04B

NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)

United States Department of Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in*How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900A). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Nelson Hall other names/site number N/A

2. Location

| street & number | 1209 Fremont Street | N/A | not for publication |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----|---------------------|
| city or town | Stevens Point | N/A | Vicinity |
| state Wisconsin | code WI county Portage | | zip code 54481 |

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{X} nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \underline{X} meets _ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _ nationally statewide X_ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mohan / // //

Signature of certifying official/Title State Historic Preservation Officer-WI

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property_meets_does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

May 1, 2015

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

| Nelson Hall | | Portage | Wisconsin |
|---|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Name of Property | | County and State | |
| 4. National Park Servic | e Certification | | |
| I hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. | El | on A. Beall | 6/22/05 |
| determined not eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. removed from the National | | ······································ | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| Register. other, (explain:) | $\int \frac{1}{2\pi h}$ | | |
| | Signature of th | he Keeper | Date of Action |
| 5. Classification | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | <u> </u> |
| Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as | Category of Property (Check only one box) | Number of Resources with (Do not include previously l | |
| as apply) private public-local | X building(s) district | | ontributing ldings |
| X public-State | structure | sit | es |
| public-Federal | site object | | uctures jects |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | <u>10 tota</u> | - |
| Name of related multiple pro Enter "N/A" if property not p | | Number of contributing re is previously listed in the N | |
| isting. N/A | | 0 | |
| 5. Function or Use | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| Historic Functions (Enter categories from instruc | | Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions |)) |
| EDUCATION/ education rela | ited | EDUCATION/ school | ······ |
| | | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |
| . Description | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |
| Architectural Classification | | Materials (Enter categories from instructions | .) |
| (Enter categories from instruc Prairie School | .0005) | Foundation Concrete | <i>)</i> |
| | | walls Brick | |
| | | Limestone | |
| | | roof Asphalt | |
| | | other Terra Cotta | |

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Nelson Hall

Name of Property

Portage

Wisconsin

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the National Register listing.)

- \underline{X} A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- _ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- $\underline{X} C$ Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- _ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- _ B removed from its original location.
- _ C a birthplace or grave.
- _ D a cemetery.
- <u>E</u> a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- _ F a commemorative property.
- _G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Education

Period of Significance

1917-1955

Significant Dates

1917

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Van Ryn, Henry J. de Gelleke, Gerrit

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Portage

County and State

Primary location of additional data:

X State Historic Preservation Office

Name of repository:

Other State Agency

Local government

Federal Agency

X University

Other

Wisconsin

9. Major Bibliographic References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service):

- _ preliminary determination of individual
- listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National
- Register previously determined eligible by
- the National Register designated a National Historic
- landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _under one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| 1 | 16 | 295953E | 4933278N | 3 | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|---|-----------------|----------------------------|----------|
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | | | | 4 | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone See Cor | Easting tinuation Sheet | Northing |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

| 11. Form Prepared By | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------|----|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| name/title organization | Kathleen Julin and Eric Yonke University of Wisconsin – Steve | ens Point | | Date | September 28, 2004 |
| street & number city or town | 428 CPS Building Stevens Point | state | WI | telephone zip code | 715-346-2458 54481 |

| Nelson Hall | Portage | Wisconsin |
|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Name of Property | County and State | |

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

| Maps | A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location See Topozone Website Map. |
|------|---|
| | A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. |
| | Not applicable. |

| Photographs | Representative black and white photographs of the property. |
|-------------|---|
| | 11 Exterior views, archival fiber base, matt finish |
| | 10 Interior views, archival fiber base, matt finish |

Additional Items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

| Property Own | er | _ | | | | |
|---------------------|---|-------|----|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| (Complete this iten | n at the request of SHPO or FP | 0.) | | | | |
| name/title | Dr. Linda Bunnell, Chancellor | | | (Note: Owner is State of Wisconsin) | | |
| organization | University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point | | | date | 1-12-2005 | |
| street&number | 213 Old Main | | | telephone | 715-346-2123 | |
| city or town | Stevens Point | state | WI | zip code | 54481-3897 | |

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects, (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

