

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received NOV 7 1985
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

DEC 19 1985

1. Name *Courthouse*

historic West Virginia University Neo-Classical Revival Buildings
(originally Woman's Hall)
and/or common E. Moore Hall, Purinton House, Stalnakker Hall, Oglebay Hall

2. Location

street & number University Avenue, Maiden Lane _____ not for publication
city, town Morgantown _____ vicinity of
state West Virginia code 54 county Monongalia code 061

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
Thematic Group _____	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

West Virginia
name Board of Regents
street & number P.O. Box 3368
city, town Charleston _____ vicinity of state WV 25333

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Monongalia County Courthouse
street & number High Street at Courthouse Square
city, town Morgantown state WV

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Properties Inventory (HPU) has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date May 1983 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local
depository for survey records History Department, West Virginia University
city, town Morgantown state WV

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____ N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

These four buildings all represent variations of the Neo-Classical Revival style popular in the early twentieth century. All maintain a high degree of their original integrity and fabric on the exterior, while Stalnaker, Oglebay, and E. Moore also retain a high degree of their original integrity on the interior. Most of the changes in Purinton are not structural.

Elizabeth Moore Hall is one of the best preserved examples of Georgian Revival architecture in West Virginia; it is both architecturally appealing and practical in design. The building, completed in 1928, has been essentially unaltered on both the exterior and interior except for the 1962 addition which was built to blend with the original building.

The exterior red brick walls are in a Flemish bond. Original slate shingles cover the roof. Two chimneys stand at each gable end. Five dormers have been centered over five arches on the front (east facade) of the building with 6/6 windows. These arches are supported by six columns of the Doric order. A fanlight tops the front door and is flanked by fluted Doric pilasters in the typical Georgian style. Cast iron balustrades grace the French doors in the eastern atrium. The front windows have 6/9 lights. The north, south, and west sides of the building are more symmetrical and functional. The second-story side windows are arched and open onto balconies with cast-iron balustrades. Five window bays in the rear of the building are arched and separated by concrete pilasters. Dentil work tops the third window in each four-window bay. Gates at the side of the building are cast iron.

Door frames throughout the building are Arthur Andersen type with shouldered architraves. Doors throughout follow the Georgian Revival styles with brass fixtures. The interior walls are plaster. Originally the third floor was a dormitory.

The interior has been divided to provide office space. On the second floor, most hardwood floors have been carpeted. A fireplace on the second floor is of white-painted wood with modified Doric pilasters on both sides and a marble hearth. The rear staircase is enclosed. On the first floor, the entranceway has a fanlight and fluted pilasters flanking the doorway. The open-well staircase is hardwood with marble treads descending into the basement.

Plaster arches on the first floor are rounded and centered. Columns in the atrium are Tuscan and Doric. A fireplace on the first floor has an arched segmental pediment. Pilasters flank the sides in the Doric order with a triple astragal and Corinthian acanthus leaf motif in wood. The mantle piece is marble. Cabinets are set into the walls and the gallery arches are segmental. The French windows opening onto the north and south sides are topped by transoms and framed by Doric order pilasters with a triple astragal. A skylight and dentil cornice grace the atrium ceiling.

In 1961, Robert J. Bennett, a Morgantown architect, and Baker and

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Coombs Contractors of Morgantown enclosed the balcony on the western end of the second floor to provide a dance floor. Open arches were filled with glass, a flat roof constructed, a wood floor laid, and ornamental masonry removed. All alterations have been purposely kept in harmony with the building's original design. Two sets of double doors have been replaced by single doors on the front. The building was altered in 1983 to provide handicapped access. The original brick porch has been replaced.

Plans for Elizabeth Moore Hall were featured at the Joint Architectural Exhibit in Philadelphia which was held by the American Institute of Architects and T-Square Club in 1926. The building was noted for its contrast to the Bauhaus style prevalent in the 1920s.

Oglebay Hall, completed in 1918, presents an imposing sight in the center of West Virginia University's downtown campus as an example of Neo-Classical Revival architecture, combining brick and concrete to give the building a look of solidity.

Large air vents top the almost flat hip roof. An unadorned concrete roofline tops the third story. Four massive Roman Doric columns support the front pediment with a false, concrete railing at the third story and the building name engraved in the entablature. A concrete cornice separates the second and third story windows. Concrete architraves top the double brick pilasters at the corners of the building. There is a concrete water table over the high basement, and high concrete stairs with brick railings lead to the front of the building. A unique feature of the building is the book-like designs in the concrete between the first and second story windows. Windows have 6/1 lights and are framed by concrete.

