

DEC 12 1991

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name The Blair Presbyterian Academy  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number N/A  not for publication  
city, town Blairstown  vicinity  
state New Jersey code 034 county Warren code 041 zip code 07825

### 3. Classification

<b>Ownership of Property</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<b>Contributing</b>	<b>Noncontributing</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>22</u>	<u>6</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>22</u>	<u>6</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 12/4/91  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Assistant Commissioner for Natural & Historic Resources/DSHPO  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Patrick Andrews 1-24-92  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

for Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

Academy

Boarding School Housing

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

Academy

Boarding School Housing

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Richardsonian Romanesque

Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, concrete, brick

walls stone, brick, wood clapboard

cement plaster

roof slate shingles

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

A cluster of thirty-four buildings comprises the center of activity of the Blair Academy campus which, in its entirety, is bordered by Highway 94, the Main Street of Blairstown, several rural roads, and Blair Lake. Twenty-eight of these buildings, those constructed 1848-1933, are being nominated to the New Jersey and National Registers of Historic Places.

The twenty-eight buildings, of varying materials, size, architectural style and function, are situated within the gently rolling hills in an apparent haphazard fashion, with the exception of the main grouping, or urban core, of the central academic buildings. Of the twenty-eight Blair Academy buildings described in this section, twenty-two can be considered "contributing" to a historic district, while the remaining six are "non-contributing." The original schoolhouse, the "Old Academy Building," dating from 1848, stands independently on a hill immediately north of Main Street and next to the town cemetery. Several houses, predominantly frame structures clad in wood clapboard, are located ambiguously between Blairstown and the main campus, and illustrate the historically close relationship of town and campus. They are: the Parsonage, c. 1900; Hillside House, c. 1900; South Cottage, c. 1897; Gateway House, c. 1890; Double House, c. 1890; Wayside Cottage, c. 1890; Bindemann Music Center, c. 1890; Wayside Barn, c. 1890; and Meadowbrook Cottage, c. 1921. On Main Street, the Old Mill, c. 1825, a stone building, was purchased by the Academy in 1902. The primary core of aligned and interrelated buildings forming a composite entrance facade for the Academy, all of stone and brick, include Insley Hall, 1869; Locke Hall, 1889; Ivy Hall, 1889; and Clinton Hall, 1900. A second tier of historical campus buildings oriented parallel to the main four includes the Boiler House, 1904; the Gymnasium, 1915; and West Hall, 1912. More recent buildings that conform to the main campus layout and can therefore be considered contributing include East and Davies Halls, 1926; the Infirmary, 1956; and Memorial Hall, 1952. The two on-campus residences for Deans are the Freeman House, 1904, and the Sharpe House, 1927. The remaining contributing building, the Arts and Languages Building, 1933, is closely related in style and location. See continuation sheets for detailed descriptions of the individual buildings.

**8. Statement of Significance**

DEC 12 1991

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G    NA

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1848-1933  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1848  
1889  
1899  
1901

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Hutton, Addison  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Blair Academy campus stands as a monument to the interdependence of industry, religion, education, and civic responsibility, all reflected in the united campus architecture. Through the remarkable philanthropy of banker and railroad baron John Insley Blair, the fortune of a one-room village schoolhouse evolved into a college preparatory and boarding school thriving on three hundred and fifteen acres, 140 years after its inception. Owing its founding to the organization of the Newton Presbyterial, the Blair Presbyterial Academy, as it was known until 1904, played a role in the early debate regarding state versus church support for general education. The ties between the Academy and surrounding Blairstown have remained throughout the tremendous expansion of the school. Controlled growth, orchestrated by master planning and exemplary architecture has produced a campus representing all stages of the history and development of the 140 year old Academy.

The man for whom both the Academy and its town were named amassed a fortune from which he contributed unrelentingly to educational institutions. Blair's rise from humble origins to multi-millionaire philanthropist was made possible by the rapid industrialization of the United States. Advancing from store clerk at age eleven, to owner of the store at eighteen, to owner of five stores and four mills at twenty-seven, Blair then became involved in mining, and subsequently, railroading, banking and politics. He co-founded the Lackawanna Coal and Iron Company in 1846 and the corresponding Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad in 1852. Blair learned the capitalist idiom that production is controlled by market demand, and, if one can create the market, one can create the demands. Blair's wealth came predominantly through the simple process of buying out incomplete railroads, finishing them with reserve capital and acquiring the accompanying land grants offered by the states. Blair's interests and influence spread to politics, which indirectly introduced him to the potential of developing the West. While attending the Chicago 1860 Republican National Convention that nominated Abraham Lincoln, Blair was first exposed to the western frontier. He built his western empire while remaining interested in politics. The 1868 New Jersey Republican Convention nominated him for governor, a race he lost to the incumbent Governor Randolph. Until old age forced his retirement, Blair attended every Republican national convention from the party's founding through 1892. After

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

DEC 12 1991

Blair Academy Archives, various  
 "The Blair Breeze," Blairstown, N.J. 1894-1955, various dates  
 Johnson, John C. Blair Presbyterial Academy: 1848-1898, Blairstown Press Print:  
 Blairstown, N.J., 1898  
 Moss, Roger and Tatman, Sandra. Biographical Dictionary of Philadelphia Architects,  
 G.K. Hall: Boston, MA. 1985. pp. 401-107  
 Sharpe, John C. Memories of Blair, Princeton University Press: Princeton, N.J. 1939  
 Snell, James P. History of Sussex and Warren Counties, New Jersey, Everts and Peck:  
 Philadelphia, PA, 1881. pp. 636-657

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:  
Blair Academy

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property ± 55 acres Blairstown Quad

UTM References

A 1 8 5 0 3 0 6 0 4 5 3 7 2 6 0  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 1 8 5 0 3 3 6 0 4 5 3 6 6 4 0  
 E 1 8 5 0 2 7 0 0 4 5 3 6 7 8 0

B 1 8 5 0 3 4 4 0 4 5 3 6 9 16 0  
 Zone Easting Northing

D 1 8 5 0 3 0 8 0 4 5 3 6 6 12 0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Please refer to sketch map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the significant buildings that have been historically associated with the Academy.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rebecca Trumbull/Steven Wiesenthal

organization Trumbull/Wiesenthal Consultant date December 13, 1988

street & number 4811 Windsor Avenue telephone (215) 724-7808

city or town Philadelphia state PA zip code 19143

**HISTORIC NAME:** The Academy  
Music Hall

**COMMON NAME:** Old Academy Building

**Construction date:** 1848

**Source of date:** Datestone on West facade, Blair Academy records

**Builder:** J. Hill, Mason; and J.J. Skinner, carpenter

**Style:** Greek Revival

**Stories:** One plus attic and basement

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Cement plaster on stone

**Fenestration:** Wood, six-over-six, double-hung with metal exterior storm sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate gable, brick chimney on west end; wood bell tower cupola at the center.

**Square footage:** 1,250

**Original use:** Academy building; later music building

**Present use:** Faculty residence

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The simple gable form, oriented lengthwise along an east-west axis is entered by a projecting portico facing due south. Symmetry on each facade, the shallow gable and the style of ornament fall within the influence of the prevalent Greek Revival style of the period. The portico, entered between two windows on either side, features a central door beneath an entablature wrapping around its three sides. Engaged Doric pilasters frame the entrance and visually support the entablature, which is capped by a box cornice and pediment. An infill of thin horizontal boards spans the recesses between pilasters. Louvered window openings face south at each side of the door. At the stuccoed walls of the main building form, a similar box cornice above a narrow fascia board lines the gable eaves and extends into slight eave returns at each gable end. Ten of the thirteen windows evenly spaced around the building retain their wood two-panel shutters. Two small shuttered openings allow attic ventilation at each gable end. A small inscribed datestone sits directly below the ridge of the west gable end. The cupola, at the roof center, is vertically divided into

three parts. An unadorned square base supports the bell tower enclosure, detailed in the style of the building's portico. Louvered openings and corner pilasters decorate each side beneath a continuous entablature. A hemispherical dome and metal weathervane cap the cupola.

#### **Interior:**

Most of the interior has been altered during various renovations. The overall division into three transverse spaces appears partially intact. A small toilet room has been inserted to the west of the doorway in the entrance portico. Within the portico, narrow beaded board siding at the walls and ceiling remains. The tile floor leads up one step into the entry foyer. To the east of the foyer is a space open the full transverse width, serving as the living room. The north portion of the entry bay forms a kitchen. The west transverse bay has been divided into three rooms. Gypsum wallboard partitions, linoleum tile flooring in the kitchen and a low acoustical tile ceiling in the west bay have all been added. Woodwork at the windows, set close to the exterior face of the thick stone walls, is limited to deep sills, flat aprons, and the windows themselves. Eight inch high flat baseboards line original plaster walls above narrow pine flooring.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

In 1845 the Newton Presbyterial Building Committee met to plan the construction of a one-story, 48 by 24 foot stone schoolhouse. John Insley Blair donated the land, and by 1848 the building was constructed as planned. Situated on the crest of a hill facing Blairstown's Main Street, the Old Academy Building represents the clear ties to the roots that founded the Blair Academy. Although the Academy has grown in the direction of the larger buildings grouped to the northwest, it retains its linkage to the town through the original Academy Building and nearby faculty houses. Currently serving as a faculty residence, the various uses throughout its history indicate both the building's adaptability and its importance. Originally built for Academy classrooms, it was soon expanded to accommodate three distinct schools. Converted to a Music Hall and finally to a residence, the building still retains its original exterior appearance. The archetype of the "one room schoolhouse" with its cupola and gable roof, the building's simple Greek Revival ornamentation owes more to pattern books that enabled craftsmen to reproduce established detailing rather

than to "high-art" achieved by architects of the time. The projecting entrance portico is a miniature Classical temple form, rooted in the ancient Parthenon and filtered down to builders from the 1820s to the Civil War in almost every American town. The absolute symmetry of all facades and shallow slopes further embody the Greek Revival tradition.

#### **CHRONOLOGY:**

April 6, 1845--Newton Presbyterial Building Committee met to plan the construction of a one-story, 48 by 24 foot stone schoolhouse. The committee included John I. Blair, John Bunnell, Peter Lanterman, and I.W. Condit.

1848--John I. Blair donated land and the Academy building was built as planned.

1855--Single-story gable wings added to each end for use by the Academy, parochial and public schools.

1896--Township constructed independent school building enabling Blair Academy building to return to full Academy use.

1899--Restored and renovated into "Music Hall." One wing addition collapsed, and the other was removed as well. Stone walls and wood framing were saved, all else reconstructed. The exterior walls were re-stuccoed; Boston ivy planted the site landscaped with pathways and the outhouses removed.

1925--Plumbing added.

c.1975--Converted to faculty apartment.

**Physical condition: Good**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Garage and Shop Building  
**COMMON NAME:** Arts and Languages Building

**Construction date:** 1933

**Source of date:** Architect's drawings, Blair Breeze (10/6/33)

**Architect:** Frederick J. Griffin, 301 Montclair Avenue, Newark, N.J.

**Style:** Colonial Revival

**Stories:** Two plus attic with dormer

**Foundation:** Reinforced concrete

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Cement plaster on metal lath on concrete walls with brick and wood trim

**Fenestration:** Fixed/pivot combination with various multi-pane steel sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Main gable with two end wings and four dormers, all slate shingled gables

**Square footage:** 7,200

**Original use:** Garage, workshops and fire-house

**Present use:** Art and language classrooms

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

Straddling a steeply sloped rock ledge, the long gabled volume of the Arts and Languages building presents a two-story facade to the northwest lower grade and a single story facing southeast. Single-story gable wings at the lower grade of the northwest side extend from each main gable end. The two-story northwest facade features a central grouping of four large bays originally designed for garage entry doors. A decorative lintel of red bricks laid in header and soldier courses spans all four bays and the two single-leaf wood and glass doors on either side. The second floor features four large twenty-pane windows centered over the garage bays and one narrower twelve-pane window over each of the doors. Window heads are flush with the underside of a flat wood fascia below a simple projecting wood cornice. The windows have slightly projecting concrete sills. A copper gutter at the outside face of the cornice drains to downspouts between the end and center window grouping. The four garage bays have been replaced by windows matching those above, recessed within the building face and framed by stuccoed pilasters indicating structural

columns. The north single-story wing retains its original door and nine-pane windows on either side. The original three garage door bays of the south wing have been replaced by two windows matching those in the former garage bays of the main wing and a single leaf door centered beneath an original wood-trimmed pediment. On the single story rear facade, four large twenty pane windows are centered between two doors, with an additional twelve-pane window at the south end. A flat canopy has been added above the south door. Similar to the main facade, two original garage doors have been replaced with the two middle windows. A gable-end dormer with its original wood and glass door is centered on the facade. The end gable elevations of both the main and smaller wings feature punched windows in unadorned stucco walls. The northeast end has two windows at the attic level and three at the ground level. The southwest end has three original windows at the second level as well. Shallow eaves and returns frame all gable ends.

#### **Interior:**

The interior open floor plans of both the first and second floors have been subdivided with concrete and plastered partitions for classroom use. A wood plank stair with wrought iron railings and abrasive vinyl treads remains in the south end. At the ground level, concrete flooring and concrete posts and beams supporting chamfered wood cross beams remain partially exposed, with linoleum flooring and acoustical tile ceilings obscuring approximately fifty percent of the original surfaces. Three-inch wide yellow pine strip flooring remains exposed in approximately seventy-five percent of the second floor. Acoustical tiles glued between exposed beams are typical of the second floor ceiling.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The site of the Arts and Languages building to the northeast of the main campus buildings has been important for its rural character contributing to the "town and country" feeling of the Blair Academy. The burning of a nineteenth century wood-frame barn on the site directly enabled the construction of the existing building through the use of insurance money. The resulting design of a combined garage and workshop expresses its utilitarian function within a conservative Colonial Revival exterior. Built in 1933, the influence of the fledgling modern "International Style"

movement can be seen in the use of industrial steel sash and smooth, relatively unadorned walls. Architect Frederick J. Griffin was to become one of four architects throughout the Blair Academy's history to gain repeat commissions, thereby increasing his influence on the campus appearance.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Contributing**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Bunnell House  
Infirmery

**COMMON NAME:** Bindemann Music Center

**Construction date:** c.1890

**Source of date:** Tax records

**Architect:** Unknown

**Style:** Queen Anne

**Stories:** Three

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Wood clapboard/fishscale shingle siding

**Fenestration:** Wood, double-hung, one-over-one sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Main gable with intersecting dormer gables, all with slate shingles; flat roof porch and rear addition; single brick chimney at west gable end

**Square footage:** 2,590

**Original use:** Private residence; Infirmery 1918-1956

**Present use:** Music classrooms

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

This wood frame building with its main gable form parallel to the road features a full length one-story porch with turned wooden posts and a plain wooden balustrade. A two-story bay window with an oversized pedimented dormer above is centrally located on the front facade. Also projecting from the main walls are a two-story bay window on the east facade and a one-story bay window set within the front porch. A single story rear addition with lap siding and a small entry porch has gingerbread post brackets. The primary decorative architectural features include fishscale shingles on the bay windows and pediment, and paired brackets beneath the wide overhanging eaves.

