

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Delaware	
COUNTY: New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Old College Historic District

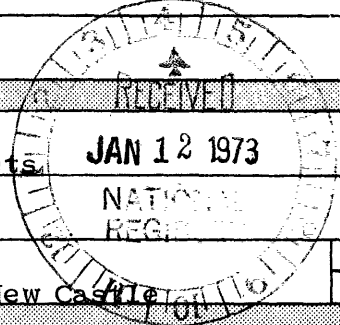
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Delaware College

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Northeast Corner of Main and College Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Newark

STATE: Delaware CODE: 10 COUNTY: New Castle CODE: 003



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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
University of Delaware

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Newark STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Public Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
Rodney Square

CITY OR TOWN: Wilmington STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER: JUN 4 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE:

7 DESCRIPTION

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

This small group of buildings, standing on the north side of Main Street in Newark, formed the nucleus, and until the present century, the entire campus of Delaware College. As the college grew to university status, the campus expanded to the opposite side of Main Street, where the principal activities of the University of Delaware now are centered. Old College and its subsidiary buildings continue, however, to be an integral part of the University of Delaware. Refer to the sketch map herewith for location and orientation of the various structures, described below in chronological order of their role in the history of the institution.

Old College

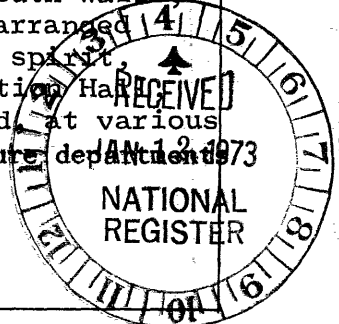
2/10/73

Old College is perhaps the most impressive structure in the original Delaware College complex. Its central portion, the oldest part, is graced by a full flight of stairs surmounted by a Greek-Revival portico with fluted columns, an entablature with triglyphs, and a blank pediment. A single central doorway permits entry into the two-story main hall. Detailing in the hall included a paneled wall, splayed window casings, and paneled wainscot. The trim is dog-eared and split pediments surmount the doorways. To the rear of the hall is situated a suite of music-department practice rooms, within the main block of the original structure. To either side of the original building are wings that terminate in three-bay pedimented gables. Porches on these extensions duplicate the design of the main portico on a smaller scale. Pilasters originally separated the bays of the main structure, but they were removed when the extensions were added; these pilasters originally ran from the belt course which separates the basement from the main story to the eave line. The belt course survives, and has been continued in the extension. The extensions were added in 1901 and 1902 under the direction of architect (R. A. Whittingham). Brickwork on the original structure and in the wings is laid in five-course common bond throughout. In 1917, Old College was virtually rebuilt, to assume its present appearance.

Recitation Annex

Recitation Annex is, as the name implies, a subsidiary building overshadowed by its similar neighbor, Recitation Hall. It is built of brick, laid in seven-course common bond. First-floor windows are surmounted by segmental arches. The roof is hipped, with jerkin-headed dormers; there are two dormers on the north and south walls, and three on the front and rear walls. The interior is arranged around a center hall on both floors. In both detail and spirit, Recitation Annex compliments its larger neighbor, Recitation Hall, which is similar in detail and in feeling. It has served at various times to house the physics, physical education, and agriculture departments of the University of Delaware.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

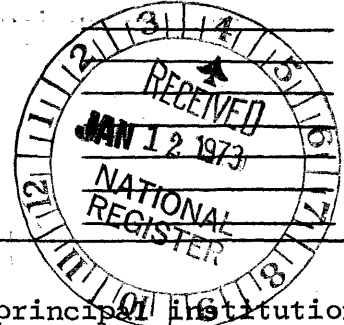
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The University of Delaware is today the principal institution of higher learning in the State. Although it has held this position for a half-century or more, the institution's earlier history was marked by a series of crises that sometimes threatened its very existence.

Old College, and the subsidiary structures that surround it, stand as reminders of the struggles and sacrifices that produced the present institution. Although the old Delaware College buildings still are an integral part of the University complex, the center of activity has moved to the new campus buildings farther to the south.

Old College

Old College has dominated the hill above Main Street since 1833, but Delaware College had its beginnings nearly a century earlier. Francis Alison, pastor of the New London Church in Chester County, Pennsylvania, began the school in a small way in his home.