Start description on line below SECTION 7: DESCRIPTION

Nelson Hall is a three-story, brick-faced, reinforced concrete frame building in the Prairie School style, completed in 1917. Designed by Van Ryn and De Gelleke of Milwaukee and constructed as a women's dormitory, it has been in continuous use by the university and has a high degree of structural integrity. Nelson Hall is located at the intersection of Main and Fremont streets, but occupies the entire west end of a narrow city block with College Avenue on its north side. To its east, north and south, Nelson Hall is surrounded by a residential district. Its east façade is abutted by a partially asphalt surfaced alley with parking space. Facing west toward a green space in front of the Old Main building, Nelson Hall is one of three buildings defining the historical character and context of the campus dating back to the early twentieth century.

Nelson Hall has a rectangular plan, approximately 150 feet by 60 feet, with two front wings and a flat roof with broad overhanging eaves. Its solid masonry exterior of medium brown brick with noncontrasting grout contains classical details in light finishes of sandstone, terracotta and wood. At ground level the building sits atop a narrow course of limestone, and a horizontal course of limestone divides the ground elevation from the first story on three sides and the southeastern portion of the east façade. The fenestration at ground level is approximately three feet in height, touching both courses of limestone. The fenestration for each floor consists of uniformly paired windows approximately five feet in height and four feet in width with stone sills and double-hung, 6-over-1 sash units. Decorative ironwork is used on the front porch railings, window boxes and fire escapes.

West façade. A single story flat-roofed porch with a centered trabeated entrance dominates the west façade and serves as the main entrance. The porch spanning eighty feet has stone steps and a masonry railing with a center decorative iron handrail. The cap on the masonry railing continues the horizontal course that divides the ground elevation from the first story. At ground level are five small rectangular windows on each side of the main step. On top of the entrance "mass" of the porch is a stone cornice with three "academic" shields. A terracotta cartouche with the date of construction is centered above the main porch stone lintel. On either side of the cartouche is a row of four small shield motifs. On the lintel is the inscription "Nelson Hall." The main porch cornice is wood molding with dentils. The four porch pilasters are capped with stone guttae. Centered on the porch is the front doorway, which has been recently updated with contemporary glazing. The four window groupings under the porch roof are tripartite, which vary from the rest of the building fenestration. At the basement level, under the north end of the porch, is a secondary entrance with wheelchair ramp access, which was added in the 1980s, replacing a stone stairwell. A consistent placement of wood-framed windows covers the entire

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

façade with similar fenestration on the wings. Each level contains an identical window placement of seven window groups on the main façade and two sets of windows on each wing. As noted above, the windows on the porch vary slightly from the other first floor windows. Fenestration on the first floor wings also includes window-box shelves with decorative ironwork, and the first floor south wing has a narrow window between its two window groupings. The porch-side of the wings include one window grouping and a small square window. Above the third story windows are evenly spaced decorative terracotta tiles, approximately two feet below the upper roof cornice, encircling the building at approximately ten-foot intervals. The entire building is topped by a three-foot overhanging coffered wood eave. Originally, a decorative wrought-iron railing framed the porch roof and an ornamental copper fascia trimmed the top of the building roof.

North and South façade. The north and south façades continue the fenestration and brick pattern of the west façade, including the limestone coursing and the decorative terracotta tiles above the third story windows. They also include the uniformly spaced small square windows on the west ends of the wings. The façades are identical in design with one slight variation: the south façade's first and third stories include a narrow window on the east side of the fire escape stairwells. A unique feature of the north and south façade is the fire escape. Within the building's mass is a three-story recessed fire escape stairwell occupying the area of one of the four sets of window groupings on these façade with wrought iron decorative swirl motifs matching the ironwork of the west façade's first story windows.

East façade. The east façade serves various utilitarian functions but continues the brick patterning, the decorative terracotta tiles and similar window detailing of the other façade. The general continuity is broken, however, by the vertical circulation of the building. The massing projects outward to contain two stairwells and a chimney that is no longer functional and does not extend above the roofline. The limestone coursing that separates the ground elevation from the first story ends with the south stairwell. The windows vary in size according to function and placement, yet the pattern of paired windows and stone sills is continued on the east façade. The south stairwell provides the only accessible ground level entrance to the main structure. North of this entrance are two sublevel window groupings and the main stairwell. North of the main stairwell are three sublevel window groupings and a service entrance originally used to supply the dining facility. At ground level there is also a single story furnace room, approximately 30 feet by 40 feet, on the northeast corner. This utility room is integrated into the façade with the same brick patterning, and includes a separate sublevel entrance.

