

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received NOV 7 1985

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

DEC 19 1985

**1. Name**

historic West Virginia University Neo-Classical Revival Buildings, Thematic Grouping

and/or common Stalnakker Hall

**2. Location**

street & number Maiden Lane \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Morgantown \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of

state West Virginia code 54 county Monongalia code 061

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>N/A</i> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name West Virginia Board of Regents

street & number P. O. Box 3368

city, town Charleston \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of state WV 25333

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Monongalia County Courthouse

street & number High Street at Courthouse Square

city, town Morgantown \_\_\_\_\_ state WV

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Historic Properties Inventory (HPU) has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date May 1983 \_\_\_\_\_ federal \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records History Department, West Virginia University

city, town Morgantown \_\_\_\_\_ state WV

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Stalnaker Hall, the first building at West Virginia University to be designed as a dormitory, was completed in 1918 with additions constructed in 1935. It symbolizes through its design the university's evolution from a local institution with private housing provided for its students to one of national scope with the accompanying necessity for university-owned housing for its students. It follows the trend toward Neo-Classical Revival designs in buildings at WVU and in buildings in general during this period. The use of a triangular pediment supported by columns and the elevated center portico evidence a Greek influence in the design.

The exterior fabric is American bond brick. There are sixteen windows on the facade of each story of the original section. There are thirteen windows on each story of each of the wings. The windows have 6/1 lights and are arched on the first story in the original section. This building has three stories in the original section and two stories in the wings. The sections of the building that connect the original section and annexes are built in a stepped or terraced effect. A high basement lies beneath the building.

A concrete cornice edges the flat roof. The second and third stories are separated by a concrete belt course. Keystones top the windows. Brick corbelling forms pilasters that flank the center section. The portico pediment is marked by bracketed eaves, decorative concrete work, and a round window. On the architrave, the building's original name, Woman's Hall, is etched. Four Corinthian order columns support the pediment. Double windows mark the second story of the outer portions of the center section. The main door and its flanking windows are accentuated by swan's neck arches.

The interior of the building consists of plaster walls and tiled concrete floors. Interior hallways run lengthwise through each floor of the building with dormitory rooms lining the halls. Enclosed stairways rise at the ends and centers of the building sections. The lobby and lounge areas on the floors of the center section (see floor plans) are the major public spaces in the building, although little has been altered anywhere in the building. There is a cafeteria in the basement.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1918 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Stalnaker Hall, originally known as Woman's Hall, holds a prominent place along with Elizabeth Moore Hall in understanding the history of women at West Virginia University; its history is also an important part of West Virginia University's story of expansion and the resulting need for increased dormitory space.

The first Women's Hall at West Virginia University was established in 1902 when an increasing enrollment of women at the university and a shortage in housing in the community, due to an influx of industrial workers, created a need for a women's dormitory. This dormitory was improvised from a house belonging to Dr. P. B. Reynolds on the present Campus Drive. This house only held fourteen students and a new residence hall was soon needed. The state legislature resisted funding a new dormitory. Therefore, the university leased Episcopal Hall at the intersection of Spruce and Willey Streets in 1907. This building housed forty-two students.

Stalnaker Hall, which became the first dormitory built especially for women students at West Virginia University, was completed in 1918. The building acquired its name from Elizabeth M. Stalnaker, professor of philosophy and psychology during the early twentieth-century. This new building accommodated 253 students. Following World War I, the building filled to capacity, and nearby Boughner House was used as an annex until 1932.

Federal funds became available in 1932 to build additions onto the northern and southern ends of the building. These were completed in 1939. The building served as a woman's dormitory until 1984, when the center section was closed because of fire code violations, structural failure, and a declining demand for residence hall space. The additions, which form an integral part of the total building and are almost fifty years old themselves, are still occupied as dorm space. Future plans for the building are unclear, but WVU hopes to renovate the building to continue to use it for housing.

Stalnaker Hall is a massive structure that overlooks part of the campus and the downtown Morgantown campus. The triangular pediment supported by columns and the elevated center portico certainly gives evidence of the Greek influence in design. The building is a good example of institutional Neo-Classical design.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 1 1/2 acre  
Quadrangle name Morgantown North, WV

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	7	5	8	9	8	4	0	4	3	8	7	6	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Randall Gooden and Mortar Board senior honorary (Elizabeth Moore Hall)

organization WVU Public History Option date July 19, 1985

street & number Dept. of History, West Virginia Univ telephone 304-293-2421

city or town Morgantown state WV

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Carrie M. Jansky

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 10/28/85

### For NPS use only

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

Patrick Andrews date 12/19/85  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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Continuation sheet    WVU Neo-Classical Revival    Item number    9    Page    2

Stalnaker Hall

Boundary descriptions and floor plans from files of WVU Facilities Planning and Management Office

Amber, Charles Henry. A History of Education in West Virginia from Early Colonial Times to 1949. Huntington, WV: Standard Printing & Publishing Co., Inc., 1951.