The Presbyterian Synod of Philadelphia had planned to open a seminary in 1739, but the war with Spain interfered with fund-raising efforts. As an alternative, the Synod adopted Alison's school as its own in 1743. Nine years later, Alison left to become professor of moral philosophy at Philadelphia Academy. After a brief stay in Maryland, the school was transferred to Newark in 1764. Thomas and Richard Penn, the proprietors, granted the academy a charter two years later. Contributions solicited from the Penns and from others in England, including Lord North and Samuel Johnson, enabled the trustees to start an endowment fund.

The Revolution and subsequent unsettled conditions forced the school to close from 1777 to 1780 and again from 1796 to 1799. Shortly after the school was revived, the trustees began to plan for its expansion into a college. In 1818, they were authorized to raise money through a lottery and in 1821 through a tax on stage lines and steamboats. In 1833, New Ark College was chartered, and construction of the present Old College was begun. The academy trustees, searching for an architect, settled on a design by Charles Bulfinch of Boston, the Architect of the Capitol. The trustees'

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

ND

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lewis, William D. "University of Delaware: Ancestors, Friends and Neighbors." Delaware Notes. 34th Series. Newark: University of Delaware, 1961.

Munroe, John A. "Albert Newton Raub and the Administration of Delaware College 1888-1896." Delaware Notes, 21st Series. Newark: University of Delaware, 1948.

Meisel, Jacquelin C. Old College: The first building at the University of Delaware... Unpublished paper, University of Delaware, May 1971.

Ward, Christopher. A Brief History of the University of Delaware. Newark: University of Delaware, 1940.

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 Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	39° 41' 07"	75° 45' 11"		0	0	
NE	39° 41' 07"	75° 45' 06"				
SE	39° 40' 59"	75° 45' 06"				
SW	39° 40' 59"	75° 45' 11"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Ten acres**

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: Rosemary Troy, Graydon Wood, Vincent Rogers, Richard Schmidt, Edward Heite

ORGANIZATION: Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs DATE: July 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: Hall of Records

CITY OR TOWN: Dover STATE: Delaware CODE: 10

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

National State Local

Name: Grover A. Biddle
 Grover A. Biddle (Acting Director)
 Assistant Secretary of State

Title: _____

Date: May 11, 1973

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST:

Michael J. Ford
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/31/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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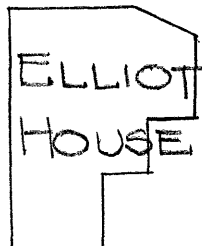
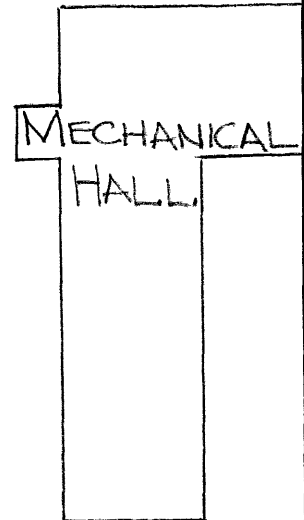
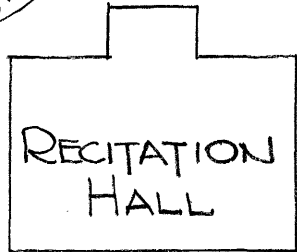
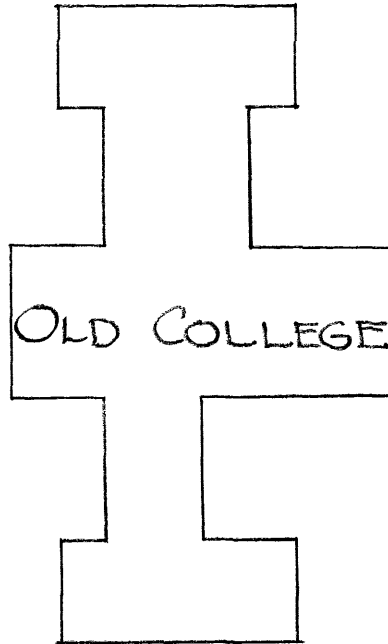
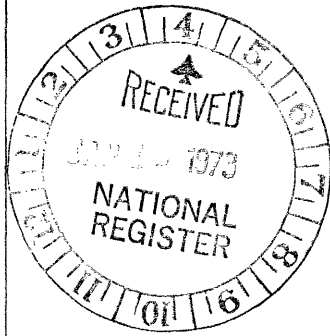
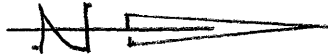
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

7. Description (continued, page 4)

DELAWARE
COLLEGE



MAIN
STREET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Delaware	
COUNTY	
New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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	JUN 4 1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION (continued, page 3)---

level and on the west gable end. Two dormers break the roof on each side of the main section.