### **Interior:**

The original layout of a central hall and four square rooms on each floor is generally intact, modified by bay windows and a rear kitchen addition. Intact architectural features include stair rails, newels, some balusters on

the upper floors, door and window trim, five-panel doors, built-in kitchen cabinetry, beaded-board wainscoting and ornamental plaster brackets at springpoints of bay window arches. Alterations include acoustical tile ceiling, gypsum wallboard partitions at the stair and third floor closets, vinyl stair treads, and a window-to-door conversion at the second floor east bay window for fire escape access.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Bindemann Music Center was originally built as the home of a prominent Blairstown family with ties to Blair Academy. John Bunnell, a carriage maker and Presbyterian Elder is credited with initiating the establishment of a private school to compensate for the poor quality of local public schools. With the financial support of John I. Blair and the religious guidance of Reverend John Reily, John Bunnell served as one of the three founding fathers of the Blair Academy. The Bunnell house was purchased by the Academy during the great influenza epidemic of 1919 and used as a residence and infirmary until 1956. Currently the building houses the Bindemann Music Center, with an apartment on the third floor. The large rooms and simple plan have been easily adapted to a variety of uses. The exterior and massing contribute to the row of houses along Park Street on the outer border of the Academy property. This row of similar white, wood-frame, clapboard houses lining the south side of Park Street illustrates the evolution of Blairstown residences into Academy ownership. Its 1919 acquisition occurred during the administration of greatest Academy growth, strongly promoted by Headmaster John C. Sharpe.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Contributing**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Boiler House  
**COMMON NAME:** Boiler House

**Construction date:** 1904

**Source of date:** Memories of Blair, by J.C. Sharpe; Blair Breeze, 5/10/23

**Architect:** Attributed to Addison Hutton; 1985 renovation by Houghton, Quarty and Warr, Newton, N.J.

**Style:** Romanesque Revival

**Stories:** One and one-half

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Rough cut ashlar, red brick and wood trim

**Fenestration:** Arch-head, multi-pane, fixed wood sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Main hipped roof, intersecting hipped and gable dormers, all covered in slate shingles; free-standing chimney tower of brick on stone base

**Square footage:** 1,848

**Original use:** Boiler House

**Present use:** Boiler House, offices

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The wide rectangular volume of the Boiler House sits within a low ground swale, oriented on axis with the Main Academy buildings. Significant grade changes between the facades have been mediated through the use of a stone belt course around the building. Serving consecutively as a water table, sill course, lintel and capstone, the belt course continues uniformly while the facade elements change levels. The course separates the face materials of red brick above and rough cut ashlar below. A flat wood fascia wraps around the full perimeter directly below a projecting roof eave, interrupted only at the south end and east entry bays. Original masonry openings at all facades have semi-circular arch heads outlined in stone, regardless of their location on the wall.

Facing south toward the rear of Locke Hall, the primary facade features a projecting center entrance bay. A large arched fanlight transom above double wood and glass doors is centered between two small arched sidelights. The three arches have their springpoints at the belt course. A

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full-bay-width pediment with an inset circular louver caps the center bay. To the east, three windows fully above the beltcourse balance the three windows fully below to the west of the center bay. Brick and stone coursing carries through to the straightforward West facade. Fenestration is limited to a centered grouping of three arched windows matching those on the west end of the South facade. Facing north, the same facade treatment with matching windows wraps around the west end until a towering engaged chimney interrupts it. The ashlar chimney base extends to the cornice line, where it changes to a brick chimney, tapered and scored with vertical grooves. Centered on the North facade, a transomed entrance similar to that of the South facade but larger in scale provides service access. A cement plastered fuel storage wing projects from the remainder of the North facade, beneath another grouping of three arched windows. Alterations to the East facade include the construction of a double door entrance centered beneath a hipped roof projecting bay. Pairs of arched windows remain at either side, sitting on the belt course which aligns with the raised ground plane.

#### **Interior:**

The interior has been divided into three main areas. The original full-height boiler room, extends from the south entrance vestibule westward. To the east, a concrete block partition separates storage and office space below and additional office space above, created by the insertion of a new floor. Finishes within the Boiler room and associated office/storage spaces include concrete slab flooring, unadorned masonry walls and plaster/gypsum wallboard ceilings. A metal dog leg stair provides access from the vestibule down to the Boiler room floor. Within the upper level office space, an entry foyer houses a wood stair down from the exterior grade. Gypsum wallboard partitions divide the remaining space into four offices. Acoustical tile ceilings and carpeted floors complete the offices.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The careful siting and design of the Boiler House indicates the degree to which even secondary structures were incorporated into the Blair Academy campus. Constructed to centralize and increase the heating capacity of the campus during its largest growth period, the Boiler house was located

behind but parallel to the existing classroom and dormitory buildings. To take advantage of gravity in the flow of condensed water from the steam heat system, the building was sited within a low ground swale.

Architecturally, the predominantly horizontal form and detailing accentuates its relationship to the ground. Several years before the "Prairie style" championed by Frank Lloyd Wright was to become widely popular, architect Addison Hutton employed elements that later became trademarks of the style. The low hipped roof projecting beyond the wall plane with a minimal cornice emphasizes the broad expanse of the horizontal roof plane. Between the light stone base and the roof, a dark band of brick appears to recede, further accentuating the "floating" roof plane. Proving to be contextual as well as innovative, Hutton used the materials and similar detailing found on his earlier buildings of the Blair Academy.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Contributing**

**BUILDING NAME:** Clee House

**Construction date:** 1962

**Stories:** One and full basement

**Architect:** National Homes Corporation

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Aluminum siding and brick

**Square footage:** 2,200

**Present use:** Faculty residence

**Register Eligibility:** Non-contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** Clinton Hall  
**COMMON NAME:** Clinton Hall

**Construction date:** 1900

**Source of date:** Memories of Blair, J.C. Sharpe; Blair Breeze, various dates;  
Biographical Dictionary of Philadelphia Architects, Tatman and Moss

**Architect:** Addison Hutton, original; Carrère and Hastings; and Shreve,  
Lamb and Blake, reconstruction after fire

**Builder:** 1900: Mr. Long; 1923: Barr, Thaw and Frazer Co., Hoboken, N.J.

**Style:** Jacobethan Revival

**Stories:** Three plus attic

**Foundation:** Rubble, stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Broken ashlar facing on brick back-up, cut  
sandstone trim, face brick above third floor windows

**Fenestration:** Six-over-six, wood, double-hung, some exterior storm sash,  
(original upper sash featured pointed arch mullions)

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate covered H-shaped gables, with two front-gable  
dormers, 20 octagonal brick chimneys

**Square footage:** 22,692

**Original use:** Recitation hall, office, chapel

**Present use:** Classrooms, offices, assembly room

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The exterior massing of Clinton Hall comprises a basically rectangular building of one long gable form framed by transverse gabled wings at each end. The wider east gable wing, with an additional window bay, breaks the otherwise perfect symmetry of each facade. Features common to all facades include broken ashlar facing for three stories beneath a stepped lintel course of cut sandstone and red brick above. Cut sandstone belt courses also delineate the second floor window heads and first floor sills and heads. A slightly projecting watertable is capped by the first floor sill course. At each of the three entrances, the belt course steps up tangentially to the arched apex. Above each second floor window of the end gables and central bays, the broken ashlar is set in a decorative semicircular arch. Brickwork above third floor lintels continues as the facing at each gable end. Tripartite windows with a tall center window are

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framed in sandstone, which also dresses the chimneys, gable edges and copings. Copper gutters line all gable eaves. Facing east, the main entry facade features a slightly projecting central bay topped by a stepped gable end piercing through the roof eave. A stone arched bridge leads to the second floor entrance within an arch-head opening. The entrance doors are deeply recessed to create an exterior foyer paved with Tennessee pink marble. The dark-stained oak and glass doors are set in a Palladian arrangement beneath an arched transom and a plaster ceiling above a deep crown moulding. Centered below the entry bridge, double doors framed by sidelights and a flat head transom were added in 1923 as an additional means of fire egress.

The long south facade is divided into five bays, each stepping slightly outward from the recessed center bay. The ashlar of the center bay extends to the eave, which originally featured wood dentillated brackets. Window arrangements within each bay highlight its center, by either tripartite groupings or graduated horizontal spacing. Next to both gable ends, arch head openings surround transomed double doors exiting onto raised platforms bordered by wide steps and low stone walls. The north facade repeats that of the south with the exception of the entrances and an asymmetrical variation in window arrangements at the second floor of the second and fourth bays. The west facade, like the East, is dominated by a central bay topped by a gable end. By comparison, the central bay projects farther out and is wider than that of the East facade. Its larger gable top is framed by chimneys rather than intersected by their stepped bases as at the other five gables. Four undifferentiated windows span each floor of its central bay.

#### Interior:

Despite the major fire of 1922 and subsequent renovations, the general interior layout and some features remain intact. The two end wings and center gable are reflected in the interior layout. Wide (ten foot) corridors running east-west provide access to all rooms and the three open iron stairways. Narrow pine flooring, brick walls and frame ceilings faced in plaster, and cast iron columns in the east wing all remain.

With construction of the bridge leading from the east to the Clinton Hall entrance, the second floor became the main level. Entered from the wide main corridor, offices in the east wing have been subdivided with many

gypsum wallboard partitions. The four corridor office entrances remain, however, with Neoclassically detailed oak trim and five-panel oak doors, all stained dark.

The corridor is trimmed with a wide crown moulding above a door-head-height rail trim and six inch high baseboard. Most of the second floor has been covered with linoleum tile. The classrooms on the middle and west end of the floor are entered through glazed panel doors beneath six-pane hopper transoms. A similar transom extended five sections wide lines the complete west partition. Classroom interiors on all three floors are typically carpeted and hung with acoustical tile ceilings. In the first floor southeast room, pine flooring, six transom sections and a fluted cast iron column remain exposed. The primary features of the corridors are the three open stairways, two of which span from the first to the third floors. Wide treads, exposed stringer beams and square newel post framing decorative balustrades highlight the stairs. All elements are iron with the exception of wood handrails.

The most significant interior space is in the third floor east wing. Originally designed as an assembly room and chapel, it currently houses two small classrooms and one large room divisible by a sliding partition. A long series of changes (see Chronology below) has significantly altered the room. Features remaining from the 1923 reconstruction include two large wood trusses inset with pointed arch beams, and a semi-circular vaulted alcove centered on the west wall. At the truss springpoint level, a deep profile moulding encircles the room, partially concealed by dropped ceilings and 1983 partitions.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The last of four buildings to be constructed along the crest of an imposing hill, Clinton Hall ends the row that together defines the Blair Academy entrance facade. Its urbanistic siting both completes the group facade and turns the approach road 90 degrees, framed between Clinton and Locke Halls. Prominent Philadelphia architect Addison Hutton incorporated the broken ashlar stonework of his other two Academy buildings, Locke and Ivy Halls, with the red brick he used in his renovation of Insley Hall one

year earlier, to create a building that is clearly contextual. The gable forms and facade recesses divide the overall mass into smaller wings similar to the scale of the adjacent buildings, and the many chimneys continue the picturesque roofscape of Locke Hall. Initiated and planned by Dr. John C. Sharpe, headmaster from 1898-1927, Clinton Hall was built in two stages. To answer a pressing need for a new Recitation Hall, Sharpe appealed to the Academy Board of Directors for the use of a \$25,000 treasury surplus to construct the Hall. It was then built, under Sharpe's direction, with the rear portion incomplete. He thereby encouraged the contribution of an additional \$60,000 from John I Blair's son, DeWitt Clinton, for the construction of the remaining two-thirds of the building. Housing a multitude of functions in its history, including chapel, library, museum, classrooms, dormitories, faculty apartments, administrative offices, science laboratories, gymnasium and study hall, Clinton Hall has played a pivotal role in the growth of Blair Academy.

#### **CHRONOLOGY:**

1900-01--First (east) section completed. Addison Hutton, architect; Dr. John C. Sharpe's layout. Dedicated at Spring commencement in 1901. Office, wide corridors, assembly room/chapel, five classrooms. Relocate Lake Cottage from site. \$30,000 contract, \$25,000 from John I Blair, \$5,000 J. Sharpe loan. South entrance into stairhall. Named after John I. Blair's son DeWitt Clinton Blair.

1903-04--Completion of building as originally intended. First floor Chemistry and Physics lab; second floor girls' gym; 15 new classrooms, 3 smaller offices, Dean's office; library. Arched bridge from east added. Girls' gym moved to Locke. \$60,000 contract, most from DeWitt Clinton Blair.

1909--Odell pipe organ constructed in chapel west wall.

1922, December 8--Fire destroys roof, 90% of interior and southwest gable wall.

1923, February--Plans for reconstruction drawn by Carrère and Hastings, Shreve, Lamb and Blake Architects, New York, N.Y. Most of the interior unchanged. Plans include first floor: walkway and doors below bridge at East facade, 10 classrooms, wooden lockers in corridors (typical of each floor), former study hall divided into three classrooms including

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Physics and Chemistry labs. Second floor: twelve rooms, including offices in former library (library and post office moved to Ivy Hall), entrance corridor widened. Third floor: Chapel doubles as study hall. Stained glass windows replaced with clear glass. Platform replaces organ. Pews replaced with individual seats. Semi-circular niche with vaulted ceiling replaces gable at former organ alcove. Two simplified wood trusses built.

1923, September--Clinton reopened.

1944--Chapel remodeled: new platform erected at south side of former chapel, seats turned to face platform.

1983, August-- Renovations by R.K.R. Hess Associates, Architects, of Stroudsburg, PA. Chapel renovated into 4 classrooms. The two 1923 wood trusses remain, sliding partition separates two large classrooms at center and south, gypsum drywall partitions divide two smaller classrooms at north, acoustical tile ceilings hung in all but center space.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Pierson House  
Paul House  
**COMMON NAME:** Double House

**Construction date:** c.1890  
**Source of date:** Tax records  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Colonial Revival  
**Stories:** Two and one-half  
**Foundation:** Stone  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Wood clapboard siding  
**Fenestration:** Double-hung, two-over-two with storm sash  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Single main gable roof with asphalt shingles; three flat porch roofs; one brick chimney at each gable end  
**Square footage:** 3,136  
**Original use:** Private residences  
**Present use:** Faculty apartments

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

The long side gable of the Double House sits parallel to the street. A wood frame, white clapboard house, it has a one-story, full length porch on the main facade, with square wooden posts and balustrade. Each entrance door is flanked by a single two-over-two window, and two two-over-two windows pierce the second floor facade. Overhanging eaves project from the gable roof. The side elevations have asymmetrical window placement and exterior brick chimneys; the rear elevation has four two-over-two windows and two smaller windows. Single-story side porches with turned wooden posts and wooden balustrades are found at the entrance to each kitchen.

##### **Interior:**

The transverse, centrally located party wall of this building is flanked by a stair on either side. Each house is two rooms deep on the first floor and three rooms deep on the second floor. Architectural features of the interior include flat wood trim, simple ogee baseboards, four-panel doors, painted

plaster walls a ceilings, and pine flooring. The West unit living-room chimney breast retains a flat wood surround and mantle for an inoperable fireplace. Alterations include acoustical tile ceiling in the West unit living room, carpeting and several gypsum wallboard board partitions on the second floors.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Purchased in 1897 as the first of the outlying Blairstown houses which became faculty residences, the Double House began a period of growth that was to diminish the borders between town and campus. Its white wood clapboard exterior matches that of other wood frame houses lining the south side of Park Street.

**Physical condition:** Excellent

**Register Eligibility:** Contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** East Hall  
**COMMON NAME:** East and Davies Halls

**Construction date:** 1886 foundation from gymnasium; 1926 current structure  
**Source of date:** Blair Academy Records  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Colonial Revival  
**Stories:** West wing: three plus basement; East wing: two plus basement  
**Foundation:** Stone  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Brick, cement plaster on hollow tile, wood trim  
**Fenestration:** Various divided-light wood, double-hung, with some exterior storm sash  
**Roof/Chimneys:** West wing mansard with twenty-one gable-end dormers; east wing gable, all slate covered; one brick chimney  
**Square footage:** 19,924  
**Original use:** Foundation and single story brick walls part of original gymnasium, the "Ark"  
**Present use:** Dormitory and faculty apartments

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The intersecting wings of the "L" shaped East and Davies Halls differ in width, height and facade composition, indicating their different construction dates. Facing west toward the main campus, the three-story East Hall wing is clad in cement plaster for its two main stories. The steeply sloped mansard roof and slightly projecting gable-end dormers form the third floor, separated by a combination gutter and wood cornice. A narrow plastered water table defines the exposed stone foundation below. The west facade features two entrances. At its south end, a single-leaf door beneath a fanlight transom fronts a stone stair and wood balustrade. The more ornate north end entrance is framed by square wood columns supporting a covered porch. Glazed and paneled skylights and a glazed door indicate the wide entry hall inside. Bays of paired windows line both main floors with the exception of single windows above each entrance and at the south end faculty apartment. The East Hall symmetrical south facade features center paired windows with single

windows at each side. Wrapping around to face east, the cement plaster facing and window groupings match those facing south and west. Two bays of single windows reflect the west facade south end, followed by paired window bays at the remainder of the east facade.

