

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JAN 8 1979

DATE ENTERED

MAR 12 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Stevens Hall

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Corner of Campus and Administration Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Pullman

VICINITY OF

5th - Thomas S. Foley

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Washington

53

Whitman

065

75

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Washington State University (State of Washington)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Pullman

VICINITY OF

STATE

Washington

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Whitman County Auditor's Office,

STREET & NUMBER

Whitman County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Colfax

STATE

Washington

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Washington State Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

January, 1975

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

Olympia

STATE

Washington

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at the heart of Washington State University's campus in Pullman, Washington, Stevens Hall is an imposing women's residence hall designed in a neo-colonial mode. Its multiple gabled and gambrel roof formations, its expansive verandah, and its partial shingle siding characterize it more specifically as an example of the Shingle Style. Designed by the Seattle architectural firm of Stephens and Josenhans and completed in 1896, Stevens Hall has long been a familiar landmark on the university campus.

Stevens Hall is situated at the corner of Campus Avenue and Administration Road and is oriented toward the north and west. Although it lies near the center of the original campus a mixture of old and recent construction now surrounds the dormitory. Directly to the east is a new brick academic building which houses the English Department. Across Administration Road to the southwest is Thompson Hall, the original administration building. Stevens itself measures roughly 154 by 90 feet and ranges from two and one-half to three and one-half stories in height. Its site slopes to the west toward more recent areas of campus development.

The ground story of Stevens Hall is constructed of native basaltic rock used also to form the massive verandah posts and, originally, a carriageway at the southeast corner of the building. The first and second stories are faced with hard-fired red brick quarried from clay deposits on campus. Sawn cedar shingles from the Puget Sound area originally covered the third and fourth story gable and roof surfaces. Other features of note characterized the early appearance of the dormitory. Above the verandah was an open deck and a sunporch with French doors, now enclosed to provide additional living space. Segmental arch window openings and various elements of exterior millwork, including cornice returns and dentil courses, are still intact. The north elevation features a columned portico at the formal entrance, now somewhat modified in design. At various locations in the gables of the uppermost story are lunette windows now obscured by composition shingle siding.

Through the north entryway one enters an extensive reception hall. To the left, a newel staircase leads up to sleeping rooms and down to what was originally dining and recreation areas. To the right the reception hall opens into the formal living room. Straight ahead of the entryway is a broad hallway extending the full length of the building and providing access to living quarters, bath facilities and service areas. The second and third stories are occupied by additional student rooms and bath facilities.

To conform with fire codes and the changing needs of a student dormitory, alterations were made to Stevens Hall at various intervals over the years. The carriageway was removed in the 1940's to make garbage collection easier and to facilitate parking behind the building. A small dependency behind the dorm, originally a storage shed for horse and carriage gear, has been condemned although it remains in place, partially hidden from view by a raised driveway. A door was added to the building's south facade in the 1920's when a portion of the ground floor was used as a counseling center. Fire escapes have been appended to the exterior elevations detracting from the structure's visual appeal. Removal of the French doors of the sunporch, and replacement of cedar shingle roofing and siding with composition shingles has been mentioned above, as has the alteration of the north entryway. There a balustrade above the portico has been removed, Doric columns have been replaced by squared posts, and wooden steps have been replaced by cement.

The interior of the dormitory has also been altered over the years to accommodate more and larger sleeping rooms. Stevens initially housed 50 women and now accommodates slightly over 100. For this reason the kitchen and dining room on the ground floor have been remodelled. The preceptress's room on the first floor has been converted to a television/

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guest room and a men's restroom has been installed. In 1958, Stevens was closed for a full year to make extensive interior alterations to bring the building up to code. Stairways were enclosed, recessed doorways were changed, and rounded corners in hallways were squared. Bedrooms were enlarged and bathrooms were renovated. In spite of its interior and exterior changes, the comfortable, homey appearance of the dormitory remains intact.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1895 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Stephens & Josenhans, architects

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stevens Hall is significant as the oldest dormitory and the second oldest building still standing on the campus of Washington State University today. In 1893 President Enoch Bryan of the newly-founded Washington State Agricultural College approached the Board of Regents with the need to provide housing for the young women of the college, many of whom were being housed at the time in Ferry Hall, the men's dormitory. The following year, the State Legislature appropriated \$20,000 to cover the cost of building, heating, lighting and furnishing a girl's dormitory.

The contract for the design of the new facility was awarded to Stephens and Josenhans, a Seattle architectural firm. Although little is known of Stephens, the senior partner of the firm, his associate Timotheus Josenhans received his degree from the University of Michigan and briefly studied with William LeBaron Jenney, well-known Chicago engineer and architect. The firm is also credited with the design of W.S.U.'s Old Administration Building, Thompson Hall (National Register, 1973).

Stephens and Josenhans's bid of \$15,198, excluding architects' fees, excavation, heating, lighting and plumbing, was accepted by the Board of Regents. A foundation was laid for the new dormitory in the summer of 1895 and the building was completed by the end of the school year in 1896. The Board of Regents named the building after Isaac Stevens, first territorial governor, in a ceremony that took place in October of 1896. As with other early buildings on campus, Stevens Hall reflected the new president's taste in campus design. When the dormitory was complete it was heralded as "the most attractive building on campus". Eastern Washington newspapers described it as representing "the old colonial style of architecture". The campus newspaper published a rendering of the new building complete with trees, shrubs and lawns that did not actually appear for many years.

Since its construction Stevens Hall has served not only as a women's residence hall but also as the social center of the campus. For many years receptions were held at Stevens after each major athletic event. Dinners were given here annually for faculty and administrative leaders. State conventions often met in the drawing room in the early days and a number of distinguished guests were entertained at various times. Among these were Dr. Maria Sanford who was called "the best loved woman in Minnesota"; Helen Keller and her remarkable teacher Ann Sullivan; the French artist Brenda Franklin; Prince Hubertus Loewenstein, a political dissident of World War II; and Jacqueline Kennedy.

Many of Stevens visitors and residents donated tea cups to the hall collection which was started by Anna Constance Hoig, a housemother. The collection includes some items three and four hundred years old, and is displayed in a cabinet of Cuban mahogany constructed on campus under the direction of President Bryan. Various elements of furniture were donated to the hall over the years and contribute to its atmosphere of warmth and dignity. Among these is a hand-carved grandfather clock of cherry transported from Spokane by team and wagon. The clock was purchased for the dormitory by a group of male students who had

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Agricultural College, Experiment Stations and School of Science of the State of Washington 1896, WSU Library.
 Bryan, Enoch A., Historical Sketch of the State College of Washington, 1890-1925, (Pullman: Alumni and the Associated Students, 1928).
 Caudill, Rowlett, Scott, Architectural Planners-Engineers, Comprehensive Plan, Facilities Planning, WSU.

continued on attached sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1 1	4 8 7 3 8 0	5 1 7 5 1 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is a rectangle approximately 130' by 170' in dimension: bounded on the north by a line parallel to and 90' south of the south curb of Canyons Avenue; on the east by a line running midway between Stevens and Avery Halls; on the south by the south curb of a driveway at the rear of Stevens Hall; and on the west by the east curb of Administratic Road, on the Washington State University Campus in Pullman, Washington.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

Edited by: Florence K. Lentz
 Office of Archaeology & Historic Pres.,
 Olympia, Washington (206) 753-1707

NAME / TITLE

Vera Morgan, student

ORGANIZATION

Department of Anthropology, WSU

DATE

January, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Pullman

STATE

Washington

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Jeanne M. Welch

TITLE

Rep. A. N. 20

DATE 12-25-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

[Signature]

DATE

3/12/79

ATTEST:

Bill Lebowich

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

March 9, 1979

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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damaged hall furniture in a panty raid incident.

Through the years at Stevens Hall a set of customs has evolved which belong to no other hall on campus. Each year on March 25 the birthday of Governor Stevens is celebrated with a formal dinner and special ceremonies. An effort is always made to host an honored guest, one who has been a former resident of the dorm or who has witnessed the growth of the university over the years. Other traditions peculiar to Stevens include a flag collection and many songs, poems and stories. A hall historian is charged with recording the traditions and history of the dormitory. The first historian was elected in 1918, and since that time many of the early records, scrapbooks, photographs and hall meeting minutes have been housed in the Archives, Manuscripts, and Special Collections of the W.S.U. Library.

Presently the future of Stevens Hall may be in danger. A comprehensive plan recently developed to guide the growth of the university campus indicates that Stevens will be removed between 1980 and 1990. As the oldest extant residence hall on the W.S.U. campus, Stevens Hall is a dignified reminder of the university's beginnings, and deserves to be honored and protected as such.

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Stephen & Josenhans, "Specifications of the Girls Dorm", 1894, Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections, WSU Library.

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