

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
West Virginia

COUNTY:
Monongalia

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:

Woodburn Circle

AND/OR HISTORIC:

W.V.U. Quadrangle

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

University Avenue, West Virginia University

CITY OR TOWN:

Morgantown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Second

STATE

West Virginia

CODE

54

COUNTY:

Monongalia

CODE

061

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

West Virginia University

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Morgantown

STATE:

West Virginia

CODE

54

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Monongalia County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

High Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Morgantown

STATE:

West Virginia

CODE

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

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

MARTIN HALL

Martin Hall was completed in 1870 at a cost of \$22,855. It is a high 2½-story (plus basement) brick structure laid in a running bond and is in the Second Empire Eclectic style. The foundation is cut stone and is topped by a stone watertable. The northern facing front entrance is slightly projected from the rest of the facade and, like the corners, is marked with stone quoins. The entrance archway is adorned with stones similar to the quoins.

The first floor window tops are bowed while the second story windows are circularly headed. All have centered keystones; the central sectioned, second story window also has side lights.

The mansard roof is covered with slate shingles and adorned on all sides by arched dormers. Brackets support its intricate cornice. On the center of the roof rests a wooden octagonal-columned cupola with onion shaped dome. Until 1911 the Seth Thomas Clock, which is now in the Woodburn Hall tower, was housed in this open cupola.

WOODBURN HALL

The construction of Woodburn Hall started in 1874 and the central portion was completed in June 1876, at a cost of \$41,500. The north and south wings were designed by Elmer F. Jacobs and were completed in 1900 and 1911 respectively.

Like Martin Hall, it is laid in a running bond, has a slate-shingled, mansard roof, a bracketed roof cornice, and is Second Empire Eclectic in style. Its symmetric wings are topped with two dormers front and back and a small tower on the extreme ends. These dormers, as well as the dormer in the center of the main unit, are crowned with pediments; the dormers in the vestibules have arched tops.

The first floor windows are arched while those on the second floor are bowed.

The foundation and watertable are stone.

A small tower similar to the ones on the wings is placed to the rear of the main section. A larger, more elaborate one is affixed to the front. It is constructed of brick and is crowned by a cupola and clock tower.

CHITWOOD HALL

The three-storied (plus basement) Chitwood Hall is laid in a common bond, and the facade is decorated with equal brick quoins. The building was erected and equipped in the summer of 1893, completing the construction of Woodburn Circle. It faces Martin Hall and has a large arched entrance in front. The design in that arch is hand carved and is completed by a broom finish. Above the archway is a wrought iron balcony; above it are three round brick indentations. (The balcony to the rear of the building has been removed.)

Of the three main levels of windows, only the second story has arched tops; the first floor windows and the small third story windows are double hung.

The slate-shingled, hipped roof has a dormer toward the south with a

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1870, Martin; 1876, Woodburn; 1893, Chitwood

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> 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

Because of the age of its buildings and the near destruction of its property during the Civil War, Woodburn Circle is historically significant; because of the erudite influence its buildings have had over the lives of so many, it is educationally significant; and because of the beauty of the landscape, it is architecturally significant.

The building for which the district and one of its structures is now named was called Woodburn Female Seminary. In 1853, the Reverend John R. Moore and his wife Elizabeth came to Morgantown. Mr. Moore became principal of the Monongalia Academy and, during the first few years of his services, observed the lack of suitable education for girls. Consequently, he and Elizabeth established the much needed seminary. Elizabeth wanted to name the new institution "Woodburne," the name of a chief character in Sir Walter Scott's novel Guy Mannering. Because of a small stream running near the site, Reverend Moore thought it more appropriate to combine the first part of the name with the noun "burn," meaning "a streamlet in a shady glen." Mr. Moore then served as superintendent and Mrs. Moore filled the positions of lady principal, teacher of mental health, moral health, and mathematics.

In 1863, Confederate troops invaded Morgantown and attempted to burn the River Bridge. When this proved unsuccessful, they occupied the seminary grounds. The quick thinking Mrs. Moore calmly instructed officials to invite the soldiers in and to serve them bread, butter, and coffee. Because of this northern woman's "southern hospitality," the Confederates left without ruining the property.

In 1864, the Reverend Moore died, and within a few years, Mrs. Moore sold the Seminary to the owners of the Academy. In 1867, the combined properties were donated to the state, and by an act of the West Virginia Legislature, the Agricultural College of West Virginia was permanently established; on December 4, 1868, the name was changed to West Virginia University. The "university life" of the Woodburn Seminary building was shortlived, however, because in February 1873, the building was completely destroyed by fire.

The building now known as Woodburn Hall was built in 1876 on the same site as its name-sake. It was called New Hall at the time of its construction; however, in 1878, the name was changed to University Hall and finally to Woodburn Hall in 1902. Like so many university campus buildings, Woodburn Hall has been used for a variety of purposes, including commencements, music classes, and social science classes.