Elliott Hall

Elliott Hall, a two-and-a-half-story brick structure with a four-bay south frontage, stands on Main Street at the east end of the Delaware College district. The south facade is laid in Flemish bond, with a belt course below the second-floor windows and a quarter-round water-table below the door sill level. The entrance, sheltered by a portico, is situated in the west center bay. A two-bay stuccoed wing extends the building to the east. A brick rear wing has been added and enlarged to create a curious splayed endwall at the northwest corner of the house. A small dependency, laid in common bond, has been incorporated into the northeast corner of the main structure. Most of the rear and side walls are stuccoed, but common-bond brickwork can be detected throughout. The main body of the house is two rooms deep with a central hallway; the west rooms are one bay wide, while the east rooms are two bays wide. Corner fireplaces occur in all four rooms. Detailing in the main first-floor rooms includes bull's-eye corner blocks and splayed window casings, while the hall and second-floor rooms are much simpler. Disposal of the second floor is patterned after the first, but a room occupies the front portion of the hallway. Alterations include the addition of a vestibule and closet in the southwest room and a hallway through the northeast room, in the first floor.



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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Delaware	
COUNTY	New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	3114	DATE
	JUN 4	1973

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)---

Recitation Hall

Recitation Hall is a large brick building laid in common bond, which rests on cut gray stone footings. It is embellished with a stone belt course, brick segmental-arched window openings, and a deep moulded cornice. The mansard roof is pierced by hip-roofed dormers. The front, or west, is dominated by a newer brick extension that terminates in a Georgian-revival portico, surmounted by a Palladian window, and fronted by Roman Doric columns. To either side of this Georgian-revival addition extend three bays of the original structure, which have been somewhat modified. The rear, or east, facade is eight bays wide; each window, except in the end bays, is doubled. A fire escape obscures the center bays of the east facade. The extension contains an entry and a stairway, which provides the major vertical circulation. On each floor a center hallway leads back from the stair entry to a cross hallway, into which open the classrooms, offices, and studios of the University art department.

Mechanical Hall

Standing behind Old College and Recitation Annex is Mechanical Hall, a two-story brick structure with low-pitched gables. The building is faced throughout with Flemish bond, and features scroll-cut exposed rafters at the eaves. The present structure is a fourteen-bay rectangle with an extended stair tower and a single-story rear wing of seven bays and two gables. The detailing on Mechanical Hall is simple, with exposed structural members in several parts of the building.

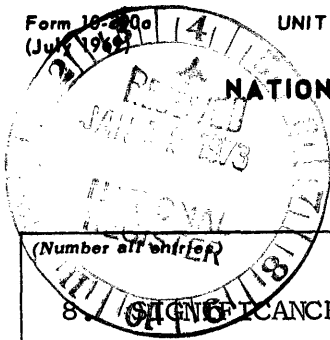
Alumni Hall

Alumni Hall is a two-and-a-half-story brick structure, three bays wide and two rooms deep. A side hall to the east provides the major communication, and an open stairway is located to the rear. Leading to the south, or front, from the hallway is an elaborate doorway surmounted by a fanlight and flanked by sidelights. Interior detailing includes bulls-eye corner blocks and splayed, paneled window casings on the first floor. The disposal of the second floor is typical of Delaware side-hall houses; the two major rooms are stacked above their counterparts below, and a third room occupies the front portion of the second-floor hall. Detailing is simpler on the second floor, and the window casings are not splayed. Two lower wings are joined to the main body of the house. A cross-axis rear wing contains the former kitchen and rooms above. A wing to the east containing a three-bay, story-and-a-half room, continues the main axis of the house. Both wings, as well as the rear of the main house, are stuccoed. The south facade is laid in Flemish bond; five-course common bond occurs below the first floor

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Delaware	
COUNTY New Castle	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued, page 3)---