The building's interior features plaster walls, wood doors and frames, and tiled concrete floors. There are enclosed stairways at each end of the building, and interior hallways run lengthwise down the center of the rows of classrooms and offices.

Oglebay Hall's Neo-Classical Revival style is based to a large extent on Roman architectural designs. The pediment and columns follow Roman designs. Massive pilasters at regular intervals on the facade and the symmetrical arrangement of the building follow the Neo-Classical Revival style. The common bond brick exterior and 6/1 light windows vary from usual Neo-Classical Revival features of smooth stone finishes and single-light windows.

The Colonial Revival Purinton House was completed in 1904 from designs by architect J. Charles Fulton. It maintains Neo-Classical Revival features

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which characterize buildings of the second period (c. 1900-1930) at West Virginia University and preserves a peaceful, homey atmosphere amid the busy, modern environment on WVU's downtown campus. The building's style is reminiscent of the educational tradition of old Virginia, which WVU educators identified with during this period of the institution's history.

The designer of Purinton House followed the pattern of Colonial Revival architecture through his use of classical architectural elements and the disproportionate size of the portico and roofline compared to the rest of the house. The widow's walk adds another flare of Colonial Revivalism after the Georgian mode. Yet, the coursed ashlar exterior finish is a contemporary touch.

On the east (main) facade, two Ionic wood columns are prominently centered on the porch of the building. Slate tile adorns the hip roof. A balustraded deck tops the roof, as do four low chimneys. Two wooden dormers with triangular pediments adorn the eastern and western roof slopes and the northwestern and southwestern corners of the roof. A swan's neck pediment rests on the front center of the roof with a palladian window in it. Triangular pediments form the gable ends (northern and southern ends). These feature scroll-shaped brackets. Scroll-like modillions support the eaves under the roof. A widow's walk tops the front portico, and another rests on the front and sides of the porch roof. Another palladian window is centered on the front of the second story. Smaller Ionic columns supplement the support of the portico and edge the expansive porch. Low steps lead to the front and sides of the porch. A door on the left front of the house and a garage to the left of the house were added in 1937. Four 1/1 windows are on each facade. The dormer windows have 4/1 lights. The windows are not original, but the stone lintels remain.

The interior has been extensively, but not irrevocably altered. The walls are plaster. Floors are carpeted hardwood. An enclosed staircase connects the three stories. Walls have been added to create more offices.

Stalnaker Hall, the first building at West Virginia University to be designed as a dormitory, was completed in 1918 with additions constructed in 1935. It symbolizes through its design the university's evolution from a local institution with private housing provided for its students to one of national scope with the accompanying necessity for university-owned housing for its students. It follows the trend toward Neo-Classical Revival designs in buildings at WVU and in buildings in general during this period. The use of a triangular pediment supported by columns and the elevated center portico evidence a Greek influence in the design.

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The exterior fabric is American bond brick. There are sixteen windows on the facade of each story of the original section. There are thirteen windows on each story of each of the wings. The windows have 6/1 lights and are arched on the first story in the original section. This building has three stories in the original section and two stories in the wings. The sections of the building that connect the original section and annexes are built in a stepped or terraced effect. A high basement lies beneath the building.

A concrete cornice edges the flat roof. The second and third stories are separated by a concrete belt course. Keystones top the windows. Brick corbelling forms pilasters that flank the center section. The portico pediment is marked by bracketed eaves, decorative concrete work, and a round window. On the architrave, the building's original name, Woman's Hall, is etched. Four Corinthian order columns support the pediment. Double windows mark the second story of the outer portions of the center section. The main door and its flanking windows are accentuated by swan's neck arches.

The interior of the building consists of plaster walls and tiled concrete floors. Interior hallways run lengthwise through each floor of the building with dormitory rooms lining the halls. Enclosed stairways rise at the ends and centers of the building sections. The lobby and lounge areas on the floors of the center section (see floor plans) are the major public spaces in the building, although little has been altered anywhere in the building. There is a cafeteria in the basement.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				State History

1918/39

Specific dates 1928, 1904-5, 1918, Builder/Architect Multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

INTRODUCTION: Elizabeth Moore Hall, Purinton House, Oglebay Hall, and Stalaker Hall at West Virginia University represent a second period of building development which occurred during West Virginia's progressive era; the buildings maintain features of the Neo-Classical Revival architectural style which is characteristic of WVU's buildings and early twentieth-century architecture in general while testifying to an expansion at the university that included centralizing student facilities on campus, having the university provide these services, and providing for an increased role for women at WVU. The second period of building development was the culmination of the firm establishment of professionalism at the university and signaled that WVU, as an educational institution, had passed beyond the period of merely local importance.