Interior. Nelson Hall has a reinforced concrete frame, poured concrete corridor and stair walls, and wood stud and metal lath & plaster interior partitions. The floor system is 2-1/2" concrete slab. Throughout the building, walls and ceilings are plastered and each room has heavy plain wood trim,

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baseboards and paneled doors. The majority of floor space is finished with asphalt tile. The original decorative cast iron staircase remains in the center of the symmetrical plan. An elevator shaft is located in the center of the south stairwell, and a laundry shaft is located at the north end of the building. In several rooms cast iron radiators are still intact, while other rooms have updated steam convectors.

Each floor of the building has served a variety of functions, and the original use and purpose of each is clearly discernible. The sublevel elevation originally served as the main dining hall and kitchen facility along with essential utility rooms. No longer a dining or kitchen facility, this sublevel has been partitioned into thirty rooms varying in dimensions from approximately eight feet by ten feet to one room of approximately fifty feet by thirty feet.

The first floor retains its original design with the main foyer opening into the communal space of the old dormitory. East of the foyer is the enclosed main stairwell accessing all levels of the building. North of the foyer the first floor opens into the great room, which served as a sitting room or public area with a large brick fireplace and a coffered beam ceiling. South of the foyer is a smaller reception area of approximately 10 feet by 29 feet. Beyond the great room and reception, the north and south wings are enclosed by a doorway and short staircase. Each wing contains eight rooms, approximately 10 feet by 10 feet in dimension and is further divided by a short central east-west hall. The south-west portion of the south wing was designed to serve as an apartment and office space for the hall director. The second floor includes over twenty rooms divided by a central north-south hallway. Half the second floor rooms maintain their original dimensions, and half have had interior walls removed to create larger classroom and office space. The third floor retains more of the original plan with 10 feet by 10 feet rooms. The east side of the third floor is unique in that the dormitory rooms are grouped with narrow ante-room halls and a shared bath.

Converted to office space and temporary music and art studios, Nelson Hall still retains its essential design and integrity. The hallways and rooms are generally intact, including the later addition of marble bathrooms and showers. Over the past fifty years the basement has been divided into a variety of functions, such as a daycare center on the south end and the university's photographic services on the north end. Exposed communication cables and wire run along the ceilings throughout the building and fluorescent lighting fixtures have been added for office use. The concrete porch slab has one crack, but unusual settling is nowhere evident. Given the structure's extensive use and conversion, the interior has suffered relatively limited damage through wall demolition and remodeling.

End of Description of Physical Appearance

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

Insert Statement of Significance SECTION 8: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Nelson Hall is nominated for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for its significance to the history of higher education in Wisconsin and under criterion C as a fine example of the Prairie School style applied to collegiate architecture. Completed in 1917, it is also an excellent example of the diverse talents of two regionally prominent architects Henry Van Ryn and Gerrit de Gelleke. Nelson Hall was the only dormitory at Stevens Point Normal School until the post-World War II era, and as such served a central role in the historical development of the campus. The period of significance begins with the completion and opening of the building in 1917 and extends through 1955, the end of the 50-year period.

Criterion A - Area of Significance: Education

Stevens Point Normal School and Nelson Hall are individually unique products of the Progressive Era. By the 1890's Wisconsin was experiencing sharp economic and demographic growth, which led to a demand for greater public services including better trained teachers and an effective public educational system. Social reformers, whether interested in practical education or "education for life," agreed that the public schools were generally poor. For Progressive Era politicians and reformers, the consolidation of school districts, creation of county school boards and the competent preparation of teachers emerged as some of the highest public priorities. Wisconsin had a variety of teacher training programs before 1890. Because of changing curricular priorities, the University of Wisconsin closed its Normal School Department in 1868. This, in turn, increased the reliance on private academies, which could not meet the increasing demand for teacher preparation. Progressive reformers thus launched an effort to open a publicly-funded "normal school" in each county. Modeled on the teacher training institute of Normal, Illinois, normal schools became the 19th-century standard for teacher preparation. Thirty-three were in fact created, but the effort to maintain so many training institutes proved impractical and the state's Normal School Board of Regents shifted its priorities to promote larger regionally-based schools. Stevens Point Normal School was founded in 1894, and became the sixth of nine such institutions in the state.¹