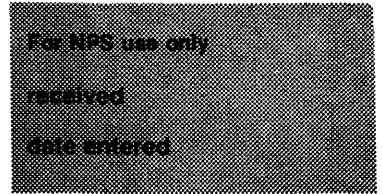
Doherty, William T. and Summers, Festus P. West Virginia University: Symbol of Unity in a Sectionalized State. Morgantown, WV: West Virginia University Press, 1982.

Core, Earl L. The Monongalia Story: A Bicentennial History. Vol. 3. Discord. Parsons, WV: McClain Printing Co., 1979.

Core, Earl L. The Monongalia Story: A Bicentennial History. Vol. 4. Industrialization. Parsons, WV: McClain Printing Co., 1982.

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Continuation sheet    WVU Neo-Classical Revival    Item number    10

Page    2

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

Stalnaker Hall

From point of beginning on northeast side of property along College Avenue travel east 60 feet, 6 inches to point thence following line southeast 140 feet to point, thence 130 feet southwest along driveway to point, thence southeast 468 feet to point along North High Street, thence 164 feet southwest to point at corner of North High Street and Maiden Lane, thence following Maiden Lane 564 feet to point, thence 166 feet northwest to corner of Maiden Lane and College Avenue, thence follow line northeast 120 feet to Point of Beginning. (See attached maps)

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**Continuation sheet** Verbal Boundary Description **Item number**

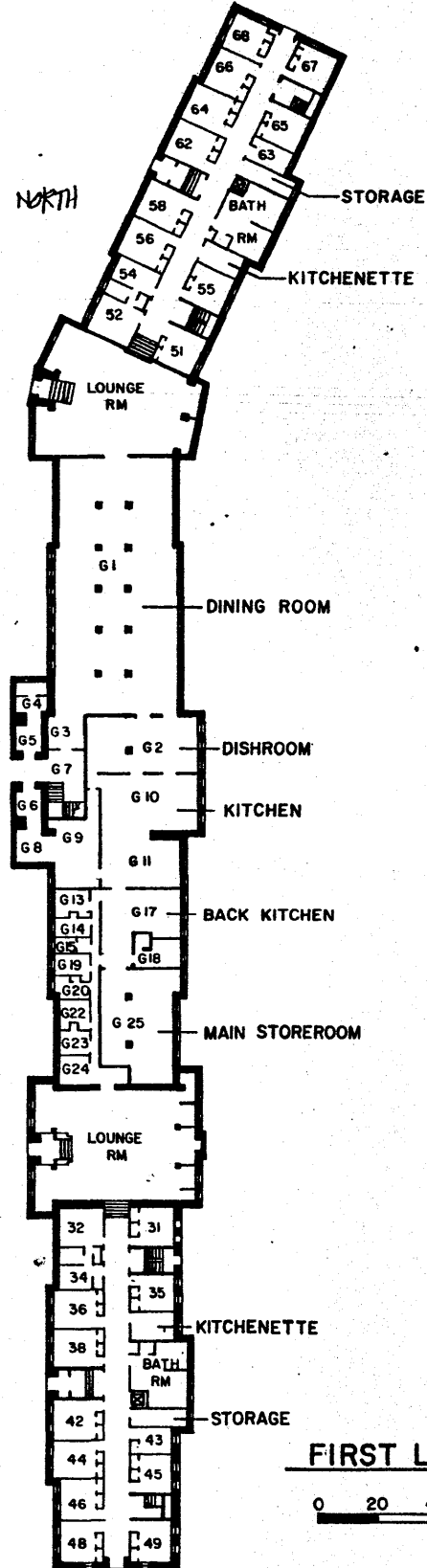
**Page** 1

Stalnaker Hall  
Boundary

Beginning at the same point of beginning as described in deed book 75 page 427, then N 45° 00' E 60.06' then S 54° 45' E 140; to the wall corner then S 2° 00' W 130' to corner of wall then S 22° 30' E 468' along edge of wall then S 34° 15' W 164' along edge of curb at North High Street then N 22° 30' W along stone wall on Maiden Lane 564' then N 44° 00' W 166' then N 36° 00' E 65' then N 45° 00' E 62' to the point of beginning containing 2.548 acres and being a part of those lands described in deed book 23 page 332, deed book 75 page 427 and deed book 23 page 295 as recorded in the office of the County Clerk, Monongalia County Court House.