This second period of building development was preceded by an earlier building period at West Virginia University. During the initial period. The location of the university's first buildings determined the permanent site of the main campus near downtown Morgantown in the 1860s and 1870s. Building development revived near the turn of the century after a period of conservatism and frugality in state government. The conservative period was marked by a resentment of the univeristy as a product of the Liberal Republican administrations that controlled state government in the early post-Civil War years. The revival of the building program was a manifestation of the progressive sentiment in state government during the first two decades of the twentieth-century. An increase in professionalism, the role of women, and the national reputation of WVU characterized this period. The construction of Elizabeth Moore Hall and Stalaker Hall reflected the increased need for facilities for women students and the new realization of their role at the institution. Purinton House resulted from the perceived need that the university had to provide a home for its president to attract quality administrators and to centralize the administration on the campus. Oglebay Hall's purpose was to provide modern facilities to carry-on WVU's original function as a land-grant agricultural research and training institution. This period of growth was followed by a third period of building expansion to accomodate the influx of veterans and increased scientific and industrial research after World War II. This growth was aided by a new era of liberalism in state government and the 1930s and portions of the 1940s and 1950s. A new availability of federal funds added to the possibilities of growth during the third and fourth building periods. The fourth building period was a manifestation of the federal aid available as a result of the educational programs of John F. Kennedy's New Frontier and Lyndon B. Johnson's Great

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Society. An increase in dormitory, athletic, and cultural facilities marked this period.

The buildings at WVU reflect traditional collegiate architectural designs. Three buildings from this period stand as remarkable architectural examples. They collectively form the nucleus of the original campus, known as Woodburn Circle, and have been entered on the National Register of Historic Places. Of these buildings, Woodburn Hall has a Second Empire style, Martin Hall exhibits Renaissance Revival qualities, and Chitwood Hall has Italianate traits. A fourth building, Stewart Hall has also been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. It belongs to the second period of building development at WVU, but its Romanesque Revival architectural style was popular during the university's first building period.

The four buildings listed in this nomination - Elizabeth Moore Hall, Purinton House, Oglebay Hall, and Stalnaker Hall - heavily reflect the Neo-Classical Revival style that was popular during the early 1900s. Elizabeth Moore Hall and Purinton House are tempered by definite Colonial or Georgian Revival elements. Neo-Classical Revival elements, with contemporary modifications, have remained popular in the designs of WVU buildings, as in such buildings as the 1960s Mountainlair on the main campus and the 1950s Basic Sciences Building on the Evansdale campus. The nomination of this thematic group of historically and architecturally significant buildings from the second building period is a logical follow-up to the listings of the significant first period buildings on the National Register of Historic Places.

Elizabeth Moore Hall, the woman's physical education building on the West Virginia University campus, was dedicated on November 28, 1928 after a long campaign by the West Virginia chapter of the American Association of University Women to provide a building and facilities especially for women students on the university campus; it has figured prominently in the progress of women in higher education in West Virginia, standing today as a landmark in the state's women's history. The building has functioned as a woman's physical education facility, social center, and dormitory.

Soon after its organization in 1921, the West Virginia chapter of the American Association of University Women began to advocate the establishment of a building for women on the West Virginia University campus. Efforts

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focused on attaining a physical education center as part of the building to women students in fulfilling their requirement of two years of physical education courses. The AAUW was significantly aided in its efforts by Lenna Lowe Yost. Yost was a West Virginia woman's suffrage leader, WCTU president, member of the Republican State Committee and Republican National Committee, first female member of the West Virginia Board of Education, and trustee of West Virginia Wesleyan College. Because of her efforts on behalf of the building, the state Board of Control recommended that the building be named after Mrs. Yost. However, she declined the honor.