With its continued growth and development, Stevens Point Normal School reflected the expanding mission of higher education in the twentieth century. Turn-of-the-century reformers advocated better technical training, but they also firmly believed in democratic education as reflected in the growth of the Wisconsin Idea. This impetus for broader educational opportunities led to conflict between those who pitted the university's interests against the normal schools. But the state normal schools secured

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legislative approval by 1911 to offer two-year liberal arts programs, essentially adding the function of a junior college. In 1916 the regents passed a resolution creating a four-year course of study for high school teachers, which only deepened the tensions between the university and the normal schools and as a result took nearly five years to implement.² After World War I, however, the demand for higher education only grew stronger, and Wisconsin normal schools developed into state teachers colleges granting a bachelor's degree in education. Stevens Point Normal School became a "state teachers college" by 1927 with an emphasis on home economics education and rural education. But with the even further expansion of higher education after World War II state teachers colleges were given legal permission to offer four-year liberal arts degrees by 1951. By the end of the period of significance, the state teachers colleges became the Wisconsin State Colleges and Stevens Point's became Central State College.³

The history of higher education in Wisconsin may be reflected in a central classroom and administrative buildings such as Old Main in Stevens Point, but the actual growth and development of an institution from normal school to university extends beyond a single classroom building. Nelson Hall is particularly significant in the larger history of education, because it was built to meet needs beyond the classroom and as a residence facility reflects the growth of a college community. Furthermore, Nelson Hall reflects the early history of an expanding constituency in higher education: women. While Wisconsin's university opened admissions to female students in 1874, the student population in Madison remained predominantly male. Separate social spheres at the university existed for men and women, and the campus culture was almost entirely orientated to the male student. In contrast to the university's environment, normal schools provided a separate opportunity for post-secondary education in which women and men studied on a fairly equal educational basis. With a typical ratio of 7:1 female to male students, a male-dominated student culture generally did not arise at normal schools.⁴ Stevens Point Normal School specialized in rural education and "domestic science," and attracted primarily female students.⁵

Stevens Point's geographic location and the low population density of the surrounding counties meant that the normal school drew students from relatively remote communities. The limited number of boarding rooms in the city required an alternative to the private market, and adequate housing for the predominantly female student population became a special concern. In 1913 the state legislature approved the building of a women's dormitory, which was considered experimental and a potential social problem. To allay vague fears of this state-funded women's residence, the town newspaper commented that "parents outside of Stevens Point may send their daughters here in confidence that their moral and physical health will be preserved." Named for attorney George B. Nelson, the strongest advocate for the dormitory on the Board of Regents and later State Supreme Court Judge,

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

Nelson Hall was completed in 1917 and dedicated in June 1918. As the only residence facility at a school with one classroom building and two "cottages," Nelson Hall quickly became a center of campus life.⁶

Nelson Hall served the campus throughout the period of significance, reflecting the growth of a campus community. With a dining facility, parlor, recreation room, study room, and infirmary, Nelson Hall was designed to meet the social and residential needs of college women. Hosting events such as the President's Reception, the Christmas Tea, After Dinner Dancing, and a variety of college banquets, the hall contributed to the growth of campus life and collegiate culture from the 1920's through the 1960's. As noted in a 1932 student newspaper report, "Families' have left the ivied building year after year, and new girls have taken their place to build up traditions and produce a 'sorority' atmosphere. The 'dorm girls' are perhaps the most College spirited group on the campus at Stevens Point State Teachers College."⁷

World War I and World War II brought a temporary reassignment for Nelson Hall, which add another level to the building's historical importance. Between October 1918 and January 1919, Nelson Hall housed the Student Army Training Corps, and between February 1943 and May 1944, it served as home for most of the 97th College Training Detachment, an Army Air Corps training unit. Looking back on the era of the First World War, *The Pointer* student newspaper commented in 1943:

