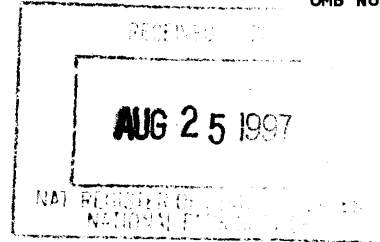


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Cumberland YMCA

other names/site number AL-IV-A-151

2. Location

street 205 Baltimore Ave.

not for publication n/a city or town Cumberland vicinity n/a
state Maryland code MD county Allegheny code 001 zip code 21502

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide x locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official

8-22-97
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 ___ 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): _____

Edson H. Beall 9/26/97

 Signature of Keeper Date
 _____ of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing n/a

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>institutional housing</u>
<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>civic</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	<u>sports facility</u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>institutional housing</u>
<u>SOCIAL</u>	<u>civic</u>
<u>RECREATION AND CULTURE</u>	<u>sports facility</u>

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

CLASSICAL REVIVAL

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
walls BRICK
other _____

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

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

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

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

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance 1925-1947

Significant Dates 1925

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
n/a

Cultural Affiliation n/a

Architect/Builder W. F. Shattuck, architect
Northeastern Construction Co., builder

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

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- 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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

USGS quadrangle Cumberland, MD-PA WV

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>18</u>	<u>692310</u>	<u>4391400</u>	D	_____	_____
B	_____	_____	_____	E	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____			

See continuation sheet.

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

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

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title Paula S. Reed, PhD, Architectural Historian

organization Paula S. Reed & Associates, Inc. date April 1997

street & number 105 N. Potomac St. telephone (301) 739-2070

city or town Hagerstown state MD zip code 21740

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state ____ zip code _____

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 7

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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Description Summary:

The Cumberland YMCA building is a wedge shaped red brick building, three stories with a partially raised basement, located at the intersection of Baltimore Street and Baltimore Avenue in Cumberland, Maryland. Built in 1925, the facility displays simple neoclassical styling. Definers of architectural style include formal cast stone entrance enframements on the Baltimore Avenue facade with crossettes on the architraves, pilasters with a full entablature and keystones. Keystones are also above the windows. Other stylistic features include a semi-elliptical projecting bay on the south facade, and a prominent cornice beneath a brick parapet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 8

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

=====
General Description

Cumberland, located at the base of converging mountain ridges at the confluence of Wills Creek and the Potomac River conforms in its layout to the rugged topography within which it is situated. Also converging at Cumberland are the historic routes of the B&O and Western Maryland Railroads. Although the city is essentially laid out in a grid pattern, streets climb steep hills or take oblique angles to fit the terrain and to accommodate fixed features such as the river and the railroad tracks. The street patterns create occasional oddly shaped properties such as the triangular piece upon which the YMCA is located adjacent to the B&O Railroad. The YMCA is located at the east side of Cumberland at the base of a ridge.

The character of the building is defined by its shape which is determined by the wedge-shaped property between Baltimore Street and Baltimore Avenue which meet at a junction in the front of the YMCA building. The YMCA consists of two sections: The forward and more formal triangular section and a three story rear section housing the pool and gymnasium. The narrow "point" of the building faces south, and the principal entrance is in the west facade which faces toward the center of Cumberland.

Walls are constructed of red brick laid in Flemish bond at all elevations. Masonry detailing includes brick jack arches and keystones above the windows, and corbeled arches surrounding windows above the Baltimore Street entrances and defining pairs of windows along the first story of the Baltimore Avenue facade of the rear extension. The cornice and coping atop the brick parapets appears to be of copper, oxidized.

The building is three to four stories high with an above-ground basement in most areas, but higher toward the south portion of the building, accommodating the sloping terrain. The west or principal facade has 17 bays across the front and rear portions of the building. The narrow south elevation has three bays.

Most windows have six over six light sash, although there are other types, such as 12 over 12, most notably, groups of eight light casements which are paired or grouped and give the appearance of french doors. These are located at the main story level of the forward or south section of the building.

The roof is flat and covered with tar and chip.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 9

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

=====

The interior of the YMCA contains a reception area, meeting room, dining room and kitchen, executive offices, pool and gym and residential rooms on the upper two stories. Some of the residential rooms on the second floor have been converted into a family center and day care facility.

The first (main) floor contains a formal entrance lobby, a large meeting room, offices, child care rooms, the swimming pool, and locker rooms. The second floor contains 16 single occupancy residential rooms averaging approximately 90 square feet each and opening into a long corridor, a toilet, bath and shower area, a family center and its attendant offices and the gymnasium. The third story is devoted entirely to single occupancy residential rooms similar to those on the second floor, a residential activity room and a shower and toilet area. The rear section of the building includes the upper floor of the gym with the elevated running track. In the ground floor is the kitchen, dining room, boiler and laundry rooms, a nautilus equipment room, saunas and locker rooms. The ground floor also houses the pump room for the pool and the piping system and foundation for the pool.

The entrance areas, lobby, "board" room and main floor corridors are finished with Mercer tile with decorative borders. In most rooms on the main floor, wood paneled wainscotting extends approximately five feet up the wall. In the board room, a meeting room in the south end of the building, a projecting bay with french windows, follows the exterior elliptical projecting bay. The entrance to the projecting area is enframed by a dark-stained paneled and molded lintel supported at each side by a fluted column. An ample molded cornice defines the perimeter of the room.

Another notable space is the former library now serving as executive offices for the YMCA. Book shelves are located behind leaded glass doors and trimmed with naturally finished wooded architraves. A fireplace is located in an alcove at the south end of the room. The front of the fireplace is covered with square tiles and a naturally finished wooden architrave and mantel shelf.

Also in the first floor of the north extension of the building is the swimming pool, in a large room lined with tile and yellow brick. Enclosed within brick walls, along the east side are bleachers. Above the pool and occupying the second and third story levels is the gym. It has a highly polished wooden floor, and an elevated jogging track around the perimeter.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 10

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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The upper two stories of the south section of the YMCA are used for residential purposes, with 16 rooms on the second floor and 32 on the third floor. Rooms are small, averaging 9 x 10 feet, with a single window and doors opening into a corridor running the length of the wings. There are community rest rooms on each corridor. Shower rooms have tiled floors with marble sides. Simple moldings enframe the doors. The only embellishment is molded picture rail high on the walls. The corridors are trimmed with chair rail and base boards.

On the ground floor level is the kitchen and an adjoining dining room, laundry facilities, weight room and the boiler room as well as the foundation, pump, and piping for the pool. The building appears to be in good condition and is scheduled to be adaptively reused as a family living center and apartments for a tax act rehabilitation project. The YMCA will be moving to new, larger quarters outside of town.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 11

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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Significance Summary

The Cumberland YMCA building is significant under Criterion C for its architectural character: built in 1925, the YMCA is an excellent example of institutional architecture of its time, representing the academic classicism that characterized such buildings in the period. The building derives additional significance under Criterion A for its portrayal of the YMCA as a community institution in Cumberland. The YMCA was established in Cumberland in 1873 and was situated at various locations prior to construction of the present building; this building has been home to the YMCA longer than any other place in Cumberland. At the time of its construction, it offered the only indoor swimming pool in the Cumberland area. The period of significance, 1925-1947, was selected to encompass the period extending from the construction of the building to a date fifty years in the past.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 12

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

=====

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):
Industrial-Urban Dominance: A.D. 1870-1930
Modern Period: A.D. 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme(s):
Architecture/Landscape Architecture/Community Planning
Social/Educational/Cultural

Resource Type:
Category: Building
Historic Environment: Urban
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):
DOMESTIC/institutional housing
SOCIAL/civic
RECREATION AND CULTURE/sports facility

Known Design Source:
W. F. Shattuck, architect (Chicago)
Northeastern Construction Co., builder (New York, NY)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 13

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

=====

RESOURCE HISTORY AND HISTORIC CONTEXT

The Young Men's Christian Association was organized in 1844 in London, England, by twelve young employees of a dry goods business, representing four religious denominations. Their objective was to improve the "spiritual conditions of young men."

The first YMCA in the United States was founded in 1851 in Boston, and the first YMCA building was constructed in Baltimore in 1859. The YMCA was instrumental in organizing night school classes, vocational guidance, the Boy Scout movement in the U.S. as well as organized sports and camping for boys.

Although the first YMCA in Cumberland was chartered in 1873, there is evidence that a Young Men's Christian Association was in existence as early as 1869 when the city's newspaper advertised a building for rent at 96 Baltimore Street with the mention that the front room was lately occupied by the Young Men's Christian Association. By 1873, the YMCA was located at 98 Baltimore Street. The Association later operated from 12 South Liberty Street, then to 162 Baltimore Street at the B&O Railroad tracks.

In 1893, work was begun on a building at 129 Baltimore Street, the first constructed by and for the YMCA in Cumberland. This was a three story brick High Victorian Romanesque building with a tower. In 1910, it was expanded to five stories at a cost of \$50,000.

During the early 20th century, Cumberland experienced substantial growth with several new industries such as Kelly-Springfield and Celanese Corporation establishing themselves here. As a result, the old YMCA became too small to meet the needs of the growing population. In January, 1918, the present property was purchased at the intersection of Baltimore Street and Baltimore Avenue, on the east side of Cumberland. Planning for a new building began in 1919 with Chicago architect, W. F. Shuttuck. The cornerstone of the present building was laid April 7, 1925. The new building was completed and opened for use on January 31, 1926. The new building contained a cafeteria; reading rooms, library, 1 20x60 foot swimming pool, 71 dormitory rooms, men's and women's locker rooms, gymnasium and spectators gallery, social rooms and offices.