The perpendicular eastern wing, known as Davies Hall, intersects East Hall at the north end of its east facade. Its two stories align with those of East Hall, while its long gabled attic intersects the taller mansard roof. A rough stone foundation extends the full perimeter of both wings. At the Davies Hall first floor, a pilastered red brick facing indicates the height of the original pool enclosure masonry. Directly above the smooth cut stone lintels of the first floor windows is a flat wood trim course with moulded profiles at its top and bottom edges. Above the trim is the cement plaster-faced second story. The striated brick and cement plaster facings extend the full length of the north facade, including the north end of East Hall. At the intersection of the two wings, a brick chimney interrupts the upper facing and moulded wood perimeter cornice. Fenestration on Davies Hall repeats the pattern of paired window bays at dormitory rooms and a combination of paired and individual windows at the east end faculty apartment and entrances. A circular oculus decorates the upper portion of the east gable end. Both north facade entrances feature raised covered porches as transitions between the exterior grade and higher interior floor level. Simple wood trim and balustrades line both porches. Other exterior woodwork includes a moulded wood cornice lining the gable end and eaves, with abbreviated end returns, and a narrow trim band linking second floor window heads continuously around both wings, interrupted only at the brick chimney.

#### **Interior:**

Despite the various construction dates and alterations, the interiors of both East and Davies Hall wings share similarities in layout. Both feature rows of dormitory rooms ending in faculty apartments at the far ends. The intersection of the two wings houses the stairway, "Commons Room" on the first floor, and bathrooms on the upper floors. Within the wider East Hall wing, a central double-loaded corridor serves the ten dormitory rooms on each side of three floors. In Davies Hall, the corridor runs along the length of the north wall, serving the five dormitory rooms on each of two floors. Finishes in both wings include wood strip flooring in the corridors and apartments, linoleum tile in the dormitory rooms and entrances, acoustical

tile ceilings throughout, ogee baseboards, and flat wood door and window trim. Original five-panel wood doors have been retained at approximately twenty-five percent of the doorways. Within the stairway, a first floor handrail, vinyl treads and contemporary wood veneer paneling joins the original plaster walls, wainscoting and plain balustrade. The Commons Room at the northwest corner of the first floor features a plaster beamed ceiling, arched openings and wall paneling. Cork tiles are glued to the ceiling between beams.

### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

On the site of the current East Hall, a wood frame gymnasium, known as the "Ark," was constructed in 1886. The site of Davies Hall, adjacent to the northeast, originally contained a pool built in 1900 and enclosed with brick walls in 1916. The stone foundations of both original wings have been incorporated into the current "L"-shaped dormitory building. In the summer of 1926, during the last year of Headmaster John C. Sharpe's prolific administration, additions and renovations necessary "to house ninety-three senior boys" were completed. Similar to the expansion of Insley Hall in the first year of Sharpe's tenure, a top floor in the form of a dormered mansard roof was added to the East Hall wing. The tradition of applying aesthetics and design methods from one building to the next can be seen throughout the years of greatest expansion in the history of the Blair Academy, from 1889 to 1926. Although the current East Hall bears more resemblance to Insley Hall than to the gymnasium on whose foundation it was built, the current Davies Hall does retain the windows and brick walls of the former swimming pool wing on which it stands. The history of East and Davies Halls signifies the Academy's dedication to preserving buildings and sites through the evolution of various forms and functions.

**Physical condition: Good**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Faculty Garage  
**COMMON NAME:** Faculty Garage

**Construction date:** 1945

**Stories:** One plus attic and dormers

**Architect:** Attributed to Frederick Griffin, AIA

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Cement plaster on metal lath and concrete walls  
with brick and wood trim

**Square footage:** 5,858

**Present Use:** Garage, residential

**Register Eligibility:** Non-contributing

**BUILDING NAME: Freeman Hall**

**Construction date: 1966**

**Stories: Three**

**Architect: Scrimenti, Swackhamer and Perantoni, Somerville, N.J.**

**Exterior Wall Fabric: Stone and cement**

**Square footage: 11,760**

**Present use: Dormitory**

**Register Eligibility: Non-contributing**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Freeman House  
Dean's House  
**COMMON NAME:** Freeman House  
Peachey House

**Construction date:** 1904  
**Source of date:** Blair Academy Records  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Victorian/Colonial Revival  
**Stories:** Three plus basement  
**Foundation:** Stone/brick at porch  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Wood clapboard  
**Fenestration:** One-over-one, double-hung, with storm sash, two new casements  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Main gable with large intersecting gable end dormers, all slate shingled; flat roofs at bay and porches; two brick chimneys  
**Square footage:** 2,794  
**Original use:** Dean's residence  
**Present use:** Dean's residence

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

The gable-end main (south) facade of the Freeman house features a one-story, full-length porch with five Doric columns and a balustrade of turned spindles. The unusual asymmetrical window placement on the first and second floors of the main facade gives way to the centered and paired third floor windows. Wood panel shutters frame the lower windows. The gable eaves feature deep overhangs and wide end returns with cyma recta eave mouldings and flat fascia boards. The west facade features eight different window sizes in a somewhat random arrangement. Originally, single, large, double-hung windows were vertically aligned at each floor below the main eaves, slightly off center of the facade. Both first floor windows have been replaced, one with a projecting window bay and one with paired casements. A projecting two-story bay capped by a gable end dominates the east facade. The rear (north) facade entrance is via a narrow porch below a second-story projecting bay, all within a narrow end gable off-center from that of the main volume. All original windows are

capped by flat hood moulds. In 1941, a gable-roofed clapboard garage was built to the north.

#### **Interior:**

Organized around a scissor stair perpendicular to the west facade, the layout is predominantly intact. At both main floors, a north-south partition divides the house in half. To the east are the more formal rooms, and to the west, the stair and secondary spaces. The front door opens directly into the stairhall/sitting room. Ornate woodwork on the stair includes paneling, square newel posts and a balustrade. To the east, the parlor and dining room are separated by paneled sliding pocket doors within a Greek Revival framed opening. A projecting chimney breast on the parlor east wall features a Greek Revival wood mantle around a brick fireplace. The focus of the dining room is toward the bay windows to the east. A five-panel 180-degree door provides the back entrance from the kitchen into the dining room. The kitchen at the rear was remodeled in 1987 to include tile floor and new cabinetry. The four second floor bedrooms are entered from the narrow hall perpendicular to the stair, which continues up to a third floor of dormer rooms. Typical intact architectural details include Greek Revival door and window surrounds, high ogee baseboards, and five-panel doors. The dining room narrow pine flooring and painted wood chair-rail also remain. Non-original finishes include acoustical tile ceilings in the parlor, dining room and a bedroom, various wallpapers, and carpet on the stairs and approximately 50% of the floor area.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

Serving as the Dean's Residence until the completion of the Sharpe House in 1927, Freeman's dual role in the history of Blairstown is evident in its siting. The main facade prominently faces Park Road from atop the hill to the north, although the current vehicular approach is from the Academy drive at the rear. With its close proximity to the campus academic buildings and the natural topographic barrier of the hill north of Park Road, Freeman has been more integrated with the campus than the other similar wood frame front gable houses of Park Road. The tradition of Deans and Headmasters residing on campus has been enhanced by the siting and

preservation of the Freeman House.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Gateway House  
**COMMON NAME:** Gateway House

**Construction date:** c.1890  
**Source of date:** Tax record  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Victorian/ Colonial Revival  
**Stories:** Two plus attic and basement  
**Foundation:** Stone  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Imitation clapboard aluminum siding  
**Fenestration:** One-over-one, double hung, with exterior storm sash  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Two intersecting slate gables, flat roofs above porches and bay window, brick chimney at west side  
**Square footage:** 1,660  
**Original Use:** Private residence  
**Present Use:** Faculty residence

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

The main (north) facade is a gable end form with a wrap-around porch extending to a perpendicular rear wing. Non-original louver shutters frame the facade windows. At the gable end returns and side eaves, narrow moulded profiles cap deep overhangs. Narrow square posts and a balustrade line the porch. The east side has a single-story bay window, centered on a three-story end gable. A single-story porch and addition spans the rear (south) facade.

##### **Interior:**

The interior walls were removed at the first floor rear wing to create a large open dining room. All other walls remain intact, with wide Victorian bull-nose moulding on the first floor and flat trimmed, four-panel doors on the second floor. The parlor features a plaster floral ceiling medallion and a wood pilastered fireplace surround. A turned newel post and balustrade are found on the main stair. The rear stair is narrow with winders. Typical materials include wide pine floorboards, plaster ceiling and walls and high wood ogee baseboards. Most of the flooring is carpeted and walls

papered. A rear yard single-story gable shed is sided in German beveled wood boards.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Gateway House stands directly across from the stone entry piers constructed in 1925 to mark the main campus entrance. The house and stone piers represent the integration of town and campus by their direct relationship in a prominent location. Signifying the Academy's commitment to maintaining the historically significant residential architecture, the house was purchased in 1943 and renamed "Gateway." Its white exterior and gable-roofed massing identify it with the other nearby similar wood frame houses originally built as private residences.

**Physical condition:** Good

**Register Eligibility:** Contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** Boys' Gymnasium  
**COMMON NAME:** Gymnasium

**Construction date:** 1915

**Source of date:** Original drawing blueprints and Blair Breeze 12/23/41,  
5/4/45

**Architect:** Charles P. Warren, Architect, Hillsdale, N.J.

**Style:** Collegiate Gothic Revival

**Stories:** Three (Originally two with a tower observation room)

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Cement plaster on concrete wall with 4" cellular air  
cavities

**Fenestration:** Double-hung, six-over-six, with lancet arched upper sash  
mullions, in groups of three

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate shingled hip with intersecting hipped dormers, flat  
roofed additions

**Square footage:** 41,606

**Original use:** Gymnasium

**Present use:** Gymnasium

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

This long, rectangular symmetrical building has a grand exterior stairway leading to the central projecting entry tower. The raised entry enables direct access to the main or first floor of the building which is above ground level. The main entrance is a center door with double hung sidelights above beaded board panels set within a two-story projecting cast stone hood moulding. Thin wood engaged colonnettes subdivide the door and windows, beneath a wide blank recessed panel originally designed for decorative paired Gothic arches. Within the stone hood moulding on the second story level is a set of three windows, and a similar, smaller set of three windows. A similar cast stone frame hood moulding is seen on the third story level of all facades. Two horizontal bands of windows wrap around the entire building, the first at the basement level, and the other at the second floor level. The bands are divided into tripartite window arrangements, (double window arrangements on the end facades), above large blank panels that effectively mask the large wall space required of a

gym. Most of the facade is currently obscured by plant growth. The original crenelated parapet roof coped with cast stone was replaced in 1939 with a hipped roof and overhanging eaves.

#### **Interior:**

The interior of the gymnasium contains two large gym rooms on either side of the central entry hall on the main floor. A ceiling hung catwalk at the window level runs the perimeter of the building interior spanning the open upper level above the center hall to serve as a track and observation platform. The open span of the ceiling is highlighted with dark wood structural coffered beams. The entry hall features mission style paneling with a quarter turn stair and pegged wood display cases in the trophy room behind. The balustrade and newel posts continue to the open upper level. An iron spiral stair reaches the third floor tower room, expanded in 1939 to the full building width. It is currently a dance room with beaded board wainscoting, maple floors, and large two-panel doors to storage wings at each side. With the 1960 construction of the Walker Gym addition, the original north and west facades were altered. The large mass of the stucco and brick pilaster faced concrete masonry unit addition was located on the opposite side of smaller rooms to minimize direct interface with the original gym. A lobby at the west end and a hall along the north facade are open to the restuccoed wall. Lower window openings were infilled with gypsum wallboard. The roof of the addition link is below the upper window level, thereby sparing them from requiring alteration. An opening from the original trophy room was cut into the north facade to enable cross-circulation between wings. In 1971, another addition to the west of the original gym expanded the lobby and added a large pool, bleachers and offices. A covered stairway is its only interface with the original gym. The original mosaic tile pool in the basement remains covered over with plywood and carpet to create an exercise room.

#### **CHRONOLOGY:**

October 1914--Plans drawn by C.P. Warren. Funding provided by DeWitt Clinton Blair

1915--Building completed

August 14, 1939--Alteration construction included new hipped roof, addition of third floor fencing room with storage wings at both sides, and entrance stairs rebuilt

October 1950--Green Estate bequest fund addition. Planning begins for new wrestling room, extension of pool to 25 yards, build bleachers to seat 250, construction of 50' x 84' basketball court.

March 1960--Plans completed by Scrimenti, Swackhamer and Perantoni Architects of Somerville, N.J. (J. Frank Perantoni, Blair alumni) for "Harold F. Walker gym wing." (basketball court, team rooms, new entry)

1971--Wallace pool wing added.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The 1915 construction of the gym signifies a high point in the growth of the Blair Academy as one of several early twentieth century buildings on campus. After the death of benefactor John I. Blair, funding for the gym marked the continued commitment of the Blair descendents, led by son DeWitt Clinton Blair. Its pioneering concrete construction and layout emphasizing useful gym spaces attest to the years of planning initiated by Headmaster Dr. John Sharpe to provide a "perfect" school gym. The strength of this early concrete building relied on a high ratio of stone aggregate to cement, as noted by a contemporary architect, "the gym is not a concrete building but a stone building, better than any mason could build, for the mortar was poured into every crevice far more skillfully than the mason could place it in with his trowel." The original fortress-like appearance with tower and crenellations symbolized the intended strength while owing its stylistic ornamentation to the collegiate Gothic Revival of its time.

**Physical condition: Good**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Hillside House

**COMMON NAME:** Hillside House

**Construction date:** c.1900

**Source of date:** Tax records

**Architect:** Unknown

**Style:** Colonial Revival

**Stories:** Two plus attic

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Wood clapboard

**Fenestration:** Two-over-two, double-hung with some storm sash; rear addition has six-over-six, double-hung sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate main gable with intersecting asphalt-shingled gabled wing; flat porch roof

**Square footage:** 1,700

**Original use:** Private residence

**Present use:** Residential/Faculty housing

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The long gable form of Hillside House sits parallel to the street in front and the steeply sloping hill directly behind. The two-story front facade becomes one story at the higher rear grade. Two rear wings aligning with the second floor extend the building northward. Although the main facade fenestration is asymmetrical, the mass and detailing are Colonial Revival. Architectural features include slightly projecting lintels, square porch posts, simple profile eaves with gable end returns. Facade alterations include added louver shutters, storm doors and storm windows.

### **Interior:**

The original layout probably featured a central entrance and center hall plan. A second exterior door has been added into what is now the dining room, separated by a recent gypsum wallboard partition from the kitchen. The original flat trim on several interior door and window surrounds has been altered by the addition of new profiled mouldings. Four-panel doors, five-inch wide wood strip flooring, and simple baseboards remain

throughout the house. Walls and ceilings are unadorned painted plaster. The living room features a brick fireplace with slate hearth and wood mantle.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Hillside was in the first group of 'outlying' residential buildings purchased by the Blair Academy. Along with South Cottage and the Mill, its 1903 acquisition anticipated the future expansion of the Academy into Blairstown proper. The uniformity of exterior materials, paint colors and landscaping identify Hillside among the residences contributing to the academic village atmosphere of Blair Academy.