The general scramble for board and rooming houses described in the *Iris* [student publication] seemed to have been settled satisfactorily then, as it will be now, a quarter of a century later, and perhaps the fact that the girls were allowed to return to their beloved dorm on January 6, 1919, may be regarded as a good omen.⁸

But the displacement during the Second World War was slightly longer. Army trainees underwent a course of study ranging from five to twenty weeks, and before the war's end approximately 1,200 received their training on campus.⁹ After the war Nelson Hall returned to service as a women's residence hall. And after the period of significance, as the university expanded its mission and began building a series of new structures, Nelson Hall continued to serve the university as a residence hall and later as an office building.

As a local landmark that helps define the historic campus of the Stevens Point Normal School, Nelson Hall is being nominated under criterion A because of its significance to the development of higher education in Wisconsin during the first half of the twentieth century. This former women's dormitory was the second built in the state and the oldest one still in existence. Furthermore, the state did not

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construct another dormitory on a normal school campus for thirty years, adding to the unique importance of Nelson Hall to the history of Wisconsin's teacher colleges.¹⁰ A well-preserved building, Nelson Hall has served the university's changing needs in residence life, teaching and administration from the 1910s through the 1970s.

Criterion C – Area of Significance: Prairie School Design by Van Ryn and De Gelleke

Nelson Hall reflects the creative abilities of its designers, the regionally prominent architects Henry Van Ryn and Gerrit de Gelleke of Milwaukee, and is a unique example of the Prairie School style applied to a public facility. Departing from typical collegiate design of the time, the building makes a statement reflecting the progressive outlook of this educational institution and its supporters. Its substantial size symbolizes its importance as part of the historic campus, and its interior design further reflects the influence of the Prairie Style.

Henry Van Ryn and his longtime partner Gerrit de Gelleke designed several educational and governmental buildings across Wisconsin such as the Agriculture and Manual Arts Building of Platteville State Normal School (NRHP 3-14-85) and normal school structures found in Eau Claire, La Crosse and Milwaukee. In central Wisconsin, Van Ryn & de Gelleke are noted for designing the Lincoln County Courthouse in Merrill, the Marhsfield City Hall and the Antigo City Hall, as well as several schools in Wausau and other communities. Yet Nelson Hall is one of the very few Prairie Style buildings in Stevens Point, which include the Nelson House (1701 Clark Street) completed in 1917 by Van Ryn and de Gelleke. Although architects employed the Prairie Style extensively in Wisconsin at the beginning of the twentieth century, applying it to a university residence hall was unique. With over 900 Prairie Style entries in the state's Architecture and History Inventory, only one is a "dormitory."¹¹

By the turn of the twentieth century, the Prairie School had emerged as one of the "Progressive Styles" bringing new vitality to architecture in the upper Midwest. By 1914 it was being applied increasingly to non-residential commissions. Nelson Hall as such embodies both the Progressive impetus of social reformers seeking to expand and democratize higher education, and the impetus to express these new ideas in architecture. With its horizontal massing, broad overhanging eaves and band of limestone separating the ground elevation from the first floor, Nelson Hall's design is essentially Prairie Style. It emphasizes "simplicity, elimination, and respect for materials," particularly through its use of brick façade and concrete slab construction. Its decorative elements, including the "academic" shields, terracotta tile and guttae, are applied classical elements rather than intrinsic natural elements. They provide visual note of the structure's public and educational purpose without distracting from the hall's

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

larger stylistic elements.¹²

Nelson Hall's interior adopts elements of the Prairie house as well. If "the core of a Prairie house is, in most instances, the fireplace,"¹³ then Nelson Hall remains true to the style with its large sitting room focused on the fireplace. The structure's first floor continues with rooms located laterally at raised elevations from the central sitting room. As architectural historian Mark Gelernter noted of Wright's Unity Temple: "With main blocks themselves divided into smaller blocks according to the functions within . . . all shapes are reduced to simple geometrical solids." The use of wide rectangular openings provides a greater sense of spaciousness while the extensive use of wood helps "to warm and enhance spaces." On all levels of the building, heavy plain wood trim, baseboards and paneled doors provide a continuity of style and a sense of scale more residential than institutional. Because the Prairie Style made such a dramatic impact on home design, its adaptation for a women's dormitory gives Nelson Hall its distinct character and significance.¹⁴

