the open space is included in the nomination with the Main Library and Mineral Industries Building to protect it for the future.

Most of the buildings constructed on the WVU downtown campus after World War II are a rather non-descript institutional architecture. They are also too new to be considered for the National Register at this time.

Farm Properties of West Virginia University, 1850-1940: This context is related to criteria A because of its emphasis on agricultural education and experimentation and to criteria C insofar as the farm houses are architecturally significant and as the barns were often designed to serve specific experimental purposes or to demonstrate barn construction to farmers. Because of its agricultural programs, West Virginia University owns farm properties in several parts of the state, where it conducts experiments with livestock, crops, and fruit growing. Several of these properties were acquired in the early twentieth century although they contain older farm buildings, hence the starting date for this historic context. The Meek's Farm House on the Mileground just outside Morgantown was built in 1854 and eventually served as the home of the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Forestry. Now known as the Bicentennial House, it currently houses the Mining & Industrial Extension Program. The Stewartstown Road livestock farm outside Morgantown was acquired by WVU in the early twentieth century; the WVU Historic Preservation Committee feels that several structures constructed by the university on this farm are eligible for listing on the National Register. The Reedsville Farm adjoins Arthurdale in Preston County, and buildings there were built in the 1930s by the university and Arthurdale homesteaders as part of the experimental community. The university's Reymann Memorial Farm outside Wardensville in Hardy County was acquired in the early twentieth century; the farm house, the only eligible building, dates from the mid-nineteenth century. Research is still underway on that property, and it will be nominated later to the National Register. It is the only eligible building on that farm. The complete survey of farm properties is still underway, and nominations are subject to the approval of the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Forestry. None of these properties are included with this nomination.

Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp of WVU, 1921-1939: This context is related to criteria A because it focuses on the role of the Cooperative Extension Service at Jackson's Mill, to criteria B because of the efforts made to commemorate the life of Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson there, and to criteria C because of the design of the camp's buildings. As the land-grant institution for West Virginia, WVU houses the Cooperative Extension Service, which includes 4-H programs for youth. West Virginia established the nation's first state-wide 4-H camp in 1921 when it acquired the property at Jackson's Mill. This land had been the boyhood home of General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson and of the Jackson family, which was prominent in nineteenth-century western Virginia and West Virginia. The 1841 mill building at Jackson's Mill

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has already been listed on the National Register, and, throughout the camp's history, many efforts have been made to interpret the history of the site. The camp itself deserves to be listed as a historic district because its bungalow-style cottages, dining hall, and meeting rooms have architectural merit and because it is important to the state as a center of agricultural education and recreation. In addition, Blaker Mill has been painstakingly moved from near Alderson in southern West Virginia to Jackson's Mill and is being restored as an operating mill to represent the milling industry in the nineteenth century. The nomination for Jackson's Mill as a historic district has not yet been prepared.

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1. Warne's buildings include the Kanawha County Courthouse, Charleston City Hall, Boone County Courthouse, numerous junior and senior high schools, and world's fair pavillions for West Virginia. He was also influential in the design of some of Charleston's early twentieth century period revivial neighborhoods, including the East End Historic District, and designed homes in Huntington and Parkersburg; he may also have designed residences for wealthy families associated with the coal industry in southern West Virginia. Warne died in the early 1950s. Silling was educated in Pittsburgh and attended Carnegie Institute of Technology. He is still living but has retired from the firm. The firm survives today as C.E. Silling & Associates, a lineal descendant of the firm Warne founded in the late 1910s. Howard Yohe, a current prominent architect in West Virginia, is a partner in the firm now. This makes Warne's firm one of longest-lived architectural firms in the United States.

F. Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type Dormitories at West Virginia University

II. Description

This section includes two dormitories (Woman's Hall and Men's Hall). Woman's Hall (now Stalnaker) is already listed on the National Register, while the nomination for Men's Hall (now Boreman) is included with this nomination. Woman's Hall is a fine example of Neo-Classical Revival architecture, while Men's Hall has some Neo-Classical Revival details, although its E-shaped plan makes it unique for WVU. Both buildings are red brick with stone trim. Men's Hall was designed by the prominent West Virginia firm of Warne-Tucker-Silling. Two wings were added to Woman's Hall in the 1930s, but they blend perfectly with the existing center structure. Woman's Hall is slated for a major renovation in the next few years because the building now has major structural deficiencies and because its pattern of single rooms no longer fits the lifestyles of today's students. However, the lounge area and exterior of the building will be carefully restored.

III. Significance

These buildings represent the university's first serious attempts to provide housing for its students. Prior to the construction of these dormitories (Woman's Hall in 1918-19 and Men's in 1935), students lived in rooming houses, with families in Morgantown, and with their own families in the area; or, they could live in fraternity or sorority houses. Indeed, the problem of finding adequate housing for women students was so great that opponents of co-education tried to use it to keep women from attending WVU. Both buildings are still used as residence halls.

IV. Registration Requirements See section G.

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet for additional property types

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

See continuation sheet.

See continuation sheet

H. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- State historic preservation office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency

- Local government
 University
 Other

Specify repository: West Virginia and Regional History Collection, West Virginia University

I. Form Prepared By

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II. Description This property type includes Woodburn, Martin, Science (Chitwood), and Oglebay Halls, already on the National Register of Historic Places, and the Mineral Industries Building (now White Hall), listed here. These are all red brick buildings with stone trim, but they are of varying architectural styles, with Woodburn, Martin, and Chitwood built in the late nineteenth century, Oglebay in 1918, and Mineral Industries in 1942. Woodburn, Martin, Chitwood, and Oglebay are three-story buildings with basements, while Mineral Industries has four floors, plus a basement and sub-basement. Woodburn, Martin, and Chitwood were remodelled on the interior in the late 1970s, while Oglebay and Mineral Industries retain their original interiors. Mineral Industries, in particular, has not been changed. Mineral Industries also houses a famous mural by Robert Lepper that depicts the development of industry in West Virginia. The exterior of Chitwood was cleaned and restored, with the original paint scheme replicated on the copper cornice, in 1987. The exterior cleaning and restoration of Woodburn will begin in 1989.

III. Significance Under criteria A, the heart of any university is teaching and classroom learning. These buildings are among the oldest classroom buildings on the university campus still being used as classrooms. The only other pre-World War II classroom building is the Chemistry Building (now Clark Hall), which has been too extensively remodeled to be eligible for listing. Colson Hall used to serve as classrooms for the College of Law but has been extensively remodelled as part of the library system. Woodburn, Oglebay, and Science (Chitwood) Halls now house some of the departments of the College of Arts & Sciences. Martin Hall houses the School of Journalism. Mineral Industries (now White Hall) houses the Department of Geology and Geography and the College of Mineral and Energy Resources (COMER); COMER will be moving to a new facility on the Evansdale Campus in 1989-90.

Under criteria C, these buildings are among the architectural landmarks on the campus and some are among the best examples of their style in the state (Woodburn, Oglebay). The Robert Lepper mural in Mineral Industries is nationally significant and should be preserved in its original setting. Mineral Industries was also designed as the state's first teaching and research facility for West Virginia's mineral industries (coal, oil, gas, chemical, and ceramics industries). While less than fifty years old, it has remained the primary facility for this research at a West Virginia institution of higher education since it was constructed. The opening of a new facility may well put this building in line for changes, and it needs to be listed on the National Register now to make sure that changes are as sensitive as possible.

IV. Registration Requirements Please see Section G.

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I. Name of Property Type Administration Buildings at West Virginia University

II. Description This section includes those non-classroom and non-dormitory buildings on campus, i.e. Stewart Hall, Main Library (Wise Library), E. Moore Hall, and Purinton House. These buildings are diverse in style. The Old Library is one of the finest examples of the Romanesque Revival style in West Virginia, while E. Moore Hall is one of the state's best examples of Georgian Revival architecture, and Purinton House is an excellent example of Colonial Revival. These three are already listed on the National Register and meet criteria B. The Main Library was completed in 1931 and has a 1951 five-story addition; that addition was originally planned and shown on the 1931 architect's sketch of the building. The Main Library is a red brick and stone building with Neo-Classical Revival detailing; it was the first vertical building on the WMU campus, and the downtown campus is still basically a low-scale area. It is important also because it was the state's largest library building when constructed, the first library in the state designed with a holding capacity of one million volumes. It was the focal point of the second campus quadrangle or circle when planned. Exterior cleaning and restoration work are scheduled for Stewart and Purinton House, while E. Moore will be undergoing life/safety renovations and exterior window repairs in 1989.

III. Significance These buildings represent the growth of WMU beyond a cluster of classrooms and a small library (originally housed in Martin Hall). They include the only library buildings on campus (first Stewart, then the Main Library) until 1980, when the Evansdale Library and renovated Colson Hall opened. Stewart Hall has served as the administration building since 1931 and was renamed to honor President Irvin Stewart (1946-1958). It now houses the offices for the president, the vice-presidents, and some financial accounting functions. E. Moore Hall, originally the center of women's activities on campus, houses the Office of Student Affairs and some physical education classes. It continues to be prized as one of the university's best preserved buildings.

IV. Registration Requirements Please see section G.

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Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Woodburn Circle (Woodburn, Martin, and Chitwood Halls) was the first National Register listing for WVU; this was entered on December 4, 1974. Stewart Hall was listed on June 25, 1980.

West Virginia University established its own Historic Preservation Committee in the early 1980s. This consists of faculty and staff with professional or personal interests in historic preservation (faculty in landscape architecture, history, and engineering; the curator of art collections; the director of housing and residence life; staff from Facilities Planning and Management and Physical Plant). As a result, a graduate student in public history prepared the nomination for the West Virginia University Neo-Classical Revival Buildings, which were listed on December 19, 1985. This committee's responsibilities have been expanded to include monitoring all new art work accepted for the university and developing a plan to interpret the university's heritage wherever possible on campus.

In 1986-87, the committee finalized its review of all holdings of West Virginia University, both in Morgantown and in outlying areas. It identified those buildings already on the National Register, those eligible or potentially eligible for listing, those that are now too new for listing but which should be monitored closely so that future changes do not make them ineligible, those that have been remodelled too extensively to be eligible but where repairs and alterations should be monitored to prevent loss of further historic fabric, and significant landscapes/open spaces. Some of those landscapes, like Woodburn Circle and the lawn of Stewart Hall, are already on the National Register, while the Library Quadrangle is included in this nomination. This list has been accepted by the Facilities Planning and Management and Physical Plant staffs of West Virginia University. As a result, the preservation committee is consulted whenever changes are contemplated on the listed buildings. In addition, the committee is in the process of adopting a version of the "Preservation Briefs" series that will reflect WVU concerns and which will be a "boilerplate" document for all work related to listed buildings. Students in the Historic Preservation Seminar taught by Dr. Barbara Howe, chair of the committee and director of the public history program, have prepared the initial drafts of National Register nominations for remaining eligible buildings, prepared documentation of the interiors of several significant structures, and written historic structures reports for some of the farm properties.

West Virginia new state preservation legislation mandates that all state-funded, licensed, and assisted projects receive the same review as federally funded projects if historic properties are involved. Since everything that WVU does with its buildings involves the State of West Virginia, the university has drafted a memorandum of agreement to allow this review to be done by the Historic Preservation Committee. Because of this law and the large number of construction and renovation projects underway on campus, it is important to get buildings designated quickly.