Although this beautiful building was built in 1876, it is not the oldest in Woodburn Circle; Martin Hall holds that distinction, since it was

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7. DESCRIPTION (Continued)

chimney to either side. A large, intricate cornice lies on a 45 degree angle with the facia and extends around all sides except the rear. It is joined to the brick by "egg and dart" moulding. Its wooden soffit also has detailed carving.

The building is late 19th century eclectic in style.

8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

built in 1870. It was first named University Hall, then in 1878, Preparatory Hall, and, finally, in 1899, Martin Hall in honor of Alexander Martin, the first president of West Virginia University.

The Scottish born Martin was a graduate of Allegheny College, an academy instructor and principal, a Methodist-Episcopal minister, and a hospital administrator during the Civil War before he came to Morgantown. In the eight years that he served as president, he became known as a "strict disciplinarian" and was responsible with increasing the size of enrollment. Disagreeing with the Board of Regents' decision to elect a president annually, Martin resigned to take the post of president at Depauw University. Ignoring the popular desire for him to return, he stayed on at Depauw until his death in 1893.

The Hatch Act in 1887 and the Second Morrill Act of 1890 gave West Virginia University an increase in expected funds. As a result, many of the present buildings were constructed. Among them were Mechanical Hall, Commencement (Reynolds) Hall, and Science Hall, the last of which was erected in 1893 becoming the newest member of the Woodburn Circle triumvirate. At first the rear section (the leg of the "T-shaped" structure) was two stories in height unlike the three-storied front section, but in 1909 a third floor was added, thus making the building equally high all around. By 1914, with the exception of two reception rooms occupied by the Department of Commerce, the entire building was used for physics and chemistry. One room was used entirely for the housing of the West Virginia State Standards of Weights and Measures. In the basement was the radio or "wireless" room which transmitted messages to and received messages from the Navy Station in Washington, D.C.

Commonly associated with Science Hall was the well-known scientist, humanitarian, and professor, Albert M. Reese, Ph.D. He came to the University in 1907 as associate professor of zoology after receiving his degrees from Johns Hopkins in 1898 and 1900. He then went on to become head of his department, bringing its standards up to national recognition. In addition to writing many scientific texts, he gained honors by acting as zoology collaborator with the Smithsonian Institution and being a member of one of its expeditions to the Orient. He also accompanied Carnegie Institution on an expedition to South America and became a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, and president of the West Virginia Academy of Science. He retired in 1946 and was awarded the "Order of Vandalia" in 1964 by West Virginia University.

In the summer of 1972, Science Hall was renamed Chitwood Hall in honor of Dr. Oliver P. Chitwood. Dr. Chitwood, who received his degrees from William

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8. SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

and Mary and Johns Hopkins, served as librarian at William and Mary, head master at Richard Academy, and professor at Mercer University before coming to W.V.U. In addition to his many scholastic awards, he is credited for writing or co-writing Justice in Colonial America; The Immediate Causes of the Great War; The United States, from Colony to World Power; Richard Henry Lee, Statesman of the Revolution; and A History of Colonial America. The last has been used as a college text for colonial history classes.

Among the great names associated with Woodburn Hall is James Morton Callahan. After residence and study in Indiana, Dr. Callahan attended Johns Hopkins University. In 1902 he began his long career at West Virginia University, for in that year he was named chairman of the department of history and political science. Adding to his duties as teacher, Dr. Callahan served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1916 to 1929 and continued active instruction until the early 1940's. Even then he did not resign himself to retirement; he was involved in research until his death in 1956. Primarily known as a diplomatic historian, Dr. Callahan deserves increased recognition for the part he played in developing state and local history. He was of the opinion that local history illustrates the fundamental principles of community life in the simplest terms possible and believed that progress should be made from the regional scene to national and world history. Among his volumes are History of the Making of Morgantown, West Virginia: A Type Study in Trans-Appalachian Local History, History of West Virginia, The United States and Canada, and The Monroe Doctrine and Inter-American Relations.

Woodburn Circle, a distinct group of structures separated from much of the main campus of West Virginia University by University Avenue on the east, Stadium Bridge on the north, Mountaineer Field (football stadium) on the west, and a driveway, parking lot and hill on the south, has been the academic center and geographic landmark of the University since its inception. The buildings, constructed on the original grounds granted the state after the Civil War, formed the core as the school grew from its one major, all-purpose unit (Martin Hall) in 1870 to a multi-dimensional status by the late 1890's with three central buildings (the present Circle group) and an agricultural experiment station. As time passed, the cluster always remained the center of the campus and continued to be regarded as the original focal point from which the school grew. Now the oldest group of buildings of the institution, Woodburn Circle remains as the base of academic and geographic identity of an expanding, many-faceted complex.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Callahan, James Morton. History of the Making of Morgantown, West Virginia. Morgantown, W.Va.: West Virginia University Studies in History, 1926.

Ambler, Charles H. A History of Education in West Virginia. Huntington, W.Va.: Standard Printing and Publishing Co., 1951. (pp. 101-02, 294-356, 501-49)

West Virginia University Catalogues, 1867-1972.