End of Statement of Significance

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

Insert References

SECTION 9: REFERENCES

¹John D. Buenker, *The History of Wisconsin*. Vol. 4: *The Progressive Era*, 1894-1914. (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1998): 360-7; Justus F. Paul, "*The World is Ours*": A History of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, 1894-1994 (Stevens Point: UWSP Foundation Press, 1994): 2-8; "Normal Schools and State Teachers College," Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin (CD Rom provided by the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office, 2004); Buenker, 365-7; Paul, 2-8.

²William C. Hansen, "History of Wisconsin State University-Stevens Point (1894-1966)," in Walker D. Wyman, ed., *History of the Wisconsin State Universities*: 177-8 (River Falls, WI: River Falls State U.P., 1968); Buenker, 390-1.

³Hansen, 177-8; Paul, 52.

⁴Christine A. Ogren, "Where Coeds were Coeducated: Normal Schools in Wisconsin, 1870-1920," *History of Education Quarterly* 35(1) (Spr. 1995): 1-26.

⁵Andrew A. Gitlin, "Gender and professionalization: an institutional analysis of teacher education and unionism at the turn of the twentieth century," *Teachers College Record* 97 (Summer 1996): 588-624.

⁶"The Dormitory is Ours," *Stevens Point Gazette*, 15 September 1915, quoted in Paul, 52.

⁷"Nelson Hall Celebrates Fifteen Years," *The Pointer*, Stevens Point, 1932.

⁸"Nelson Hall Co-Eds Sorry They're Moving," The Pointer, Stevens Point, (February) 1943.

⁹Paul, 81-3.

¹⁰Hansen, 177-8; Paul, 52.

¹¹On Van Ryn in Central Wisconsin, see Donald M. Aucutt, "Van Ryn: Architect in Central Wisconsin at Century's Turn," (Central/Northwoods Architectural Museum, 1993): 3-12, 22. On Prairie style listings in Wisconsin, see "Architecture and History Inventory"

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi/index.asp Accessed 5 Jan. 2005.

¹²On the historical interpretation of the Prairie style, see Mark Gelernter, *A History of American Architecture: Buildings in their Cultural and Technological Context* (Hanover and London: U. P. of New England, 1999), 207; Harold Allen Banks, *The Prairie School: Frank Lloyd Wright and his Midwest Contemporaries* (U. of Toronto Press, 1972), 295-8. On the elements of the Prairie style, see "Prairie School (1895-1925)", *Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin* (CD Rom provided by State Historic Preservation Office, 2004).

¹³Frances H. Steiner, "Post-Victorian Domestic Architecture: The Prairie Style," *The Old-House Journal* (Jan.- Feb. 1984): 15.

¹⁴Gelernter 219; Steiner, 15-17; "Prairie School (1895-1925)".

End of References

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Nelson Hall Stevens Point, Portage County, Wisconsin

Insert Boundary Descriptions

SECTION 10: GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary description corresponds to the legal parcel for the property: "Lot 5,6,7,8,9,10, 11, block 11 Boyington and Atwell Third Addition (Nelson Hall) 195/137."

Boundary Justification:

The nominated parcel corresponds with the parcel historically associated with the building.

End of Boundary Descriptions

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Section Photos Page 2

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Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking south at porch interior

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Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking north at overhanging coffered wood Eaves and fenestration on southeast corner

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Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking east at central stairwell, first floor

10 of 10

Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking south at first floor north wing corridor

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Section Photos Page 1

1 of 10 Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ. of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera View looking East at the west façade

2 of 10 Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ. of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking Northeast at the south façade

3 of 10 Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ. of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking west at the east facade

4 of 10 Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Moore December 2004 Negative at Univ. of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking south at the north façade

5 of 10 Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Julin November 1998 Negative at Univ. of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera View looking east at west façade with porch

6 of 10 Nelson Hall, Portage County, Wisconsin Photographer: Julin November 1998 Negative at Univ. of WI-Stevens Point University Archives Camera view looking east at porch lintel