**Physical condition:** Good

**Register Eligibility:** Contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** Infirmary  
**COMMON NAME:** Infirmary

**Construction date:** 1956

**Stories:** Two plus partial basement

**Architect:** D.H. Hair, Associates, Newark, N.J.

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Stucco on concrete block, 8" shiplap wood siding,  
stone and wood accents

**Square footage:** 4,808

**Present Use:** Infirmary

**Register Eligibility:** Non-contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** The Main Building  
The Boarding House  
Blair Hall

**COMMON NAME:** Insley Hall (1900)

**Construction date:** 1869, various (see chronology)

**Source of date:** Blair Academy records, Blair Breeze (various dates)

**Architect:** 1869: unknown; 1899: Addison Hutton, Architect; Mr. Logan,  
builder

**Style:** Colonial Revival

**Stories:** Four plus partial basement

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Cement plaster, stone, brick, wood trim

**Fenestration:** Wood, double-hung, six-over-six

**Roof/Chimneys:** Three main intersecting hipped roofs; thirty-seven  
hipped dormers, all slate shingled; plus two flat roofs on west wing, four  
brick chimneys

**Square footage:** 26,865

**Original use:** Dormitories, faculty residences, dining hall

**Present use:** Dormitories, faculty residences, dining hall

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

Evidence of the numerous additions and alterations throughout the history of Insley Hall can be seen on all its facades. Around the majority of the U-shaped building, stone faced with cement plaster wraps around the three main floors. A fourth story added to the original walls of the building features a band of red brick below steeply sloped hipped roofs and dormers that afford sufficient ceiling height for a fully habitable fourth floor. Enveloping two sides of the west wing is a single-story kitchen addition. A three-story addition extending the north end of the west wing, a four-story stair tower enclosure at the main facade east end, and a full-length front porch complete the major extant additions.

Facing south, the primary facade retains the exposed cut stone pilasters and stone-dressed window openings original to the 1869 building. Both elements are arranged symmetrically about the center. Pilaster spacing

increases from the center outward, creating an A-B-C-B-A bay rhythm. Windows likewise begin as pairs in the center bay, then spread out to three individual openings within the outer bays. Cement plaster, first added in 1874, faces the main wall plane. At the ground floor, a raised porch added in 1901 extends the full facade length, wrapping around the east end to the stair tower. Square columns with chamfered corners and moulded details line the porch edge individually and in groups of two and three to demarcate corners and the central entrance. Projecting slightly at the two outer bays, the porch roof slopes away from a main flat area along the wall. Rough cut ashlar coped with dressed limestone faces the porch base, forming piers beneath columns and wing walls at stairs. The continuous floor and ceiling are both surfaced with tongue-in-groove wood strips. At the first floor building face, grouped casement windows beneath leaded glass transoms, original double-hung windows, and a projecting wood entry vestibule are all framed within painted cement plaster walls between the cut stone pilasters. The off-center entrance aligns with a stairhall within the west wing. The original center entry has been replaced by a decorative window and namestone grouping.

Above the stone and cement plaster of the original building rises a fourth story addition designed by Addison Hutton in 1899. A stepped profile cornice and gutter outlines the top of the original building. Against a background band of red brick, copper ball finials decorate the tops of each stone pilaster. A narrow eave line caps the brick, beneath the steep slopes of the tall hipped roofs. Paired dormers and the hipped ends of the side wings echo the bay divisions of the facade below. Classically detailed corner pilasters and architraves frame each dormer window. A second row of circular dormers decorates the roofscape above. Thin copper finials cap the intersecting ends of each hipped roof.

Secondary elevations of the original U-shaped form continue the materials and most details of the main facade. Without the overall symmetry and bay rhythms defined by pilasters, undifferentiated windows on the rest of the building indicate its secondary importance to that of the south facade. Facing east, a stair tower added in 1905 features odd sized windows reflecting the stairs and bathrooms within. Wall materials, including corner cut stone pilasters, match those facing south. Capping the stair tower, a hipped roof with a slightly lower ridge intersects that of the east wing. Beyond the intersecting stair tower, the east wing and north elevation of the main wing continue uninterrupted until the single-story

kitchen addition of 1904. A crenelated brick parapet surrounds the cement plaster-faced addition, intersecting the main and west wings at the second floor window level. Paired windows face east, a large segmentally arched-head service entrance faces north, and three individual windows complete the north and west facades of the single-story addition. At the north end of the original west wing, a three-story addition extends the main building walls, minus the hipped roof. The fourth floor brick band continues as a parapet at the flat roof, punctuated by towering brick chimneys at each north end corner. At the west facade ground floor, the continuous exterior facing is interrupted by a bay window and the intersection of the covered passageway from Locke Hall. (See Locke Hall) Faced in brick, the bay window features a crenelated parapet and pointed arch window mullions.

#### **Interior:**

The Insley Hall interiors have been adapted to house three main functions: dining, student dormitories, and faculty apartments. Occupying the majority of the first floor, the dining room features Colonial Revival detailing throughout. Uniform treatment of walls and ceilings ties together the three wings into which the dining room has expanded. Painted wood beams, trimmed at the edges, span the acoustical tile ceiling. Additional woodwork comprises window and door surrounds, baseboards and dados. The most elaborate woodwork is concentrated within the original dining room area in the west wing and at south wall windows. Wide paneling frames the double door entry from the Locke Hall covered passageway. To the north of the entry can be seen a three-foot thick screen wall spanning between the original exterior walls. Classically detailed pilasters decorate the corners of the screen wall openings, which rise above to a pair of wide elliptical head arches, one actual and one circumscribed. Within the circumscribed arch, a pair of semi-circular arches rises tangentially, similarly with one actual and one circumscribed. The dining room immediately north of the screen wall focuses on the west wall bay window. Original exterior walls enclosed by the kitchen addition retain masonry openings. Recessed niches indicate those openings in the north wall, while others to the east features interior paneled doors and divided light casement windows. The remaining paneled woodwork on the first floor is concentrated along the south wall beneath the sills and lining the jambs of

casement window groupings. Institutional kitchen equipment and finishes fill the west wing north of the dining room. At the south end of the west wing, an entry vestibule serves both the dining room and a stairway upward. Ending in a baronial wood newel post, the straight-run stair features milled balusters, handrails and nosing trim, all extending up to the third floor. By contrast, the east end half-turn stair is fully constructed of iron and steel. Decorative square newels at each of three landings per floor support wrought iron posts highlighted by circles and ogee arches. The stair layout enables full illumination from windows and circular dormers above, through a continuous central open shaft. A third stair, located within the west wing third and fourth floor apartments, features ornate Colonial Revival newels and balusters.

A combination of faculty apartments and student dormitory rooms occupy each of the three upper floors. The U-shaped, double-loaded corridors continue within the side wing apartments. Intermediate doors and partitions within the main wing corridor provide potential fire separation. Typical corridor finishes include plaster walls, acoustical tile ceilings, and carpeted floors. On the fourth floor and within apartment wings, plaster ceilings, narrow pine strip flooring and many transomed door surrounds remain intact. Five-panel doors are typical throughout. Original finishes are more prevalent within apartments. Built-in closets, acoustical tile ceilings and linoleum flooring or carpet obscure most dorm room finishes, although the overall building layout remains intact.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

As the second building of the Blair Academy, the original boarding house known as Blair Hall possessed a commanding overlook toward Blairstown's Main Street. A two-story high front veranda dominated the Greek Revival building, contrasting stylistically with the humble three room original Academy Building down the hill. After fire destroyed Blair Hall in 1867, designs for a replacement retained the prominent siting of the former building. In the popular Italianate style of the time, the new three-story stone building perched upon a ridge in the fashion of a grand country palazzo. Facade symmetry, organized by full-height pilasters, indicated a formal central entrance, demarcated from afar by a central decorated cupola. Commanding its rural landscape, the 1869 Blair Hall represented the anticipated prominence of the Blair Academy.

In 1889, the Blair Academy began an evaluation of its facilities that initiated a period of remarkable growth. Housing all of the students, teachers, and administrative staff for its first thirty years, the existing Blair Hall was no longer adequate for the growing school. Rather than demolish it, the administration took advantage of a failing roof structure as justifiable cause to add a fourth floor. Having successfully completed adjacent Locke and Ivy Halls, architect Addison Hutton was selected to design the addition and renovations. By treating the stone walls of the existing three-story building as a completed entity, Hutton avoided problems inherent in attempting to match the facades by extension. A band of dark red brick visually increases the slight setback of the new construction, contrasting with the walls below. The overall effect is one of a steeply pitched picturesque roofscape capping the original three-story masonry building.

The dominant presence of Insley Hall has guided the direction of subsequent construction on the campus. Joined by Locke, Ivy and Clinton Halls, Insley Hall forms the east end of a line of academic buildings that create a unified facade when viewed from the main Academy entry road. The powerful siting of the initial 1850 Blair Hall persevered through the destruction of fire and the developments of burgeoning growth to direct the shape of the Blair Academy of today.

#### **CHRONOLOGY:**

1850--Construction of "The Boarding House," 64 x 26 feet, two stories, wood frame, prominent verandas, cupola; housed thirty students, teachers, principal and family (Mr. Moore, second Blair Academy principal)

1862-64--Mr. S.S. Stevens (fifth principal) added third floor and two wings

1867--December, destroyed by fire

1869--Construct new stone three-story building with a \$10,000 endowment from J.I. Blair

1874--Epidemic forced school closing, enabling extensive renovations, including stucco exterior, covered porches at front and rear, steam heat entire dorm, water supply, interior running water

1883-84--Interior renovations

1892-93--Recitation rooms moved to Ivy Hall, three former recitation rooms in Insley converted to dorm rooms. Renovate, repartition dining room, new yellow pine floor, light fixtures, removed wainscoting to patch plaster walls

1899--Fourth floor added within new steel roof structure, rooms renovated on second and third floors: new closets, built in marble washstands, corridor narrowed to enlarge rooms; dining room on first floor altered; financed by J.I. Blair in the last year of his life; construction initially was in response to the failing roof structure.

1900--Main Building renamed "Insley Hall" after recently deceased J.I. Blair's mother, Rachel Insley Blair.

1900-01--Entrance from Locke Hall covered passage widened for double doors.

1901--Porch built, financed by DeWitt Clinton Blair

1904--Kitchen addition: seven rooms in single story, with skylights in roof; servants' bathrooms installed in second and third floors; possible upper level addition to west wing.

1906--Stair tower added at east end, wood stair removed and boys' sitting room enlarged

1923--temporarily housed library after Clinton fire, library relocated to Ivy Hall in 1924

1941--New acoustical tile ceiling in dining room

1953--New dishwashing room

1956--Dispensary relocated to new infirmary

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Laundry  
Recitation Hall  
Recreation Hall  
Stone Hall  
Ivy Hall (c.1927)

**COMMON NAME:** Ivy Hall

**Construction date:** 1889

**Source of date:** Blair Academy Records, Blair Breeze

**Architect:** Addison Hutton

**Style:** Richardsonian Romanesque

**Stories:** Two plus attic, and finished basement

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Rough cut ashlar

**Fenestration:** Six-over-six double hung wood sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate shingled hipped roof with individual stone chimneys at east, west, and north sides, double ornamental chimney at south side.

**Square footage:** 6,435

**Original use:** Laundry, boiler room and dormitory rooms

**Present use:** Offices, dormitory rooms, and student lounge

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The rectangular mass of Ivy Hall is a scaled down and much simplified version of neighboring Locke Hall. Both were designed by Philadelphia architect Addison Hutton and constructed in 1889. The heavily rusticated rough-cut ashlar is especially prominent on Ivy Hall, due to the lack of other competing architectural detailing. The steeply sloping site enables distinct longitudinal elevations despite the uniformity of detailing. Facing east, the two-story, five-bay facade is intersected by the stone arch bridge providing access from Locke Hall. Along the three-bay north and south facades, the grade slopes down to reveal the basement level as a full additional story at the west facade. A dressed stone watertable fully encircles the building, providing a division between the more articulated upper two stories and the flatter stonework of the basement below. Dressed cut stone is found on all sills and lintels of lower openings. On the

top floor, window heads are framed in matching semi-circular stone arches, continuously linked around the building by a course of slightly projecting ashlar laid vertically at the arch spring points. The south facade double chimney frames a similar but smaller arched opening between a single smooth-cut coping stone on each side. The two east entrances feature single leaf wood and glass doors deeply set in rectangular openings. The larger entrance at the center of the west facade features a single-leaf door surround by side lights and a divided light transom above. Other exterior woodwork is limited to the flat fascia board below a projecting cyma-recta profile cornice at the hipped roof edge.

### **Interior:**

In its current use as a student lounge, the ground floor of Ivy Hall has been completely renovated. A kitchen and food service area occupy the northeast corner. The area south of the entrance has been separated with a raised floor into a student lounge. An exterior areaway and door provide direct access to the lounge. Five steps down from the lounge, the remaining ground floor is an open space with built-in seating along the west exterior wall. Wallpaper, a continuous acoustical tile ceiling, carpet and linoleum tile flooring obscure original finishes. The four cast iron columns along the centerline of the space have been covered with carpet. On the first floor, gypsum wallboard partitions divide the space into an entry area, four enclosed offices, and rest rooms behind a partitioned hallway. Hung acoustical tiles cover the ceiling and floors are carpeted throughout. The main shafts of the cast-iron columns are exposed, with the decorative capitals hidden by the dropped ceiling. Contemporary features include a transom above the entry area reception desk, and in the southwest corner office, glazed double doors and built-in cabinetry. The second floor retains the layout and many of the finishes constructed during its c.1919 renovation into a dormitory. A double-loaded corridor serves six dormitory rooms, a bathroom and a housemaster's apartment at the south end. The corridor continues through to Locke Hall via the arch bridge completed in 1904. Plaster walls and ceilings, dark stained oak trim and baseboards and narrow pine flooring remain throughout. At the north end of the corridor, a casement window within the original arched masonry opening provides fire escape access.

## **SIGNIFICANCE:**

As a visual continuation of Locke Hall, Ivy Hall represents the deliberate establishment of an architectural style within a master plan designed by the Blair Academy during its period of expansion into a full facility coeducational school. Sited on the opposite side of the main entry road from Locke Hall, Ivy Hall's original function of framing the approach was further enhanced fourteen years later with the construction of the arch bridge directly linking it to Locke. Its rough stone facades contribute to the grouping of buildings designed by Addison Hutton, a prominent Philadelphia architect known for his institutional, residential and ecclesiastical designs in various late Victorian styles. Originally housing a dormitory and laundry facilities, Ivy Hall's many uses (see chronology) throughout its ninety-nine year history indicate its adaptability and importance to the Academy's development.

## **CHRONOLOGY:**

1889--Built as designed by Addison Hutton as laundry, boiler room, dormitory for boys and staff.

1898--The laundry was moved to Paulina, and Headmaster Sharpe converted Ivy to a Recitation Hall, with seven recitation rooms and Headmaster's office, Chemistry and Physics laboratories.

1904--The second floor was converted to a Girls' gymnasium which was entered via an arch bridge (built in 1903-04) from Locke Hall. The boiler was relocated to a new building.

1919--The second floor was converted to dormitory for 16 boys.

1923--The post office and bookroom (library storage) were relocated from Clinton.

1924--The chemistry lab was moved from the first floor to the basement. The first floor became the library, reading room and post office.

1953--The library was relocated to Memorial Hall. The first floor became the Visual Aids and Mechanical drawing rooms.

1979--Basement lounge installed.

Present--First floor contains offices, and the second floor contains seven dormitory rooms and bathroom.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** The Girls' Building  
The West Wing  
Locke Hall (1901)

**COMMON NAME:** Locke Hall

**Construction date:** 1889

**Source of date:** Architect's drawings, Blair Breeze

**Architect:** Addison Hutton

**Style:** Richardsonian Romanesque

**Stories:** Three plus attic and basement

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Rough cut ashlar

**Fenestration:** Wood, double-hung, six-over-six sash, two-over-two on south (main) facade

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate covered multiple gables; seventeen brick and seven stone chimneys

**Square footage:** 19,355

**Original use:** Dormitory, offices, gymnasium, water tower

**Present use:** Dormitory, offices, faculty apartments, book store, parlor

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

Sited and scaled to appear as a single grandiose residence, Locke Hall presents its transverse facade aligned with the long facade of Insley Hall. Its south (front) facade is articulated as two end gables, thereby reducing its perceived width into two smaller volumes. The long east and west elevations forming the sides of the basically rectangular building exhibit an overall pattern of straightforward fenestration expressing the three main floor levels. On the north end, an ell-shaped wing ends at an engaged stone chimney. An arched bridge connecting with the second floor of Ivy Hall was added to the chimney base in 1903. An enclosed stone loggia with fenestrated arches extends from the east facade to connect with Insley Hall.

The entire exterior is dominated by the heavily rusticated rough cut ashlar. Laid in irregular courses, the grey granite conveys permanence and strength. Subtle decoration includes stones laid in arches to frame

openings on each facade. At the bridge connecting to Ivy Hall, the stone on the entry (south) side of the arch is keyed into the horizontal coursing. A string course of contrasting smooth cut stone lines the entire building at the third floor sill level, interrupted only by a single window at each stairhall.

Similar cut stone forms the building water table and the sills and lintels of all windows below the cornice. The elongated first floor windows increase their perceived height in the Renaissance tradition. Although seventeen corbeled brick chimneys can be glimpsed marching down the center roof, painted wood trim provides the strongest contrast to the exterior stonework. Woodwork includes all window frames and sash, and a flat wood fascia beneath a projecting profiled cornice surrounding the building at the edge of the roof. Slate shingled gables, hipped ends and dormers decorate the roofscape above.

Facing south, the main facade end gables are trimmed as pediments above slightly projecting bays. The bays frame a narrow recessed center portion, one window wide. A stone bracketed balcony at the third floor sill course beneath an arch head window and a dormer above highlight the center entrance bay. Palladian derived windows, with stone surrounds and an arched transom are framed within the pediment trim of each gable. On the ground level, a projecting stone base spans the facade to support a full-width porch. Elaborate stone arches frame the porch corners, capped by stepped coping stones delineating the sloped porch roof. Two Doric columns at the porch wall frame the wood paneled and glazed door, sidelights, and transom.

On the west facade, ornamental detailing focuses on the side entrance. Originally designed as a covered carriage porch extending out over the drive, the porch as built consists of six stone piers supporting Doric wood columns below a shed roof. The entrance is demarcated from above by a twin-peaked stone dormer featuring arched transoms above paired windows within each gable. Three monumental stone chimneys are evenly spaced along the facade above the continuous cornice. A third entrance to the building is located within an arched opening at the ell side of the west facade. The sweeping view of the two main facades terminates at a massive stone chimney with a square base to the height of the building cornice and a tapered octagonal shaft above. Window arrangements on the north (rear) facade express interior functions, including the narrow

elevator shaft windows beneath a stone dormer penthouse, and the staggered windows at stair landings. East facade articulation similarly indicates stair landings with staggered double windows and an arched third floor transom.

### **Interior:**

The original layout of double-loaded corridors with a discrete apartment at the south end and a service wing in the ell remains generally intact. Alterations include partitioning within the original Headmaster's apartment to create offices on the first floor and faculty apartments above. Also on the first floor, music rooms and the north end of the parlor have been converted to offices, and bathroom within the ell now serves as a bookstore. With the 1903 construction of a second floor bridge to Ivy Hall, further alterations were required in the ell wing.

The Headmaster's office on the first floor south end retains the original layout and finishes including plaster cove crown mouldings, paneled door and window trim, and ogee baseboards. Ornate Neo-Classical wood fireplace mantels appear to have been added. The originally open arched entrance from the corridor features a glazed, paneled door and sidelights beneath an elliptical transom with ogee and pointed arch mullions. The first floor corridors retain plaster cove mouldings and paneled doorways with glazed doors and transoms. The floors have been surfaced with linoleum. Three of the original four stone corner fireplaces remain exposed in the west side offices. Double door openings and trim remain on all except the northernmost office, where a closet and bathroom have been added. On the east side of the corridor, original Victorian features and the elliptical arch opening at the parlor north end were altered in the c.1941 conversion to the Colonial Revival style "Blair Room." Arch head niches, wood crown-moulding and wainscot and a fireplace with chimney breast were added. Two of the three offices north of the Blair Room feature corner fireplaces, one with a brick surround. In the ell wing first floor, an entry vestibule framed by two pairs of doors beneath elliptical arch transoms leads to a bathroom and bookstore/mail room.

The north and south ends of the corridor have open metal stairs featuring wood newel posts and handrails above a wrought iron balustrade in the Art Nouveau style. A service elevator is enclosed west of the north stair.

Second and third floor corridors and dorm rooms typically retain exposed yellow pine strip flooring, plaster walls, wood door and window surrounds and baseboards, and acoustical tile ceilings. The apartments on the south end of the upper floors retain two of the original three stone fireplaces, paneled doors and wood trim, with new partitioning for bathrooms and kitchens. The private apartment stair remains. The third floor apartment was extended north to incorporate two dorm rooms. The attic, currently used for storage, retains the large open space that once housed the girls' gymnasium until its relocation to Ivy Hall in 1904.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The construction of Locke Hall in 1899 signified the expansion of the Blair Academy into a fully committed coeducational boarding school. Named in 1901 in memory of John I. Blair's wife, Locke Hall was originally titled the "West Wing" in reference to its direct relationship to the Main Building, Insley Hall. It became known as the "Girls' Building" soon after completion, housing the dorms and gymnasium for female students. The first of four Academy buildings designed by prominent Philadelphia architect Addison Hutton, Locke Hall was intended to provide the west entrance to a string of three buildings that was to include a mirror image on the east side of Insley Hall. The cumulative effect as represented in an 1889 rendering was that of an academic village set on the ridge of a hill overlooking the town. Gables and porches would create a streetscape facing the grand front lawn of the approach road. Although the east building (to be called the Boys' Department) was never built, the linkage of Locke and Insley does present a unified facade for the main campus. The siting and exterior design of Locke indicates its dual roles both inside and out. By having a primary facade aligned with that of Insley Hall, the Academy "front" is extended, while the secondary West facade turns the main road to the north. Within the long west facade, dormers and a porch signify its student entrance on axis with the loggia connecting to Insley, while the scale of the south front gables and porch symbolize a grand country estate within which the Headmaster would reside. The Headmaster's office, and the "Green Parlors" and "Red Parlors" completing the first floor interior further illustrate the intended blurring of boundaries between student and faculty. The massive stone rustication, large scale arches and towering chimneys

attest to the aggressively confident design that Addison Hutton and his contemporaries were to adopt under the influence of H.H. Richardson as the first truly American architectural style.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**BUILDING NAME: Mason Hall**

**Construction date: 1966**

**Stories: Three**

**Architect: Scrimenti, Swackhamer and Perantoni, Somerville, N.J.**

**Exterior Wall Fabric: Stone and cement**

**Square footage: 11,760**

**Present use: Dormitory**

**Register Eligibility: Non-contributing**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Meadowbrook Cottage  
**COMMON NAME:** Meadowbrook Cottage

**Construction date:** c.1921

**Architect:** Unknown

**Style:** Colonial Revival

**Stories:** Two plus attic and basement

**Foundation:** Reinforced concrete

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Aluminum siding imitation clapboards

**Fenestration:** Wood, two-over-two, double-hung

**Roof/Chimneys:** Slate-shingled main gable with dormers and single-story gable wing, rear shed and flat porch roofs. Brick chimney projecting from ridge.

**Square footage:** 1,764

**Original Use:** Faculty residence

**Present Use:** Faculty residence

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

The long gable form and smaller gabled addition of Meadowbrook Cottage run east-west, parallel to Park Street. On its north facade, a porch with wide center stairs, square balusters, and four round Doric columns spans the full width. The symmetrical facade features a single-leaf center door between windows spaced evenly to the sides, vertically aligned with matching windows on the second floor above. Slight gable end dormers interrupt the roof eave above both windows. The east and west end-gable facades are similar with the exception of the single story addition to the west. Unadorned, aligned windows are typically centered beneath the gable form, with a smaller attic window immediately below the ridge. Facing east, an additional narrower first floor window is located off-center. The west addition, south of center on the facade, features a tripartite window on its west gable end and a single window facing north. Facing south, the rear facade features a small first floor porch beneath a projecting second floor shed-roofed bay. Detailing is simple throughout. Imitation louver shutters frame most windows and aluminum siding faces all walls, including the undersides of the slightly projecting eaves.

**Interior:**

The straightforward central stair-hall, four-room layout remains intact. Aligned with the entrance door, the wood stair features square newel posts and balusters. In the northwest quadrant, a large living room includes the stair, projecting into its southeast corner. The dining room to the east is entered through a wide, flat-trimmed opening beginning at the bottom of the stair tread. The south side of the first floor includes a kitchen, a rear entrance centered on the stair, and a room providing access to the west addition housing a "den." The four room layout continues on the second floor. The center stair opens to a hall framed by a balustrade on the stair side and a wall to the west. Two bedrooms and a study retain original door openings, while the opening to the bathroom in the southwest quadrant was relocated during extensive renovations. Plaster walls, flat door and window trim, and high flat baseboards remain throughout. Carpeting and new pine flooring on the second floor typically obscure original floor surfaces.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Set back from Park Street behind and to the west of the Bindemann Music Center, Meadowbrook Cottage symbolizes the agricultural roots that were shared by several of the Blair Academy's founders. It stands on the former Bunnell farm, near the former Bunnell House, now the Music Center. When the Academy leased the farm from descendants of founder John Bunnell in 1902, it was renamed "Meadowbrook farm." The farm was adapted to provide for all of the Academy's dairy needs, following a tradition of self-sufficiency. In 1921, Meadowbrook Cottage was built at the northern edge of the farm, accessible via a long driveway from Park Street. Similar in scale and materials to the row of Park Street houses that comprises the Blair Academy's residential district, Meadowbrook Cottage stylistically represents a trend toward the simpler, more restrained Colonial Revival that was to be seen in subsequent buildings on the main Academy campus.

**Physical condition:** Good

**Register Eligibility:** Contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** Memorial Hall  
**COMMON NAME:** Memorial Hall

**Construction date:** 1952

**Stories:** Two plus full basement

**Architect:** Delano and Aldrich, New York

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Flemish bond "Harvard Red" brick, cement plaster  
entry alcove, wood trim

**Square footage:** 14,979

**Present Use:** Library, auditorium, classrooms

**Register Eligibility:** Non-contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** The Mill  
**COMMON NAME:** The Mill Building

**Construction date:** original c. 1825; renovations c.1903  
**Source of date:** Blair Academy Records  
**Style:** Dutch Colonial  
**Stories:** Three plus attic, two at west wing  
**Foundation:** Stone  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Stone with brick and wood trim  
**Fenestration:** Wood, six-over-six, double-hung, several divided light fixed sash  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Main gambrel with intersecting gable dormer, west wing gable with hipped dormer; two thin chimneys, one brick and one concrete, both at north side  
**Original use:** Feed grain mill  
**Present use:** Library

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

Oriented east-west along Blairstown's Main Street, the longitudinal gambrel form of the Mill directly fronts the street edge. A series of brick framed arches creates an arcade at the ground level for the sidewalk to pass through. Facing south, the asymmetrical street facade features the four ground level arches, each centered beneath one of the four original upper level openings. Three of the openings are small double-hung windows. The fourth originally serving as a hoistway, extends from the floor level up to align with the other opening heads. Penetrating the wood bracketed roof eave, a rough cut ashlar double-height dormer extends up above the hoistway opening. Horizontal coursing, heavier rustication, and dressed copings differentiate the dormer stonework from that of the main wall. The fenestration consists of a continuous vertical stone opening spanned at mid-level by a vertically laid brick spandrel. Wood double doors with glazed panels are deeply set within the openings, one at each floor level. Projecting rough stone brackets at the two floor levels indicate balconies or ledges, now non-extant. A wood beam remains cantilevered from above the segmentally arched top hoistway, framed by the squared peak of the dormer face.

The East facade, originally hidden by the wood frame mill race enclosure, exposes the full gambrel form. Wide wood eave boards outline the roof slopes. Bracketed horizontal members span the gambrel at its slope intersection and extend as slight cornice returns at the roof lower edges. Within the upper "pediment" of the gambrel, half-timbers are set flush with a cement plaster facing. Hoistway openings matching those on the South facade are centered on the second and third floor levels.

Illuminating the attic and third floor are two windows, vertically stacked directly above the top hoistway. The East facade includes five other windows, two each at the second and third floors equidistant from the center but unaligned vertically, and one at grade. At the third floor level are two S-shaped iron tie rods. The unadorned North facade contains various windows dispersed within the blank stone wall, lined at the top by the wood bracketed eave cornice. An engaged concrete chimney intersects the roof near the east end. The majority of the west facade is intersected by a two-story gabled wing. The exposed portion of the original mill wall mirrors that of the east facade. A cut stone lower floor beneath a decorative half-timbered and cement plastered upper floor comprise the west wing facade. The hipped roof dormer, centered on the facade is capped by an ornamental finial. Fenestration includes wood, six-over-six, double-hung windows within the dormer and two boarded first floor openings.

#### **Interior:**

Major renovations have completely altered the original mill interior. On the first floor, an exterior arcade spans the entire street facade, behind which is the entrance to an enclosed stairway providing access to the second floor. The straight-run wood stair lands at the second floor east end, in a room defined by the east and south exterior walls and two gypsum wallboard partitions. Intact features include wide plank flooring, an exposed beamed ceiling and painted plaster exterior walls with unadorned deep window openings. An open riser wood ladder-stair extends up through a small opening in the third floor. The remainder of the second floor comprises the library. Heavy timber columns and painted plaster exterior walls remain in the room, otherwise altered by carpeting and hung acoustical ceiling tiles. To the west of the main library room, the second floor of the adjacent two-story building serves as a children's reading room, illuminated by

dormer windows to the north and south. Beaded board faces all wall and ceiling surfaces, sloped at their intersections to indicate the roof-lines.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Although significantly altered from its original form, the c.1825 Mill is the oldest building owned by the Blair Academy, pre-dating the Academy's 1848 founding. It was purchased along with accompanying land by Headmaster John C. Sharpe in 1902. Intending to convert it to public use, Dr. Sharpe, with funding by DeWitt Clinton Blair, undertook major renovations in 1903. At the ground level, an arcade of arches was cut into the stone wall. A covered passageway was thereby created to overcome the siting discrepancy between the facade of the Mill and those of its neighboring Main Street buildings. The roof was completely reconstructed from a gable to a gambrel form, resulting in greater usable space on the third floor and a new attic above. The hoistway dormer added to the third floor South facade served both decorative and functional means. As evidenced by the use of rough cut ashlar, dressed coping stones and the combined brick and stone in the arcade arches, the renovation may be attributed to Addison Hutton, architect of five other Blair Academy buildings between 1889 and 1903.

Functioning as a feed grain mill through 1935, the building then sat vacant until December 10, 1941 when the Blair Women's Club opened the "Catherine Dickson Hofman" library on the premises. As a community service building owned by the Blair Academy, the Mill epitomizes the historical interface between the town and school.