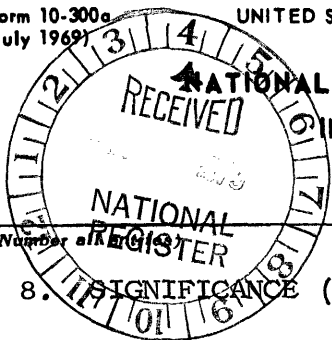
Alumni Hall

Two houses to the east of the college complex have long been associated with the institution's development, even before they became a part of its campus. Alumni Hall was built in 1809 by Dr. Palmer Chamberlain, who lived there until his death in 1867. His widow continued to live there, and to endure the pranks of the Delaware College students next door. Joseph Cleaver, a student in 1854, noted in his diary that Mrs. Chamberlain's shoat fell into the college well. "Her experience being what it has been, she smells the handiwork of College boys and wants us all flogged on the principle that if everyone is punished you will not missed the guilty one." In spite of his sometimes strained relations with the students, Palmer Chamberlain was closely associated with the college; he served as a trustee for many years. His daughter, Hannah, operated a school in the college building during the time it was closed, from 1859 to 1870. Later, in 1873, she became the principal of Newark Academy, which had resumed its existence as a separate institution. John Watson Evans, who bought the Chamberlain house in 1870, was also a trustee of Delaware College. After the house became the property of Delaware College in 1909, it served as the library. Under the name of Purnell Hall, it housed faculty offices until it recently was renovated for use by the alumni association

Elliott Hall

Elliott Hall, one of the oldest buildings in Newark, and the oldest dated one, was built during the American Revolution by Alexander McBeath. On September 3, 1777, the British and American forces clashed at Cooch's Bridge; five days later, the British marched through Newark, where workmen were putting the roof on McBeath's house. Three years earlier, in 1774, the land on which the house was built had been given by Morgan Edwards to the Newark Academy. Edwards, the historian of the Baptist denomination in the middle states, is said to have been the only Baptist minister in the colonies who remained loyal to the Crown. The eastern third of the house is a nineteenth-century addition, constructed of a peculiar brick produced in the Evans brick yard at Newark. The same material was used in St. Thomas Episcopal Church, built in 1843, and in Oaklands, the Wilson house, at the same time. The Elliott Hall addition is thought to date from the same period. During the nineteenth century, ownership of the property passed through several hands. James S. Martin, who built the Deer Park Hotel nearby, was one of the owners. Benjamin S. Caulk bought the house, and left it to his daughter and her husband, John L. Elliott, whose name it now bears.

In 1915, the college acquired Elliott Hall and the large tract across the street, where a new campus for the University of Delaware was begun.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Delaware	
COUNTY	New Castle	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		JUN 4 1973

8. SIGNIFICANCE (continued, page 2)---

minutes for April 1826 record a payment of three state lottery tickets (worth about \$20) to Bulfinch. Since this honorarium did not meet Bulfinch's considerably higher fees, his plan was never implemented. In 1831, the trustees retained Winslow Lewis of Boston to supervise the construction of a college building. Lewis was a lighthouse builder and an inventor, but he was not an architect; nonetheless, his plan for the college resulted in the first Greek Revival structure in Delaware. Old College was repaired and altered in 1901, when wings were added at each side under the direction of R.A. Whittingham.