The West Virginia University chapter of Mortar Board (the senior woman's honor society) suggested that the building be named for Elizabeth Moore, principal of Woodburn Female Seminary from 1865 to 1866; WVU would be built on the site of the seminary. The building, named after Moore, was constructed between 1926 and 1928. It was dedicated on November 28, 1928. The building was designed by the architectural firm of David, Dunlap, and Barney of Philadelphia. The interior was decorated by Mary Coggeshall and Annette Jukes of New York City with Mrs. Yost's advice.

The Moore family has figured prominently in the history of the building and West Virginia University. Elizabeth Moore's husband, James K. Moore, served as principal of Monongalia Academy, which stood on the present West Virginia University campus, from 1852 to 1864. The Moore's daughter, Susan Maxwell Moore, served as dean of women at WVU from 1903 to 1923.

The university physical education department occupied the building until 1938. In 1938, Edna Arnold, dean of women, moved her offices into the building and took control of the building. President Irvin Stewart created a special committee to supervise the building in 1945. Additional gymnasium and classroom space was added to the building in 1962. In recent years, the WVU Physical Plant has had charge of the building, with Dean Betty Boyd paying special attention to the building's needs and preservation.

As women received equal status at WVU, the building's uses became more coeducational. Over the years, E. Moore Hall, as it is popularly known, has served as a woman's physical education facility, women graduate students' dormitory, home of Mortar Board, YMCA, and dean of woman's office. Now, the building houses the offices for the Panhellenic Council and meeting space for campus organizations, the International Student Association, and facilities for swimming and dance classes. It has become a campus landmark.

Oglebay Hall, originally West Virginia University's agricultural building, represents the university's heritage as a land-grant institution established for the study of agricultural sciences; it stands at the center of

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the downtown campus and is one of the most imposing buildings on the university campus. Its plaza has become a center for ceremonies as well as a memorial to the USS West Virginia which sank during the Pearl Harbor attack.

The building was completed in 1918 and named for Board of Regents member E. W. Oglebay in order to induce a donation from Oglebay on behalf of the university. That ploy failed.

E. W. Oglebay was an influential West Virginia Republican who maintained his political base in Cleveland, Ohio, and allied himself with railroad magnate Sen. Stephen B. Elkins. He had a great interest in agriculture and owned a large farm near Wheeling which was eventually bestowed to the City of Wheeling for use as a park, while his mansion is now administered by Oglebay Institute as a museum. Oglebay was an alumnus and trustee Bethany College near Wheeling. Thus, he preferred to bestow gifts upon his alma mater. He donated a farm to the college and built Oglebay Hall of Agriculture on the Bethany campus. However, West Virginia University attempted to use its advantage as the state's leading agriculture research center to play upon Oglebay's interests in agriculture and generosity. As part of its effort to win his favor, WVU conferred an honorary doctorate on him in 1919.

An old barn in the rear of the building was converted into classroom space and named Oglebay Annex in 1934.* The College of Agriculture vacated Oglebay Hall in 1961 and moved to a new building on the Evansdale campus. Since 1962, Oglebay has been used for offices and classrooms and currently houses the psychology department. The mast and ship's bell from the USS West Virginia stand in front of the building and make that plaza a West Virginia memorial to its war dead.

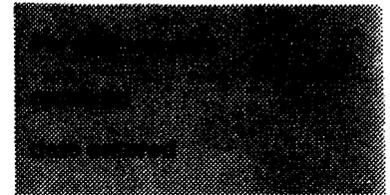
Purinton House, the first on-campus home of West Virginia University presidents, is a symbol of the university's growth; at the time of its construction, the university president needed an on-campus residence in order to keep constant vigilance on the school's expanding bureaucracy, but by 1967 the university had expanded to two campuses and the president moved his residence to a house near the newer Evansdale campus. The constant need for new office space for the expanding bureaucracy caused the house to be converted into an office building. Today, the house stands as a symbol of the university's history during the first decade of the twentieth-century, just as other buildings on WVU's downtown campus stand as symbols of the historic periods in which they were built.

University President Daniel B. Purinton ordered the construction of what would later be known as Purinton House in 1904 and 1905 as the first on-campus home for West Virginia University's president. Purinton had engaged in an

* The Annex is a noncontributing structure.