**Physical condition:** Altered, good

**Register Eligibility:** Significant

**HISTORIC NAME:** Parsonage  
**COMMON NAME:** Parsonage

**Construction date:** c.1900  
**Source of date:** Tax records  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Italianate/Queen Anne  
**Stories:** Two and one-half  
**Foundation:** Stone, brick under porch  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** German beveled wood clapboard  
**Fenestration:** One-over-one and two-over-two double-hung sash with some exterior storm sash  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Three gables, two shallow pitched porch roofs, all covered with asphalt shingles  
**Square footage:** 2,400  
**Original use:** Parsonage  
**Present use:** Residential/Faculty apartments

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

This gable-roof, wood frame building has a one-story full length porch on the first floor, with square wood posts and flat, jig-cut balusters. The main entrance, centered on the symmetrical front facade, is through a projecting bay with double panel doors and angled sidelights. Architectural features include large eaves and end returns on paired brackets, a gingerbread frieze directly beneath all upper overhangs, and projecting flattened pediments on all window hood moulds. The wide-gable dormer centered on the front facade has paired windows within a decorative pedimented surround. A recessed, two-story gable roof wing with matching fenestration, trim and front porch extends off the west end of the house.

##### **Interior:**

The interior of the Parsonage, originally a central hall plan, has been subdivided. Gypsum wallboard partitions supplement the original plaster walls. Wide bullnose trim exists on many of the door and window surrounds, along with high baseboards, and ogee caps, narrow pine flooring

and many four-panel doors.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

This house was built as a Parsonage in c.1900 for the 1875 Methodist Church adjacent to the east. In 1956 the church burned, and the Parsonage was purchased three years later by the Blair Academy for subdivision into two faculty apartments. The exterior alterations at that time included removal of the centrally placed second floor window on the main facade and replacement with German siding, and the replacement of an East facade window with a smaller one. The purchase of the Parsonage clearly represents the Academy's devotion to preservation of significant Blairstown architecture and history. It is the closest to Blairstown's Main Street of any of the Academy's residences, thereby extending the link between town and campus.

**Physical condition: Good**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Headmaster's House  
**COMMON NAME:** Sharpe House

**Construction date:** 1927

**Source of date:** Trustee's minutes, Blair Breeze

**Architect:** Druckenmiller and Williams, Philadelphia, PA

**Style:** Colonial Revival

**Stories:** Two plus basement, attic with dormers

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Random rough cut ashlar, wood trim

**Fenestration:** Various wood, double-hung, casement and fixed sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Main slate gable, segmental arched dormers, wide stone chimneys at each gable end

**Square footage:** 6,386

**Original use:** Headmaster's Residence

**Present use:** Headmaster's Residence

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

As a long gable form with flat roofed single story wings at each end, the Sharpe house presents two distinct faces. Although currently approached primarily via a driveway from the north, the main entrance facade was designed to face south. Its controlled symmetrical placement of fenestration contrasts sharply with the picturesque and varied north facade. As the main entrance prior to the predominance of the automobile, the south facade is dominated by a classically detailed portico at its center. The portico features free-standing round Doric columns supporting a pediment carved out from below with a barrel-vaulted ceiling. The eave returns of the bottom pediment moulding are intersected by the semi-circular arched form of the ceiling. A recess indicating the entablature wraps around both sides of the barrel vault, ending at the flat trim board of the building face. Flat Doric pilasters symbolize the rear support of the portico roof. A smaller arched niche centered within the portico frames the entrance door and arched transom. Diminutive windows on both sides and above the portico increase its apparent scale by comparison. Tripartite double-hung window groupings on both sides of the portico at the first and second floors and four segmentally arched dormers midway up the roof complete the main wing (south) fenestration.

Both gable ends of the main wing are dominated by a wide chimney that extends the rough cut ashlar wall up through the roof, interrupting the simple profile eave mouldings. A stepped band of smooth cut stone caps each chimney. The attic level has centered, single arch-head windows. Two double-hung windows at the second floor of the end gable face west. The east facade features three openings consisting of glazed double doors opening onto a porch, centered between double-hung windows. A slight eave end return moulding wraps around from each long facade fascia and cornice.

Facing north, the long gable "rear" facade takes a varied and asymmetrical form, although decorative motifs remain concentrated at the center. Expressing the center stairhall is an oversized Palladian window grouping with curvilinear mullions, framed within an ornately carved wood rectangular panel. A pent roof below shelters a center door and side casement windows. Fenestration on each side of the stairhall grouping is balanced yet varied. To the west, the slightly projecting wall plane features three individual windows on the ground level below paired windows penetrating the roof line. To the east, two individual windows are on the second floor, above a tripartite window grouping matching those on the south facade. The roof features one segmentally arched dormer on each side of a wide double-window, slate-sided dormer.

The single story east wing houses a sunporch surrounded by multipane casements with single leaf doors at the north and south ends. The overall symmetry of the house is emphasized by a wing to the east, similar in size but different in composition. A recessed porch facing south and a more solid stone enclosure distinguish the east wing. A wood balustrade with decorative lattice insets and wide corner posts capped by urns surrounds the roofs of both wings. To the northwest, a gabled garage with stone walls matching those of the house was later constructed, facing the curved driveway.

#### **Interior:**

The basic interior layout is divided into transverse thirds. On the first floor, a central entrance and stair hall is flanked to the east by the living room and to the west by the dining room and kitchen. The single-story end wings house a sunporch to the east and a study to the west. The stairhall division continues on the second floor, with a master bedroom to

the east and two smaller bedrooms to the west. Three bedrooms and a bathroom on the third floor are arranged to utilize dormer windows.

Ornate Colonial Revival woodwork and spatial grandeur highlight the first floor. The dominant center stair features a balustrade of thin milled spindles, fluted square newels, and a sweeping handrail ending in a swirl at the rounded bottom tread. On the second floor, the balustrade becomes the edge rail for a hall balcony overlooking the stair. The grand Palladian window at a full-width landing, carved scrolls below end nosings, crown mouldings and panelized wall trim further decorate the stairhall. Both the living and dining room woodwork includes highly profiled cornices, window and door trim. At the living room east wall, a large scale carved wood mantle and projecting overmantle frame an inset marble fireplace surround. The other fireplace, in the study of the west wing, features a simpler classically detailed mantle, framing a brick opening and hearth.

Decorative woodwork continues through to the kitchen, with built in glazed cabinetry in the Colonial Revival style. The northeast corner of the kitchen provides secondary circulation via a narrow enclosed stair. Wood trim on the upper floors is limited to window and door surrounds, baseboards and several narrow crown mouldings. Wood strip flooring and plaster walls and ceilings remain intact, although water damage exists at several dormers.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Sharpe House stands as a tribute both to the original Blair Academy ideal of joining faculty and students in a unified academic village, and to the tenure of Dr. John C. Sharpe, Headmaster from 1898-1927. During Dr. Sharpe's administration, the Academy grounds increased from twelve to three hundred landscaped acres; Insley Hall and the Old Academy Building were completely renovated; the Gymnasium, Boiler House, Meadowbrook Cottage, Clinton, West and East Halls were constructed; and the Hillside, Freeman, and Bunnell Houses and South and Wayside Cottages were purchased. Sharpe's devotion to the physical growth of the campus closely involved him in the actual designing of both the Gymnasium and West Hall. His dedication to the Academy encouraged an arrangement for his personal construction of the Sharpe House on school property, willed to the school

upon his death. Although first proposed in 1921, the Trustee's approval of the site did not occur until March of 1927, four months after Sharpe's resignation as Headmaster. The approved location extended the line of prominent facades from Insley Hall westward. Its Colonial Revival architecture incorporates a prominent residential image with the rough stone material of the neighboring academic buildings. By facing south to the distant Park Avenue, the importance of the town relative to the Academy was also reestablished.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

**HISTORIC NAME:** South Hall  
**COMMON NAME:** South Cottage

**Construction date:** 1897

**Architect:** Unknown

**Style:** Victorian/Colonial Revival

**Stories:** Two plus attic and basement

**Foundation:** Stone

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Wood clapboard

**Fenestration:** Wood, six-over-six, double-hung, with exterior storm sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Two intersecting main gables with a single large gabled dormer, all slate shingled. Metal shed roof over stair enclosure, porches and bay. One brick chimney on west facade.

**Square footage:** 5,788

**Original Use:** Single family residence

**Present Use:** Dormitory, faculty apartment

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

Two perpendicular intersecting wings dominate the building form, with various appendages concentrated on the east-west wing. At the northeast crook of the intersection, a small covered porch with a balustrade and single square post provides access to the single-leaf entry door, next to a two-story stair enclosure. Immediately south of the stair enclosure, a two-story angular bay window decorates the wide gable end of the east-west wing. The south facade features the remaining appendages in the form of a full width enclosed porch at grade and a wide gable-end double-window dormer on the roof.

Windows are typically of a standard size, regularly spaced and vertically aligned. Exceptions include the two window openings on the stair enclosure and the smaller windows centered within each of the three gable ends. On the west facade, a predominantly blank gable end includes a single column of windows, one attic window, and a full-height brick chimney. The long west facade of the north-south wing includes two paired windows and a single second floor window above the basement areaway hatch door. Typical window trim is flat, with slightly projecting

sills and hood moulds, excepting the pediment above the attic window on the north end gable facade. The wider east-west wing features more ornamental wood trim than that of the north-south wing. Overhanging gable eaves, cornices, and end returns are decorated with profiled fascias below projecting trim, contrasting with the flat barge boards and simpler overhangs on the north-south wing.

#### **Interior:**

In the conversion to dormitory use, a double-loaded corridor was created on the first floor. Providing access to six separate dorm rooms, the corridor runs north-south, ending at the doorway to the enclosed porch on the south end. Surrounded by double-hung windows and a glazed door at each end, the porch retains exposed crown mouldings, window trim, and clapboards. Although window trim remains throughout the rest of the building, other original fabric has been obscured by gypsum wallboard partitions, acoustical tile ceilings, linoleum, and carpeting. Unique remaining features include a portion of a decorative pressed tin ceiling exposed in a closet and a heavily profiled wood mantle on the first floor chimney breast. A simple wood scissor stair and square spindle balustrade within a separate enclosure next to the entrance provides access to the basement and second floor hall. The north wing basement has been finished for a communal bathroom containing showers and wood panel toilet stalls. The second floor contains two dorm rooms in the north end and a faculty apartment in the remainder, with separate stairs incorporating the east-west gable attic as its finished third floor. Within the apartment, a kitchen and bathrooms have been added, however many original four-panel doors and related hardware, flat trim and baseboards remain.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

Located down the hill and across Academy road from the original Old Academy building, South Cottage was purchased by DeWitt Clinton Blair for the Blair Academy in 1902 during its period of greatest expansion. Originally the Parsonage for the Blairstown Presbyterial Church, it served as a faculty residence until it was remodeled in 1918 to house twenty students. In the summer of 1925, the leaking flat roof was replaced with the current gable roof. From a full dormitory, reverting to a faculty residence with the opening of the East Hall dormitories, to the current

combined occupancy, the history of South Cottage demonstrates the degree to which faculty and students have shared residences. Its ambiguous location between the main campus and the Blairstown residential area has created a somewhat isolated rural setting, enabling a combination of features from both the campus buildings and the row of similar white clapboard houses along Park Street.

**Physical condition: Good**

**Register Eligibility: Contributing**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Wayside Barn  
**COMMON NAME:** Wayside Barn

**Construction date:** c. 1890  
**Source of date:** Tax records  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Colonial Revival  
**Stories:** Two  
**Foundation:** Stone and concrete  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** German beveled wood siding  
**Fenestration:** Double-hung, two-over-two windows at upper level; sliding wood cross-braced doors at grade  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Two gables with asphalt shingles  
**Square footage:** 1,500  
**Original use:** Barn  
**Present use:** Garage, storage

#### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

##### **Exterior:**

This wood frame, gable-roofed, two-story building has a one-story, two-bay garage addition to the east. In the original wing, large sliding cross-braced doors span the north elevation first floor. A second-story hoist opening and two windows complete the north (main) facade. The remaining elevations feature German beveled siding with sparse, irregular, unadorned windows.

##### **Interior:**

The structure of the barn is exposed, as are the interior walls which display wood siding on the stud frame. The lower floor is concrete paved and the upper floor has wood planking. The one-story addition interior is faced with beaded board.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Wayside Barn's location within the residential neighborhood attests to

the village setting of mixed-use structures. The white wood siding and large gable massing fits within context of neighboring buildings, illustrating the uniformity of Blair Academy structures within the town setting.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Contributing**

**HISTORIC NAME:** Wayside Cottage  
**COMMON NAME:** Wayside Cottage

**Construction date:** c.1890  
**Source of date:** Tax records  
**Architect:** Unknown  
**Style:** Queen Anne  
**Stories:** Two and one-half  
**Foundation:** Parged stone  
**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Painted wood clapboard and fishscale shingle siding  
**Fenestration:** Double-hung, one-over-one, with exterior storm sash  
**Roof/Chimneys:** Three intersecting slate gables, flat roofs at bay and porches  
**Square footage:** 2,100  
**Original use:** Residential  
**Present use:** Residential/Faculty apartments

### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

#### **Exterior:**

This wood frame building features a gable end front facade with three bays. A curved wrap-around porch extends across the first floor north (front) facade to the middle of the west elevation. The porch has classically detailed round columns with a square post balustrade. The asymmetrical east elevation has a two story bay window under the cross gable. The west elevation is also asymmetrical with smaller windows interspersed throughout. The rear elevation shows a cross gable and a small enclosed rear addition. Architectural details include one-over-one windows with slightly projecting hood moulds, clapboard siding with fishscale shingles in the wide end gable of the front elevation and the small cross gable and a lower band on the east elevation.

#### **Interior:**

The original asymmetrical layout with side stair and three large rooms plus an intersecting rear wing on each floor is relatively intact. Architectural details include an oval beveled glass door into entry foyer, a stairhall with

square newels and turned balusters, gently curved and beaded millwork with corner rosettes at most openings; five-panel doors, and ogee and concave baseboards. Alterations include the conversion into two apartments which required closing off two openings by making the doors inoperable and the renovation of a bedroom to a kitchen on the second floor, and the replacement of some original door and window trim with flat board trim.

**SIGNIFICANCE:**

Wayside Cottage was purchased to house overflow students from the Infirmary in 1919 during an influenza epidemic. As the most intact of the 1890s residences purchased by the Blair Academy, Wayside Cottage attests to the scaled down stylistic features typical of Victorian Blairstown. The massing, scale, detailing and spacious siting harmoniously blend with the free-standing houses which have become the residential district for Blair Academy faculty. The simple street facade of a wide gable end and wrap-around porch presents a restrained, contextual facade masking the more picturesque, asymmetrical massing behind. The uniformity of materials, color and scale with adjacent Park Street houses contributes to the successfully diminished borders between town and campus.

**Physical condition:** Excellent

**Register Eligibility:** Contributing

**HISTORIC NAME:** West Hall  
**COMMON NAME:** West Hall

**Construction date:** 1912

**Source of date:** Memories of Blair, Blair Academy Yearbook 1912-13,  
Original blueprints

**Architect:** Charles P. Warren, 15 West 38th St., New York, N.Y.

**Style:** Neoclassical

**Stories:** Three with basement

**Foundation:** Concrete

**Exterior Wall Fabric:** Sand-textured cement; plaster on concrete double  
walls, 4" air space between

**Fenestration:** Six-over-six, double-hung with exterior storm sash

**Roof/Chimneys:** Square hipped roof around central skylight, surfaced  
with corrugated red Spanish clay tile

**Square footage:** 10,812

**Original use:** Junior Boys' dormitory

**Present use:** Coed dormitory

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **Exterior:**

The almost perfectly square (54'-8" x 55'-8") West Hall is situated parallel to the axes of the main Academy buildings which, at the time of its construction, were Insley, Locke, Ivy and Clinton Halls. Approached obliquely from Academy Drive, the two primary facades are symmetrically composed with similar detailing. The full-width porch and Classical portico differentiate the South facade as that of the entrance. At the South facade, a flight of five wide concrete steps leads to the porch, framed in an ornamental wrought iron railing. The prostyle wood portico features two detached round Doric columns and two flat Doric pilasters beneath a wide dentillated entablature and flat roof. A fanlight transom and side panels frame the entrance door behind. Architectural features shared by all but the rear facade include four monumental pilasters forming a flattened temple front with wood Ionic capitals, centered beneath three pedimented dormers. Graduated horizontal window spacing further emphasizes the facade centers. Raised panels between the first and second floor windows extend the verticality within and beyond the pilasters. The hipped roof

eaves are heavily decorated with wood cornice moulding and dentils above an astragal surrounding the building. Between the center pilasters of the two side facades, Palladian windows at the first floor within an incised arch below a tripartite second floor window all highlight the facade centers. At the less prominent west facade, simple recessed panels substitute for the windows framed by the outer pilasters of the east side. The unadorned north (rear) facade contains four evenly spaced window bays.