Recitation Annex

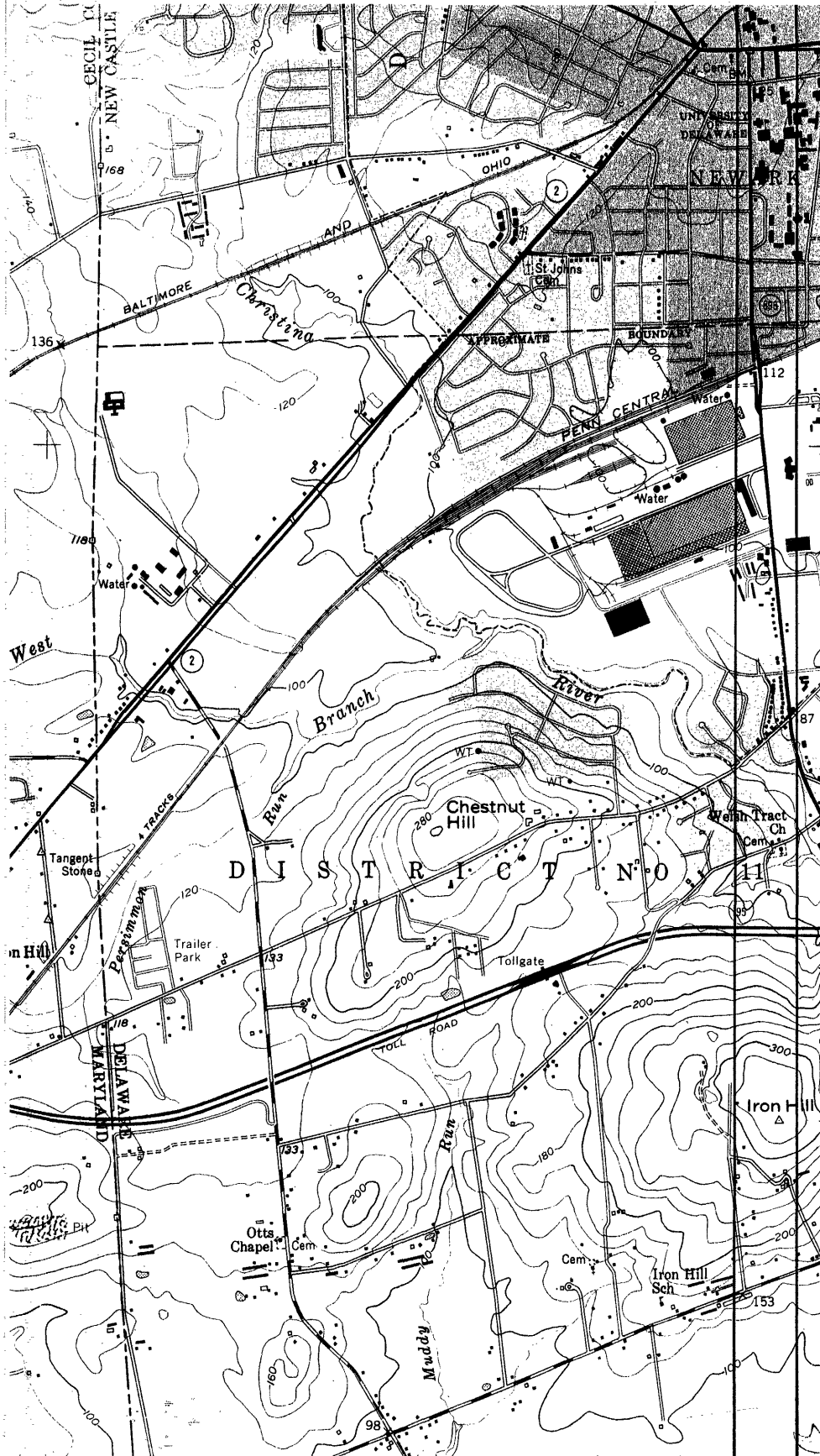
After a period of mismanagement, Delaware College began to expand under the leadership of Alfred Newton Raub, its president between 1888 and 1896. The academy had become a separate institution, and Federal assistance allowed the college to expand its curriculum into new fields. Recitation Annex, built in 1888 as an agricultural experiment station, was the first physical expression of this new expansion.

Recitation Hall

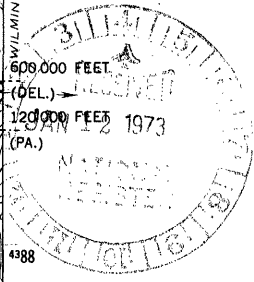
When the General Assembly awarded Delaware's share of the Land Grant Act allocation to Delaware College in 1867, the institution became the official recipient of Federal educational assistance in the State. The New Morrill Act of 1891 further increased its resources, and enabled Dr. Raub to initiate new programs of technical education. Increased faculty salaries, tuition-free education for Delawareans, and improved equipment, were the key to Dr. Raub's expansion program. A State appropriation of \$25,000 permitted the construction of Recitation Hall in 1891. As built, Recitation Hall reflected the design created by Frank Furness, one of the leading architects of his day, who may have built the smaller Recitation Annex in 1888. In spite of its present Greek Revival portico, Recitation Hall remains essentially the same building that the firm of Furness and Evans designed.

Mechanical Hall

Construction of Mechanical Hall began in 1904, and was completed seven years later. It was built to serve the young Department of Engineering, one of the new curricula that Dr. Raub had fostered. Soon after his arrival in the presidency, Dr. Raub began to build courses of study that would more adequately serve the needs of Delaware students. In 1889, the trustees declared that "the time has come to make some provision for the benefit of the Mechanic Arts." With Federal funds from the New Morrill Act, the college hired a full-time civil engineering professor.

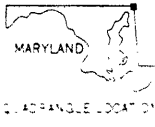


39°41'07"
 39°40'59"
 Delaware College



47°30" 433 400 000 FEET (DEL.) 2 560 000 FEET (PA.) 435 000 m. 39°37'30"
 1.3 MI. TO U.S. 40 ● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 1972 75°45'

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 1964
 Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty
 Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt
 ○ State Route



NEWARK WEST, MD.—DEL.—PA.
 NE/4 ELKTON 15' QUADRANGLE
 N3937 5—W7545/7.5