In 1967, the main entrance to the building on Baltimore Avenue was altered. Two sets of steps which led to two separate entrances were replaced with a large brick and concrete deck, providing one access to both

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 14

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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entrances. This work was done at a cost of slightly more than \$17,000 by the John E. Vandegrift Company.

Other than this change to the approach to the entrances, the YMCA building remains nearly intact, although the functions of some of the spaces have changed.

The colonial Fort Cumberland was established in the 1750s; the city of Cumberland was laid out in 1785 and became the county seat of Allegany County in 1789. The mountainous topography around Cumberland routed most westbound traffic through the city. The main road west became the first federal highway project and was improved from Cumberland to Wheeling, operating as a toll road. During the years of canal building, and efforts to establish a strong transportation link from the nation's capital to the west, the C&O Canal was begun from Georgetown to Cumberland, along the Potomac River. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the first in the country offering regular scheduled passenger service, reached Cumberland about 1845, and was later extended westward. The Pennsylvania and Western Maryland Railroads eventually followed the B&O to Cumberland, taking advantage of the lucrative coal hauling trade. Cumberland by the late 19th century had become a rail and transportation center with easy access to the Georges Creek coal resources for fuel. The excellent transportation facilities and coal resources attracted industries to Cumberland, swelling the population during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Today, most of these manufacturing industries are gone.

The Cumberland YMCA, built in 1925 to serve an expanding population, reflects the rapid growth of the Cumberland area in the early 20th century. It was originally projected that the "new" YMCA building would serve the community for 25 years before becoming outmoded and too small. However, as the local economy shifted, the projected population growth did not occur, enabling the YMCA building to serve the community for nearly three times its expected life.

The YMCA building is an excellent example of the academic classicism which characterized the institutional architecture of the 1920s.

In addition to its architectural significance, the YMCA performed an important role in the social history of Cumberland. It is a community institution, owned and supported by the people of Cumberland and the surrounding area. In its early days, it provided the only year-round athletic facility which included a swimming pool. It therefore filled an important role in providing for recreational and housing needs for the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 15

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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whole community. Eventually the B&O Railroad established an alternative "railroad Y" in Cumberland, as railroads did in other communities, but the Cumberland YMCA remained the institution with strong community ties and associations. These continue today as the YMCA again plans to expand and move to new facilities southeast of Cumberland.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 16

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bishop, James W. History and Highlights of the Young Men's Christian Association of Cumberland, Maryland, Cumberland, MD., n.d.

Feldstein, Albert L. Historic Postcard Album of Allegany County.
Cumberland, MD: Commercial Press Printing Co., 1984.

Stegmaier, Harry I., Jr., David M. Dean, Gordon E. Kershaw and John B. Wiseman. Allegany County: A History. Parsons, WV: McClain Printing Co., 1976.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 17

AL-IV-A-151
Cumberland YMCA
Allegany County, MD

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GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Verbal Boundary Description: All that lot, piece, or parcel of land situate in the City of Cumberland Election District No. 23, Allegany County, Maryland and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning for the same at a 5/8 inch iron bar with cap set at the intersection of the southeasterly limits of Baltimore Avenue (50 foot wide) with the southwesterly limits of a 15 foot alley, thence binding on the southwesterly limits of the aforementioned alley.

1. South 51 degrees 17 minutes 44 seconds East 106.79 feet to a 5/8 inch iron bar with cap set at the intersection of the southwesterly limits of the aforementioned alley and the southeasterly limits of a 10 foot wide alley; thence binding on the southeasterly limits of the aforementioned alley.

2. North 36 degrees 32 minutes 15 seconds East 153.06 feet to 5/8 inch iron bar with cap set a on or near the fourth line of a deed from the Young Men's Christian Association of Cumberland, Maryland to Cumberland Manor Associates Limited Partnership dated August 30, 1982 filed and recorded as Liber 530 Folio 236 among the Land Records of Allegany County; thence leaving southeasterly limits of the aforementioned alley and running on or near the remainder of the fourth line of the aforementioned deed.

3. South 25 degrees 24 minutes 44 seconds East 175.07 feet to 5/8 inch iron bar with cap set on the northwesterly limits of Baltimore Street Extended; thence binding on the northwesterly limits of the aforementioned street.

4. South 73 degrees 24 minutes 12 seconds West 339.18 feet to a drill hole set in the concrete sidewalk; thence with a curve to the left having a radius of 30 feet.

5. North 35 degrees 36 minutes 01 seconds West 56.73 feet to 5/8 inch iron bar with cap set on the southeasterly limits of Baltimore Avenue; thence binding on the southeasterly limits of aforementioned avenue.

6. North 35 degrees 23 minutes 47 seconds East 187.30 feet to a 5/8-inch iron bar with cap set and the place of beginning.

Containing 42,256 square feet, more or less, as surveyed by SPECS, Inc. in December, 1996.

Boundary Justification: The nominated property represents the remnant of the parcel historically associated with the resource.