#### **Interior:**

The interior is dominated by a three-story high atrium. Dormitory rooms are arranged around the skylit atrium, which serves as a living room on the first floor, visible from the "galleries" at each floor which overlook the atrium and provide access to the rooms. Straight run wood stairs provide for vertical circulation along the north wall of the atrium. The main floor is entered from a single leaf door centered on the south facade. The low, dark-beamed ceiling of the entry space contrasts with the expansive atrium beyond. The undersides of the galleries surrounding the atrium are also beamed. Other Mission Style detailing includes the square post balustrades and newels, paneled fascias at the stair stringers and gallery edges and flat baseboards, door and window trim, all in dark stained oak. The first and second floor plans are similar, with a faculty room and private bath in the southeast corner, common lavatories in the center third of the north wall and dorm rooms arranged three to a side. The third floor consists of a series of single and double dorm rooms arranged to utilize the three dormers at each facade. Originally a large open playroom, the basement currently houses a day care center for faculty children. A painted stair otherwise similar to those above, and an exterior areaway at the east facade provide access to the space which has a concrete floor and an acoustical tile ceiling. Typical interior finishes on the three main floors include painted plaster walls and ceilings (some acoustical panel ceilings have been added), narrow strip pine floors, and five-panel oak doors.

#### **SIGNIFICANCE:**

The construction of West Hall in 1912 set a standard for Blair Academy expansion that continues through to today. Its siting parallel to and behind the adjacent core buildings of Insley, Locke, Ivy and Clinton Halls initiated a new direction for the growth of the main Academy campus, as well as

symbolizing the prominent yet somewhat sheltered role of the younger male students it was to house. Headmaster John C. Sharpe actively involved himself in the design of the building in an attempt to combine the best of dormitory living with a homey atmosphere to ease the transition of younger boarders. Sharpe's exposure to the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago led him to adapt the "ideal New Jersey home" for the West Hall layout. The building exterior was entrusted to architect Charles P. Warren, whose Neoclassical facades bear strong resemblance to those of the Troy Conference Academy he designed earlier in 1912. The formality of classical exterior detailing gives way to rustic Mission Style interiors in an attempt to present a strong image while containing a comfortable home.

**Physical condition: Excellent**

**Register Eligibility: Significant**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetBlair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New JerseySection number 8 Page 2

that nominated Abraham Lincoln, Blair was first exposed to the western frontier. He built his western empire while remaining interested in politics. The 1868 New Jersey Republican Convention nominated him for governor, a race he lost to the incumbent Governor Randolph. Until old age forced his retirement, Blair attended every Republican national convention from the party's founding through 1892. After establishing the Union Pacific Railroad and building the first 100 miles west of Omaha, Blair became one of the premier settlers of the American West. He eventually was president of sixteen railroads while becoming one of the world's foremost railroad land owners. In establishing more than eighty new towns, Blair owned land equivalent to half the State of New Jersey.

In the mold of the great "Robber barons" of the industrial revolution, Blair possessed a shrewd business acumen coupled with fierce loyalty and devotion to philanthropic causes. Through donations of land and money, over one hundred Presbyterian churches were established in the eighty-plus western towns he helped found. Despite amassing an estate valued at seventy million dollars, he remained a committed resident of Blairstown, sitting on the Board of the Presbytery and donating fervently to the Blair Academy.

Blair's childhood most likely instilled the distant respect with which he viewed education. Limited to several winter months of schooling per year, Blair entered into business at age eleven, having declared "I have seven brothers and three sisters. That's enough in the family to be educated. I am going to get rich." His paternalistic affection for the educational and religious institutions he supported can be traced to a personal philosophy of inherent moral standards supplemented by religious observance and sharpened with academic training to produce a strong society of interdependent industry, religion and education.

The commitment of John I. Blair (August 22, 1802-December 2, 1899) to the Blair Academy extended throughout his life and long after his death through his endowments and the continued support of his descendents. Of the first eight Academy buildings, all but the original Boys' Gymnasium were personally funded by Blair and his son, DeWitt Clinton Blair. In addition to the direct financing of construction, Blair also provided the early means of transportation to Blairstown by the establishment of the "Dinkey" Railroad in 1876. This line and its subsequent offshoots increased the Academy's accessibility beyond the immediate vicinity, leading to its dramatic growth. Early Blair endowments, increased to \$225,000 by the 1890s, enabled the school to attract high quality educators, and true to Blair's philosophy, maintain a policy of available education for "those of moderate means." In 1863, the trustees adopted a resolution providing for

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

sons of ministers of Newton Presbytery free tuition in perpetuity. With large endowments to both Lafayette College and Princeton University, Blair established a relationship for providing financial support to Blair Academy graduates into the collegiate level. After John I. Blair's death in 1899, his son continued the family commitment to the Academy by funding the construction of Clinton Hall and the Gymnasium, in addition to renovations and major land acquisitions. John I. Blair's daughter, Emma E., married noted New York Publisher Charles Scribner, who donated the Scribner Library and its endowment. Grandsons C. Ledyard and John I. sat on the Academy Board until their deaths, extending the family support for three generations.

The issue of public versus private education is crystallized in the example of the Blair Academy. Inadequate state funding for education created a need for privately funded schools. Recognizing this educational void, in 1848 Newton Presbytery elders John Bunnell, Reverend John Reilly and John I. Blair contributed their leadership, educational guidance and money, respectively, to build a school. The respectful relationship between the Blair Academy and the public school system was exemplified in the sharing of the original Blair Academy building by both schools until the public school building was completed. Religious affiliation, initially strong, was later incorporated into a well-rounded education based in "uniformly upholding the New Testament ideal of character." The original Academy building, secular in detailing but with a church-like bell tower, survives as an archetypical one-room school house on the hill closest to town. The Blair Academy's reputation for quality soon expanded its student base beyond the immediate vicinity. The transformation from a day school into a boarding school was facilitated in 1850 with the construction of Blair Hall, the building which stood on the site of the current Insley Hall. Located on a ridge higher than the original Academy building, Blair Hall housed all boarding students and faculty together in a large-scale wood frame Greek Revival house. The rebuilding of Blair Hall in 1869 after a fire had destroyed the original frame building provided John I. Blair the opportunity to create a larger masonry boarding house. Beginning in 1889, Blair was to finance over the next fifteen years, a period of rapid growth for the Academy, Locke Hall (1889), Ivy Hall (1889), the addition to Insley Hall, formerly Blair Hall (1899), Clinton Hall (1901) and the Boiler House (1903), as well as the purchase of South Cottage (1902), the Mill (1903), Hillside House (1903) and the Freeman House (1904). With this rapid growth came an unusually strong commitment to careful master planning that produced a campus of strong identity and clear hierarchy.

OCT 11 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

Much of the credit for the resulting appearance belongs to architect Addison Hutton (1834-1916), one of the most prolific Philadelphia architects of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Trained by Samuel Sloan in the Italianate style, Hutton went on to form a partnership with Sloan and then establish a thriving independent practice. Historian George Tatum observed that "Hutton was among the last of his generation who would continue to receive major commissions despite the fact that he had never had the advantage of instruction at the French Ecole or at one of the American schools patterned after it." The less rigid conformity of Hutton's architecture to European Beaux Arts revivalism than that of many contemporaries and his exuberant adaptations of H.H. Richardson's distinctly American architecture may be attributed to his lack of European schooling. His masterful use of rough masonry influenced by the Gothic, Italianate, and Richardsonian Romanesque styles carried him through a 53-year long career of institutional, commercial and residential commissions. Noteworthy examples of his academic designs are concentrated on the campuses of Bryn Mawr, Haverford and Swarthmore Colleges, Lehigh University, and the Blair Academy.

At the Blair Academy, four buildings and two renovations can be attributed to Hutton. Locke, Ivy and Clinton Halls and the Boiler House were fully produced from Hutton's office, while the fourth floor addition of Insley Hall and the facade of the renovated Mill on Main Street bear his design signature. With direct responsibility for five of the most prominent campus buildings, Hutton's influence extends beyond architectural detailing alone. The master planning of the main campus has addressed the relationship between buildings, vistas, and responses to the natural terrain and accommodations for future growth. An 1899 rendering by Hutton illustrates the direction in which subsequent construction was to occur. With the long facade of Insley Hall as the centerpiece along the ridge of a hill, additional dormitories were proposed, one at each side, to frame Insley Hall. Although the East Dormitory was never built, the construction of buildings west of Insley follows the rendering's overall intent. Conforming to a clear hierarchy, the smaller buildings housing secondary functions were to be located to the north. The cumulative effect of the landscaping and building locations resulted in a meandering approach road from the town, winding up along a gradually unfolding facade of aligned and similarly detailed buildings. A commanding view from below, the carefully controlled vistas designed organically with the hilly terrain produce an engaging progression of a unified architecture. The relationships between Insley, Locke, Ivy and Clinton Halls are further reinforced when seen from close-up. After the road climbs the hill revealing frontal views of Insley, then Locke, it becomes diverted by the end facade of Clinton Hall directly ahead. The re-oriented road then parallels the side elevation of Locke Hall, culminating in a great rusticated stone arch and chimney

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

tower. As the road passes beneath the arch, the rest of the campus is revealed, as if the previous buildings were a single facade and the arch, its entrance. The carefully controlled relationships between the main buildings of the Blair Academy is not unique. The history of academical villages in America is dominated by the model of Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia. From Charlottesville in the 1810s to the State University of New York in the 1960s, campus planners have linked individual buildings along shared axes to defined space. At the Blair Academy, rather than enclosing a common space, the intent was to create a linear progression of unified facades.

Two axes link the main buildings both internally and externally. The major axis begins with the long corridors of Insley Hall, aligning with the ground level enclosed passageway connecting to Locke Hall. Through Locke Hall's 'L'-shaped plan, the short leg extends the common axis to the side entrance, highlighted by a porch and double gable dormers. Directly across the entrance road from the Locke Hall porch, a stone arched bridge resumes the axis, leading to the wide central corridors of Clinton Hall. Parallel to and north of the main axis, a second axis is defined externally by the stone arched bridge linking Locke and Ivy Halls.

Within each building facade, architect Hutton employed techniques that combined an attention to detail common in his residential works with the larger scale required of an academic village. His first campus buildings, Locke and Ivy Halls, are completely faced in heavily rusticated rough ashlar, giving an image of permanence and solidity to the fledgling Academy. Large stone gables and a full-length porch symbolize the grand country estate in which the Headmaster resided, while the repetitive arched windows and multitude of rooftop chimneys indicate the student dormitories in the remainder of Locke Hall. The smaller size and utilitarian functions within Ivy Hall enabled Hutton to concentrate more on the appearance of a gatehouse marking the road's passage beyond the unified facades of the main buildings. Hutton's next Blair Academy commission involved the renovation and expansion of the main campus building, Insley Hall. Treating the new fourth floor as a picturesque roofscape rather than as an extension of the stuccoed three stories below, Hutton effectively used contrasting dark red brick and dormer windows in a mansard roof to reduce the scale of the addition. In his next campus buildings, Clinton Hall and the Boiler House, Hutton continued the use of rusticated ashlar, with walls of red brick above. At Clinton Hall, the device of capping light colored stone on the main walls with dark red brick at the upper story can be traced to Hutton's addition at Insley Hall. The resultant evolving campus style found at Insley and Clinton Halls maintains a similar stone cornice height below receding dark red brick walls and a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JUL 11 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

picturesque roofscape. The Boiler House, set low to the ground in a swale behind the main buildings, also combines light stone below dark brick to emphasize the break between walls and roofscape.

The next architect to have a significant impact on the appearance of the Blair Academy was Charles Warren of New York. Working within the established general campus layout, Warren located both West Hall in 1912 and the Gymnasium in 1915 behind and parallel to the existing main buildings, creating a "second tier" of buildings visible upon entering the stone arch between Locke and Insley Halls. Headmaster John C. Sharpe was to play an unusually strong role in the design and construction of both buildings, illustrating the degree to which he shaped the campus during his tenure from 1898-1927. Similarities between West Hall and the "ideal New Jersey home" exhibited in the Chicago 1893 Columbian Exposition are attributed to Sharpe's personal impressions at the Exposition. Several years of observing many school gymnasiums led Sharpe to produce the Blair gymnasium layout emphasizing useful spaces clearly organized around a central entrance. The pioneering use of cellular concrete construction in both buildings owes much to Sharpe's concern for fireproof and energy efficient construction.

Subsequent Blair Academy expansion followed two general directions established in the initial phase of growth. The main campus construction continued to spread north of the original buildings while acquisition of Blairstown houses and the careful landscaping of the expanding grounds further blurred the distinction between town and campus. Blairstown, previously named "Smith's Mills" and "Gravel Hill," had been a hamlet of one hundred and fifty people, two churches, one general store, one hotel, the old mill, a carriage factory, mechanics' shops and twenty-five houses in 1848 when the Blair Academy was founded. The 1848 Academy Building temporarily housed the local public school in one wing. A strong interdependence was thereby established between the Academy and Blairstown that was to continue throughout the history of both. Subsequent expansion of the Academy included the purchase of houses within the town, thereby preserving a residential district between the main campus and the commercial and residential Blairstown Main Street. The 1902 purchase and 1903 renovation of Main Street's Mill Building represented the beginning of the Academy's efforts to create a secondary pedestrian entrance to the campus, as well as preserve the oldest extant building in Blairstown. In 1904, the Academy dammed Blair Lake to create a waterfall and footbridge as the scenic backdrop to the Mill Building and the Blair Academy's Main Street entrance.

By emphasizing the continuous use of and respect for the dominant historical architecture, the trustees of the Blair Academy have been able to sensitively

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

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preserve the idyllic academic village. The urbanistic arrangement and impressive architectural quality of the buildings designed by Addison Hutton around the turn of the century has assured their preservation and role as a model for future growth. Much as enlightened benefactor John I. Blair sought to create a legacy based on the relationships between industry, religion, and education, so too have the shapers of the physical appearance of the Blair Academy created a campus sensitive to the relationships found in the various architectural styles, natural settings and academic purposes.

OCT 11 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number     P     Page     3    

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

BLAIR ACADEMY  
NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT  
PHOTOGRAPHS

- HV 1. Historical view: Blairstown aerial rendering. Note Insley Hall inset and campus at upper left, c.1880
- \*HV 2. Historical view: Aerial view looking east. Note row of main buildings at right. Photo by Headmaster Charles Breed, 1930.
- \*HV 3. Historical view: View south of main building facades. Note Gateway House and campus entrance in foreground, after 1903.
- \*HV 4. Historical view: South elevations of Locke and Insley Halls, pre-1899.
- \*HV 5. Historical view: South elevations of Locke and Insley Halls, after 1899.
- HV 6. Historical view: View west along entrance drive of Insley, Locke and Clinton Halls, c.1930.
- HV 7. Historical view: View north along entrance drive to arch connecting Ivy and Locke Halls, after 1903.
- \*HV 8. Historical view: Entrance to campus, c.1930.
- HV 9. Historical view: View west along Park Street of Wayside Cottage (left) and Bindeman Music Center, c.1920.
- HV 10. Historical view: View north of Blair Lake and footbridge, c.1920.
- HV 11. View east of cemetery. Note tallest obelisk at John I. Blair grave.
- \*AC 1. Historical view: Old Academy Building, south and east elevations showing addition, pre-1899.
- \*AC 2. Old Academy Building, south elevation
- \*AC 3. Old Academy Building, north and east elevations
- AC 4. Old Academy Building, west and south elevations
- AC 5. Old Academy Building, living room, view southwest to entry hall
- AC 6. Old Academy Building, detail of window
- AL 1. Arts and Languages Building, view northeast
- \*AL 2. Arts and Languages Building, view north, showing rear facade
- AL 3. Arts and Languages Building, typical classroom
- AL 4. Arts and Languages Building, stair
- \*BI 1. Bindemann Music Center, north and east elevations
- BI 2. Bindemann Music Center, south and west elevations
- BI 3. Bindemann Music Center, first floor, kitchen
- BI 4. Bindemann Music Center, second floor, northeast room
- BI 5. Bindemann Music Center, first floor, newel detail

\* - Photographs submitted to the National Register.

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

OCT 11 1989

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

Section number   P   Page   1  

Photographs

All contemporary photographs share the following information:

1. Property: Blair Academy
2. City, State: Blairstown, New Jersey
3. Photographers: Rebecca Trumbull, Steven Wiesenthal
4. Dates of photos: April-August 1987
5. Negatives located with: Rebecca Trumbull and Steven Wiesenthal

All historical views photocopied from prints in the Blair Academy archives.

Photographs of individual buildings are located with the inventory entry for the particular building, and given the following codes:

- AC Old Academy Building AC 1-AC 6
- AL Arts and Languages Building AL 1-AL 4
- BI Bindemann Music Center BI 1-BI 15
- BH Boiler House BH 1-BH 4
- CH Clee House CH 1
- CL Clinton Hall CL 1-CL 15
- \*\* DH Dayton House DH 1
- DB Double House DB 1-DB 4
- ED East and Davies Halls ED 1-ED 9
- FG Faculty Garage FG 1-FG 4
- FH Freeman Hall FH 1
- FR Freeman House FR 1-FR 6
- GA Gateway House GA 1-GA 5
- GY Gymnasium GY 1-GY 10
- HI Hillside House HI 1-HI 4
- IN Infirmary IN 1-IN 4
- IH Insley Hall IH 1-IH 19
- IV Ivy Hall IV 1-IV 9
- \*\* JH Jenkins House JH 1
- LO Locke Hall LO 1-LO 14
- \*\* MA Maintenance Shop MA 1
- MH Mason Hall MH 1
- MC Meadowbrook Cottage MC 1-MC 4
- ME Memorial Hall ME 1-ME 7
- MI Mill Building MI 1-MI 7

\*\* - Not included in Historic District

OCT 11 1989

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

Section number     P     Page     2    

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\*\*PG Park Garage PG 1  
PA Parsonage PA 1-PA 4  
\*\*RE Rea House RE 1  
SH Sharpe House SH 1-SH 7  
SC South Cottage SC 1-SC 8  
\*\*ST Steckel House ST 1  
WA Wayside Barn WA 1-WA 3  
WC Wayside Cottage WC 1-WC 4  
WE West Hall WE 1-WE 6  
HV General Historical Views HV 1-HV 11

\*\* - Not included in Historic District

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number     P     Page     4    Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

- 
- \*BH 1. Boiler House, south and east elevations  
BH 2. Boiler House, north elevation  
BH 3. Boiler House, detail of east and north elevations showing chimney  
BH 4. Boiler House, ground floor, view north
- CH 1. Clee House, south elevation
- \*CL 1. Historical view: Clinton Hall, south and east elevations, c.1910  
\*CL 2. Clinton Hall, east elevation  
CL 3. Historical view: Clinton Hall, east elevation, c.1900, prior to completion of rear portion (Blair Breeze, Nov. 28, 1941)  
\*CL 4. Clinton Hall, north elevation  
CL 5. Clinton Hall, south and west elevations  
CL 6. Clinton Hall, chapel, view southeast  
\*CL 7. Clinton Hall, chapel, view west  
CL 8. Historical view: Clinton Hall, chapel, view northwest (El Arroyuelo, 1904)  
\*CL 9. Historical view: Clinton Hall, chapel, view northwest, after 1909. Note organ. (Blair Breeze, May 13, 1938)  
CL 10. Historical view: Clinton Hall, chapel, view southeast, after 1944  
CL 11. Clinton Hall, first floor hall, view east  
\*CL 12. Clinton Hall, view of southeast stair  
CL 13. Clinton Hall, ground floor hall, view east  
CL 14. Clinton Hall, ground floor, southeast classroom  
CL 15. Clinton Hall, first floor, typical classroom
- DH 1. Dayton House, southwest elevation (Not in district)
- \*DB 1. Double House, north and east elevations  
DB 2. Double House, east elevation  
DB 3. Double House, south elevation  
DB 4. Double House, east apartment, living room
- \*ED 1. East and Davies Halls, north elevation  
\*ED 2. East and Davies Halls, view from southeast  
\*ED 3. East and Davies Halls, east wing, view from southeast  
ED 4. East and Davies Halls, west wing, south and west elevations  
ED 5. East and Davies Halls, second floor, faculty apartment  
ED 6. East and Davies Halls, first floor, west wing hallway  
ED 7. East and Davies Halls, second floor, east wing hallway

OCT 11 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number     P     Page     5    Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

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- \*ED 8. Historical view: East and Davies Halls, former East Hall gymnasium. Note pool wing at right, pre-1916
- ED 9. Historical view: East and Davies Halls, former pool wing (now Davies Hall), interior (El Arroyuelo, 1904)
- FG 1. Faculty Garage, north and west elevations
- \*FG 2. Faculty Garage, south and west elevations
- FG 3. Faculty Garage, second floor hall, view east
- FG 4. Faculty Garage, second floor, typical room
- FH 1. Freeman Hall, partial south and east elevations
- \*FR 1. Freeman House, south and west elevations
- FR 2. Freeman House, west elevation
- \*FR 3. Freeman House, east elevation, with garage to the north
- FR 4. Freeman House, first floor, entry hall
- FR 5. Freeman House, first floor, living room
- FR 6. Freeman House, first floor, dining room
- \*GA 1. Gateway House, north elevation
- GA 2. Gateway House, south and east elevations
- GA 3. Gateway House, rear shed
- GA 4. Gateway House, first floor, view toward entry hall from living room
- GA 5. Gateway House, second floor hall
- \*GY 1. Historical view: Gymnasium, south elevation, c.1920
- \*GY 2. Historical view: Gymnasium, south elevation, 1944
- \*GY 3. Gymnasium, south elevation entry bay
- GY 4. Historical view: Gymnasium, south elevation entry bay, pre-1939
- GY 5. Gymnasium, north and east elevations
- GY 6. Gymnasium, view northeast
- \*GY 7. Gymnasium, east room, view west
- GY 8. Gymnasium, upper level, view northeast
- GY 9. Gymnasium, entry hall
- GY 10. Historical view: Gymnasium, pool, c.1920
- \*HI 1. Hillside House, south elevation
- HI 2. Hillside House, east and north elevations
- HI 3. Hillside House, first floor, living room
- HI 4. Hillside House, first floor, dining room, view toward stairhall

OCT 11 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetBlair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New JerseySection number     P     Page     6    

- \*IN 1. Infirmary, south elevation
- IN 2. Infirmary, west elevation
- IN 3. Infirmary, first floor lobby, view from entrance
- IN 4. Infirmary, west apartment, second floor, hall
  
- IH1. Historical view: Original Blair Hall at left. Note Old Academy Building at right, 1852 etching
- \*IH 2. Historical view: View from southeast, 1869-1898
- IH 3. Historical view: View from southwest, 1869-1898
- \*IH 4. Historical view: View from southwest, post 1899
- \*IH 5. Insley Hall, south and west elevations
- \*IH 6. Insley Hall, north and east elevations
- IH 7. Insley Hall, west and partial north elevations
- IH 8. Insley Hall, partial north elevation
- IH 9. Insley Hall, detail of fourth floor addition at east wing
- IH 10. Insley Hall, detail of porch at south elevation
- \*IH 11. Insley Hall, first floor, dining room, view north
- IH 12. Insley Hall, first floor, dining room, view south
- IH 13. Insley Hall, west stair, view south from second floor
- IH 14. Insley Hall, east stair, view east from first floor
- IH 15. Insley Hall, fourth floor, west apartment stair
- IH 16. Insley Hall, second floor hall, view southwest
- IH 17. Insley Hall, fourth floor, east apartment, view north in hall
- \*IH 18. Insley Hall, fourth floor, west apartment
- IH 19. Insley Hall, fourth floor, typical dorm room, view toward hall
  
- \*IV 1. Historical view: Ivy Hall, east and south elevations prior to arch addition, c. 1900
- \*IV 2. Ivy Hall, east elevation
- IV 3. Ivy Hall, south elevation
- IV 4. Ivy Hall, west elevation
- \*IV 5. Ivy Hall, first floor offices
- \*IV 6. Historical view: Ivy Hall, first floor library, c.1930
- IV 7. Ivy Hall, basement, view south
- IV 8. Historical view: Ivy Hall, basement chemistry lab, c.1924
- IV 9. Ivy Hall, second floor hall, view north
  
- JH 1. Jenkins House, south elevation (Not in district)

OCT 11 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

Section number     P     Page     7    

- 
- \*LO 1. Historical view: Locke Hall, south and west elevations, c.1900
  - \*LO 2. Locke Hall, south and west elevations. Note covered corridor to Insley Hall
  - LO 3. Locke Hall, north elevation
  - LO 4. Locke Hall, east elevation
  - \*LO 5. Locke Hall, first floor, south stair and corridor to Insley Hall
  - LO 6. Historical view: Locke Hall, south stair and corridor. Note entrance to Headmaster's apartment at right.
  - LO 7. Locke Hall, first floor, southwest office
  - LO 8. Historical view: Locke Hall, first floor, southwest society room, view north, c.1900
  - \*LO 9. Locke Hall, first floor, "Blair Room", view south
  - \*LO 10. Historical view: Locke Hall, first floor, "Blair Room," view north, c.1900
  - LO 11. Locke Hall, first floor, Headmaster's office
  - LO 12. Locke Hall, first floor, Headmaster's office, view north in entry hall
  - LO 13. Locke Hall, second floor hall, view north
  - LO 14. Locke Hall, second floor, faulty apartment
  
  - MA 1. Maintenance Shop, east and partial south elevations (Not in district)
  
  - MH 1. Mason Hall, east elevation
  
  - \*MC 1. Meadowbrook Cottage, north elevation
  - MC 2. Meadowbrook Cottage, east and partial south elevations
  - MC 3. Meadowbrook Cottage, first floor, northeast room
  - MC 4. Meadowbrook Cottage, second floor hall, view north
  
  - \*ME 1. Memorial Hall, east elevation
  - ME 2. Memorial Hall, north elevation
  - \*ME 3. Memorial Hall, first floor, lobby
  - ME 4. Memorial Hall, first floor, library
  - ME 5. Memorial Hall, first floor, library, detail of northeast corner
  - ME 6. Memorial Hall, second floor, auditorium, view southwest
  - \*ME 7. Historical view: Memorial Hall, second floor, auditorium, view west
  
  - MI 1. Historical view: Mill Building, south and east facades prior to 1903
  - \*MI 2. Historical view: Main Street with Mill Building south elevation, after 1903
  - \*MI 3. Historical view: Mill Building, south elevation, 1903

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number     P     Page     8    

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

- \*MI 4. Mill Building, south and partial west elevations
- \*MI 5. Mill Building, east elevation
- \*MI 6. Mill Building, second floor, southeast corner
- MI 7. Mill Building, second floor, northwest corner
  
- PG 1. Park Garage, east and partial north elevations (Not in district)
  
- \*PA 1. Parsonage, south elevation
- PA 2. Historical view: Parsonage, south and east elevations, 1959
- PA 3. Parsonage, west elevation
- PA 4. Parsonage, first floor, east apartment living room, view from entry hall
  
- RE 1. Rea House, south elevation (Not in district)
  
- SH 1. Historical view: Sharpe House, south elevation rendering ("Blair Breeze," March 1, 1928)
- \*SH 2. Sharpe House, south elevation
- \*SH 3. Sharpe House, north elevation
- SH 4. Sharpe House, east elevation
- \*SH 5. Sharpe House, first floor entry and stair hall
- SH 6. Sharpe House, second floor hall
- SH 7. Sharpe House, first floor, living room
  
- SC 1. Historical view: South Cottage, east elevation, c.1920
- \*SC 2. South Cottage, east and north elevations
- SC 3. South Cottage, west and north elevations
- \*SC 4. South Cottage, south and partial east elevations
  
- ST 1. Steckel House, south elevation (Not in district)
  
- \*WA 1. Wayside Barn, north elevation
- WA 2. Wayside Barn, south and west elevations
- WA 3. Wayside Barn, second floor
  
- \*WC 1. Wayside Cottage, north elevation
- \*WC 2. Wayside Cottage, south and east elevations
- WC 3. Wayside Cottage, second floor stairhall, view northeast
- WC 4. Wayside Cottage, detail, first floor, typical doors and trim

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

OCT 11 1989

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   P   Page   9  

Blair Academy, Blairstown,  
Warren County, New Jersey

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- \*WE 1. Historical view: West Hall, south and east elevations (date unknown)
- \*WE 2. West Hall, south elevation
- WE 3. West Hall, east elevation
- WE 4. West Hall, first floor, view south toward entry
- \*WE 5. West Hall, second floor, view northwest in atrium
- WE 6. West Hall, second floor, east apartment, view southeast

proposed district = 55.7 acres  
 +/- 1% margin of error

BLAIR ACADEMY NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 BLAIRSTOWN, NEW JERSEY (Sussex County)

KEY TO PHOTOGRAPH/BUILDING LOCATIONS

- AC Old Academy Building AC 1-AC 6 Contributing
- AL Arts and Languages Building AL 1-AL 4 Contributing
- BI Bindemann Music Center BI 1-BI 15 Contributing
- BH Boiler House BH 1-BH 4 Contributing
- CH Cleve House CH 1 Non-contributing
- CL Clinton Hall CL 1-CL 15 Contributing
- DH Dayton House DH 1
- DB Double House DB1-DB4 Contributing
- ED East and Davies Halls ED 1-ED 9 Contributing
- FG Faculty Garage FG 1-FG 4 Non-contributing
- FH Freeman Hall FH 1 Non-contributing
- FR Freeman House FR1-FR6 Contributing
- GA Gateway House GA1-GA5 Contributing
- GY Gymnasium GY1-GY10 Contributing
- HI Hillside House HI1-HI4 Contributing
- IN Infirmary IN1-IN4 Non-contributing
- IH Insley Hall IH1-IH19 Contributing
- IV Ivy Hall IV1-IV9 Contributing
- JH Jenkins House JH1
- LO Locke Hall LO1-LO14 Contributing
- MA Maintenance Shop MA1
- MH Mason Hall MH1 Non-contributing
- MC Meadowbrook Cottage MC1-MC4 Contributing
- ME Memorial Hall ME1-ME7 Non-contributing
- MI Mill Building MI1-MI7 Contributing
- PG Park Garage PG1
- PA Parsonage PA1-PA4 Contributing
- RE Rea House RE1
- SH Sharpe House SH1-SH7 Contributing
- SC South Cottage SC1-SC8 Contributing
- ST Steckel House ST1
- WA Wayside Barn WA1-WA3 Contributing
- WC Wayside Cottage WC1-WC4 Contributing
- WE West Hall WE1-WE6 Contributing

Note: Adapted from map drawn by  
 Bohlin Powell Larkin Cywinski, Architects, 1987

PROPOSED N.R. BOUNDARY