Reports of the President and Board of Regents, West Virginia University, 1898-1908.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minytes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39 ° 38 ' 09 "	79 ° 57 ' 18 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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: George A. Smyth, Architect, Ted McGee, Field Agent, & James E. Harding, Research Analyst

ORGANIZATION: West Virginia Antiquities Commission DATE: February 24, 1974

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 c-riteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Leonard M. Davis
Leonard M. Davis

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date October 29, 1974

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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COUNTY Monongalia	
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PROPERTY MAP FORM (Continued)

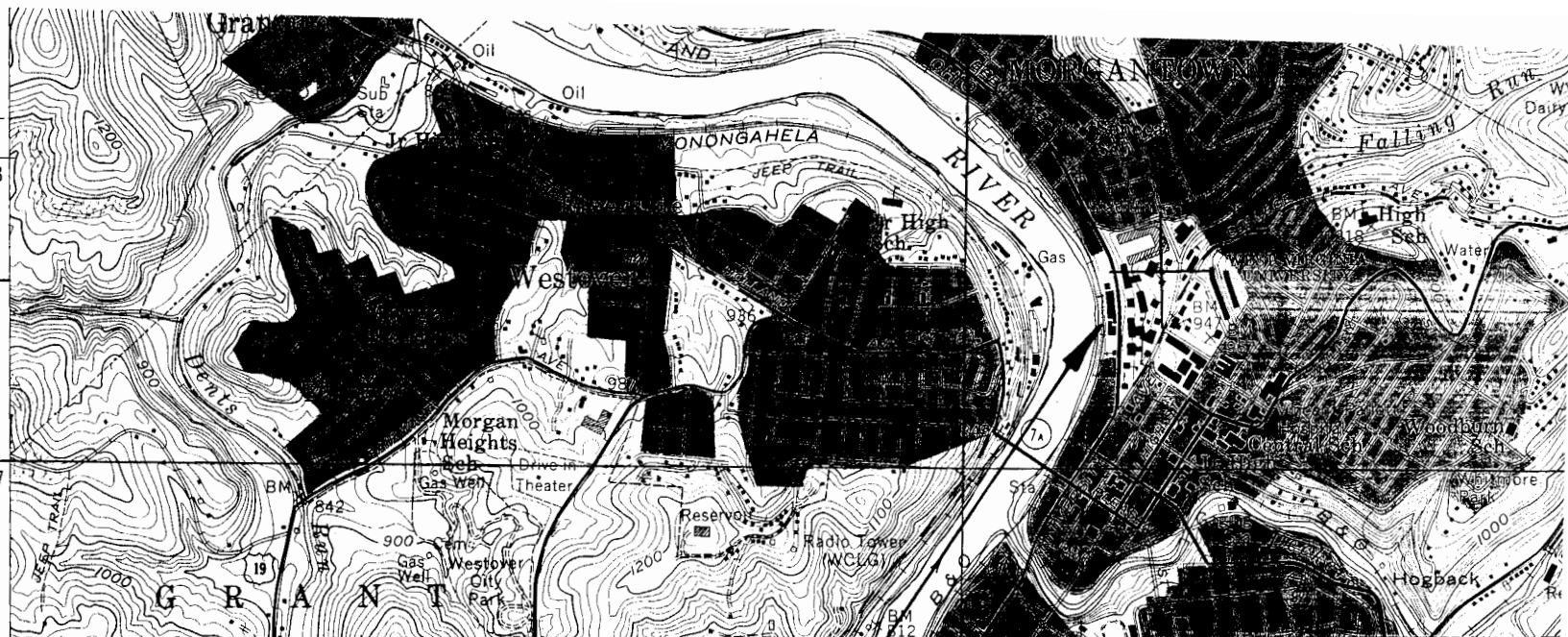
Now located at the northwestern end of the main campus of West Virginia University, Woodburn Circle is separated from much of the rest of the area by thoroughfares and natural geographic features. On the east it faces University Avenue, a heavily traveled street which cuts it from the eastern portions of the campus. To the north is Stadium Bridge which traverses a deep ravine and passes behind Mountaineer Field, the football stadium which forms a barrier to the Circle on the west. Finally, the buildings are further concentrated in their own niche by the driveway, parking lot and steep hill located to the south.

WOODBURN CIRCLE
MONONGALIA COUNTY
WEST VIRGINIA
UTM REFERENCE:
17/561660 /4381650

79°57'18.5"

39°37'30"

(RIVESVILLE)
4963 11 SE



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsh plotter
Aerial photographs taken 1955. Field check 1957

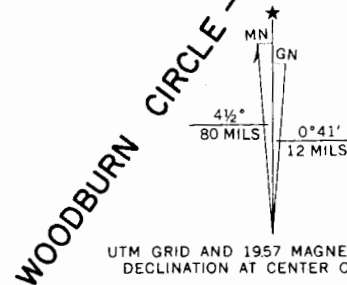
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on West Virginia coordinate system,
north zone, and Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 17, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines
visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Contours in strip mine areas from 1955 photography

Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown

Unchecked elevations are shown in brown



UTM GRID AND 1957 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

39°38'09"



CONTOUR
DATUM

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHY