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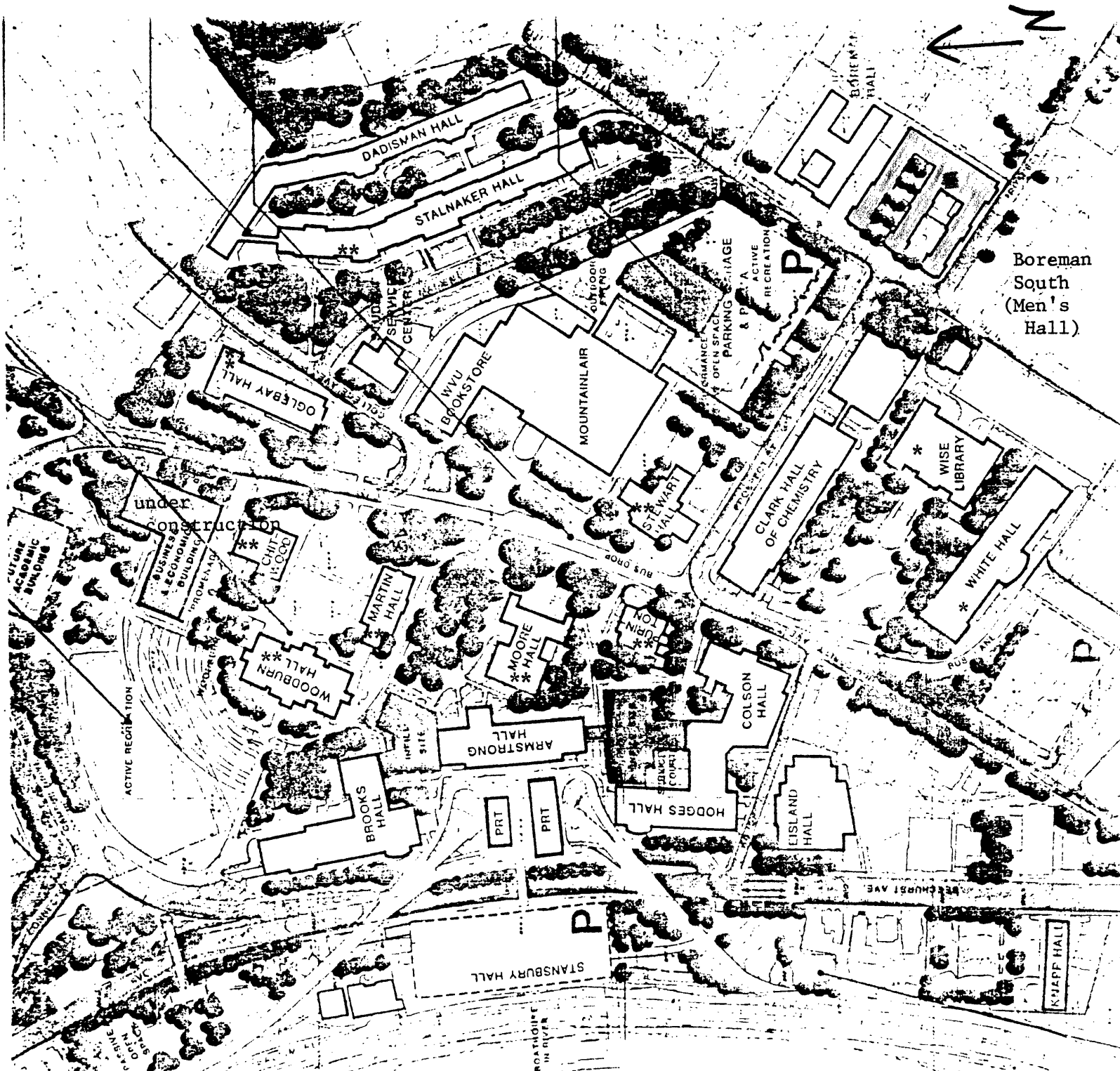
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West Virginia University Sketch Map -- taken from
downtown Master Plan prepared by Burgess & Niple, Inc.

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Buildings on National Register as of 12/88 denoted by **
Buildings proposed (Wise, White, Boreman) denoted by *