1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR NORTH



GROUND FLOOR CENTER

1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR SOUTH

FIRST LEVEL PLAN



*Reduced from 11" x 17" sheet - no longer to scale.*

REV. J.E.E. 2-82



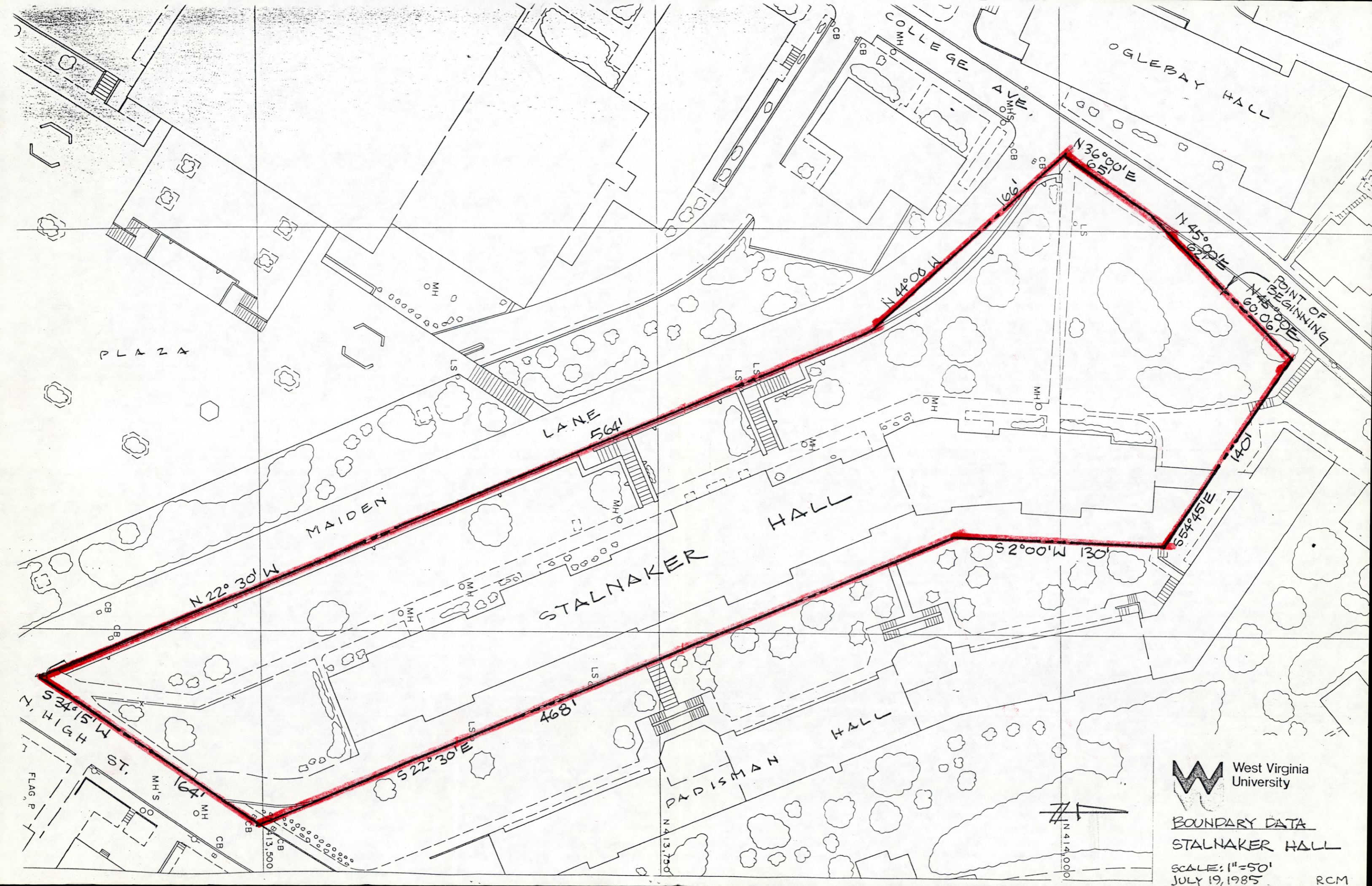
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

STALNAKER HALL  
DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

BLDG. NO.  
01010

T. K. ZINN





BOUNDARY DATA  
 STALNAKER HALL

SCALE: 1"=50'  
 JULY 19, 1985

RCM