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extensive building program for the university, and critics of the building program expenditures attacked Purinton for constructing a house for his own use. Further criticism surfaced when Purinton was denied public funds to build the house but used private funds to begin construction anyway. Other controversies occurred because the price of the lot, which was offered for sale by WVU faculty member Dr. I. C. White, was considered excessive. Construction bogged down due to lack of funds, and Purinton used student fees to complete the house. The house cost \$42,611.94, with only \$13,000 paid from private sources. Purinton celebrated completion of the house on Thanksgiving Day, 1906 with a turkey dinner for the faculty members and their spouses. Another noteworthy event at the house was President William Howard Taft's address, "World Wide Speech," on November 2, 1911 from the front porch of Purinton House.

The proponent for the house, Daniel B. Purinton, served as president of West Virginia University from 1901 to 1911. He was born on February 15, 1850 in Preston County, West Virginia, the son of a Baptist minister. He graduated from WVU and received a doctorate from the University of Nashville. He became an instructor at WVU in 1873 and served as vice-president and acting president in 1881 and 1882. Purinton was president of Denison University from 1890 to 1901. He was married to Florence A. Lyon in 1876 and died on November 27, 1933 in Morgantown, West Virginia.

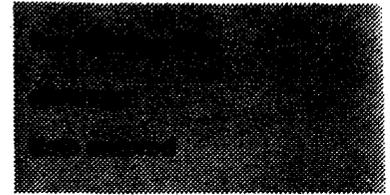
Today, the building houses offices for the Alumni Association, Vice-President for Institutional Advancement and his staff, and other administrative offices. The Alumni Association will vacate the building when the new alumni center, now under construction on the Evansdale campus, is completed.

Stalnaker Hall, originally known as Woman's Hall, holds a prominent place along with Elizabeth Moore Hall in understanding the history of women at West Virginia University; its history is also an important part of West Virginia University's story of expansion and the resulting need for increased dormitory space.

The first Women's Hall at West Virginia University was established in 1902 when an increasing enrollment of women at the university and a shortage in housing in the community, due to an influx of industrial workers, created a need for a women's dormitory. This dormitory was improvised from a house belonging to Dr. P. B. Reynolds on the present Campus Drive. This house only held fourteen students and a new residence hall was soon needed. The state legislature resisted funding a new dormitory. Therefore, the university leased Episcopal Hall at the intersection of Spruce and Willey streets in 1907. This building housed forty-two students.

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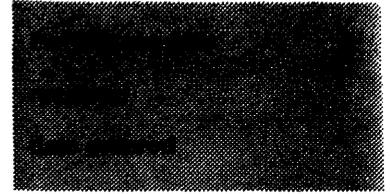
Stalnaker Hall, which became the first dormitory built especially for women students at West Virginia University, was completed in 1918. The building acquired its name from Elizabeth M. Stalnaker, professor of philosophy and psychology during the early twentieth-century. This new building accommodated 253 students. Following World War I, the building filled to capacity, and nearby Boughner House was used as an annex until 1932.

Federal funds became available in 1932 to build additions onto the northern and southern ends of the building. These were completed in 1939.* The building served as a woman's dormitory until 1984, when the center section was closed because of fire code violations, structural failure, and a declining demand for residence hall space. The additions, which form an integral part of the total building and are almost fifty years old themselves, are still occupied as dorm space. Future plans for the building are unclear, but WVU hopes to renovate the building to continue to use it for housing.

* The additions were built from the plans of H. Rus Warne of Charleston, then West Virginia's most prominent architect.

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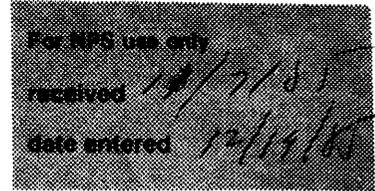
Core, Earl L. The Monongalia Story: A Bicentennial History. Vol. 3. Discord.
Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1979.

Core, Earl L. The Monongalia Story: A Bicentennial History. Vol. 4. Industrialization.
Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Co., 1982.

Elizabeth Moore Hall files collected by Dean Betty Boyd, Office of Student Affairs, WVU.

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name West Virginia University Neoclassical Revival Buildings TR
State Monongalia County, WV

Cover accept Patrick Andrews 12/19/85

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Moore, Elizabeth, Hall

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrews 12/19/85

Attest

2. Oglebay Hall

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrews 12/19/85

Attest

3. Purinton House

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrews 12/19/85

Attest

4. Stalnaker Hall

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrews 12/19/85

Attest

5.

Keeper

Attest

6.

Keeper

Attest

7.

Keeper

Attest

8.

Keeper

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest