

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

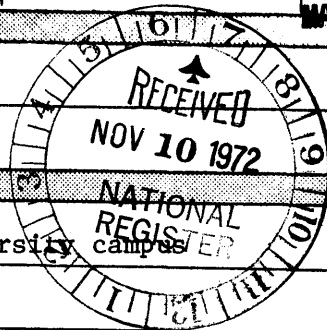
| | |
|----------------------|------|
| STATE: Washington | |
| COUNTY: Whitman | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

MAR 1 1970

1. NAME

COMMON:
Albert W. Thompson Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Old Administration Building



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Administration Road, Washington State University campus

CITY OR TOWN:
Pullman

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Whitman CODE: 075

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Washington State University (State of Washington)

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Pullman STATE: Washington CODE: 53

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Whitman County Auditor's Office (Book 34 of Deeds, p. 26, May 2, 1891)

STREET AND NUMBER:
Whitman County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Colfax STATE: Washington CODE: 53

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

STATE: Washington

COUNTY: Whitman

ENTRY NUMBER: 1970

DATE: MAR 1 1970

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered (Inside) | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two turrets in front (one truncated and the other topped by a sharp conical spire), the slope of the roof, and the three peaked dormers suggest a modified French Revival style of architecture for the building. As first envisioned by the institution's Board of Regents, the structure was to have a Tenino sandstone exterior for the basement story, with terra cotta or stone trimmings, steam heating, electric wiring, and "ventillation perfect" (later modified to "good"). The Regents also specified that the basement walls must be twenty-one inches thick, all partition walls would be of brick, and included the precise requirement of "separate water closets for boys and girls." In the end, however, the exterior was brick and granite, instead of sandstone, because the contractor had an interest in a granite quarry near Spokane and offered to furnish the more desirable stone without extra charge. The "common brick" were made nearby and came from a clay deposit located just across present Administration Road and back of where Stevens Hall now stands. The use of such brick has influenced the relatively unified appearance of the inner campus down to this day. Since clay was readily available on campus, the perennial shortage of funds forced the use of this economical local brick in early construction projects. Several later campus structures, including the new C. Clement French Administration Building, have been built with brick of a similar color. Although repaired and altered previously, the interior of the building was extensively remodeled in 1969, but the basic construction remains the same.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Very small photo in WPA writer's project Guide betw. p 312--313.



SIGNIFICANCE

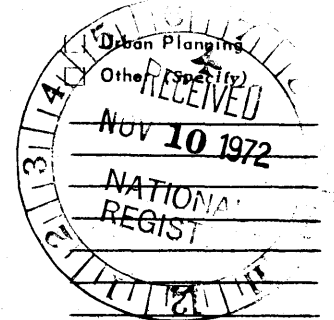
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Washington State Legislature, meeting in its first session, in 1890 authorized the establishment of "Washington State Agricultural College and School of Science" (renamed the State College of Washington in 1905, and Washington State University in 1959). In 1891 the institution was located at Pullman, and in January, 1892, the school opened its doors for instruction. The oldest major building still standing on campus is the "Old Administration Building." It has also probably been the most photographed building on campus.

Of the total \$120,000 appropriated by the state legislature for the college in the 1893 session, \$50,000 was designated for the construction of an administration building. Seventeen architects, including one from Minneapolis, submitted designs to the Board of Regents. By unanimous vote the Regents chose the Seattle firm of Stephen & Josenhaus. James Stephen, the senior partner, was a well-known designer of school buildings in the Seattle area. His associate, Timotheus Josenhaus, had studied briefly with the famous Chicago engineer and architect, William LeBaron Jenney, and had considerable experience in construction. Work on the building proceeded slowly throughout the summer of 1894, and it was ready for occupancy by January 1, 1895. Surprisingly, it was completed within the legislative appropriation of \$50,000. When the building was remodeled in 1968, the cost was more than a half million dollars, over ten times the amount spent on the original construction. An elaborate dedication ceremony was held during the 1895 commencement. The Regents paid tribute to the structure "as an excellent piece of work, and one that in point of convenience, strength, and architectural beauty will compare with any state building." The Pullman newspaper called it "a model of convenience, adaptability, and economy." Today this building stands as an excellent example of an early ideal in educational architecture.

The State of Washington has only two state universities -- the University of Washington, founded in 1861 at Seattle, and Washington State University. From its beginning WSU has played a pioneering role among the nineteen separate land-grant institutions -- i.e., those which were established as separate from an existing state university. For years even the presidents of land-grant colleges debated among themselves whether these separate land-grant institutions could legally aspire to become more than enlarged "trade schools" or at most schools for the industrial and agricultural classes only, or whether they could assume a more expansive role

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| STATE | |
| Washington | |
| COUNTY | |
| Whitman | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | MAR 1 1972 |

(Number all entries)

in higher education. Enoch A. Bryan of WSU pointed his fellow land-grant college presidents to the future when he advanced the concept of a "people's university," where even the student of humble origins would be molded into "a well-rounded, a full-orbed man." Bryan, who was the third president of the institution (1893-1916), believed that the role of the land-grant institutions was to provide education for the "industrial classes" or, in his words, "the great mass of mankind, the farmer, the banker, the manufacturer, those engaged in mining, transportation, trade, and so on." To Bryan the industrial classes included everyone outside the learned professions.

This concept helped lay the cornerstone for a new system of higher education, one quite different from the traditional university with its emphasis on traditional subjects. Bryan's approach, which in time was used by the other separate land-grant colleges, had an influence in shaping the role played by these institutions today. An important example of WSU's place historically among such institutions is the early development of a liberal arts program. Allan Nevins, in The State Universities and Democracy (1962), states, "The separate agricultural and engineering colleges down to 1920 paid just enough attention to liberal arts to save themselves from becoming mere trade schools." However, in discussing the difficulty of promoting the liberal arts in separate land-grant colleges, another scholar mentions some exceptions and points out that "Washington State College, for instance, has a long history of emphasis on English literature and languages." (Edward D. Eddy, Jr., Colleges for Our Land and Time: The Land-Grant Idea in American Education [1957].)

The Old Administration Building has been the nerve center of WSU for most of the institution's history. Besides housing administrative offices, it has also provided space for classrooms, the library, laboratories, faculty offices, physical education programs, including showers, and other facilities. In January, 1968, the administrative offices moved into the new French Administration Building, and "Old Ad" was remodeled. The building is now occupied by the Department of Foreign Languages and also houses the Dean of Sciences and Arts. On November 19, 1971, it was renamed Albert W. Thompson Hall, in honor of a retired Dean of Sciences and Arts and former Chairman of the Foreign Languages Department. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for April 15, 1972.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sarah Jane Adams, "The Historic Role of the Liberal Arts at Washington State University." Master's thesis, Washington State University, 1963.

E. A. Bryan, Historical Sketch of the State College of Washington, 1890-1925 (Pullman: Alumni and Associated Students, 1928).

J. Meredith Neil, "Administrators, Architects, and Campus Development: Washington State University, 1890-1905," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, XXIX (May, 1970), 144-55.

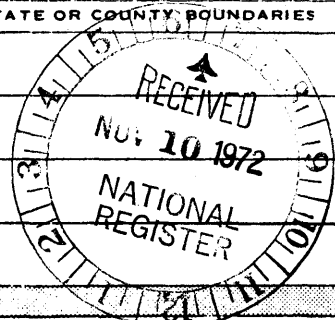
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | LATITUDE | | LONGITUDE |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | 46 ° | 43 ' 52 " | 117 ° 09 ' 56 " |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 0.5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |



11/487330
517510
10

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
David H. Stratton, Member

ORGANIZATION: Whitman County Historic Preservation Task Force

DATE: March 17, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
Old National Bank Building

CITY OR TOWN: Colfax

STATE: Washington 99111

CODE: 053

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name: Charles H. Odegaard
Charles H. Odegaard

Title: Director - Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission

Date: 7/3/72

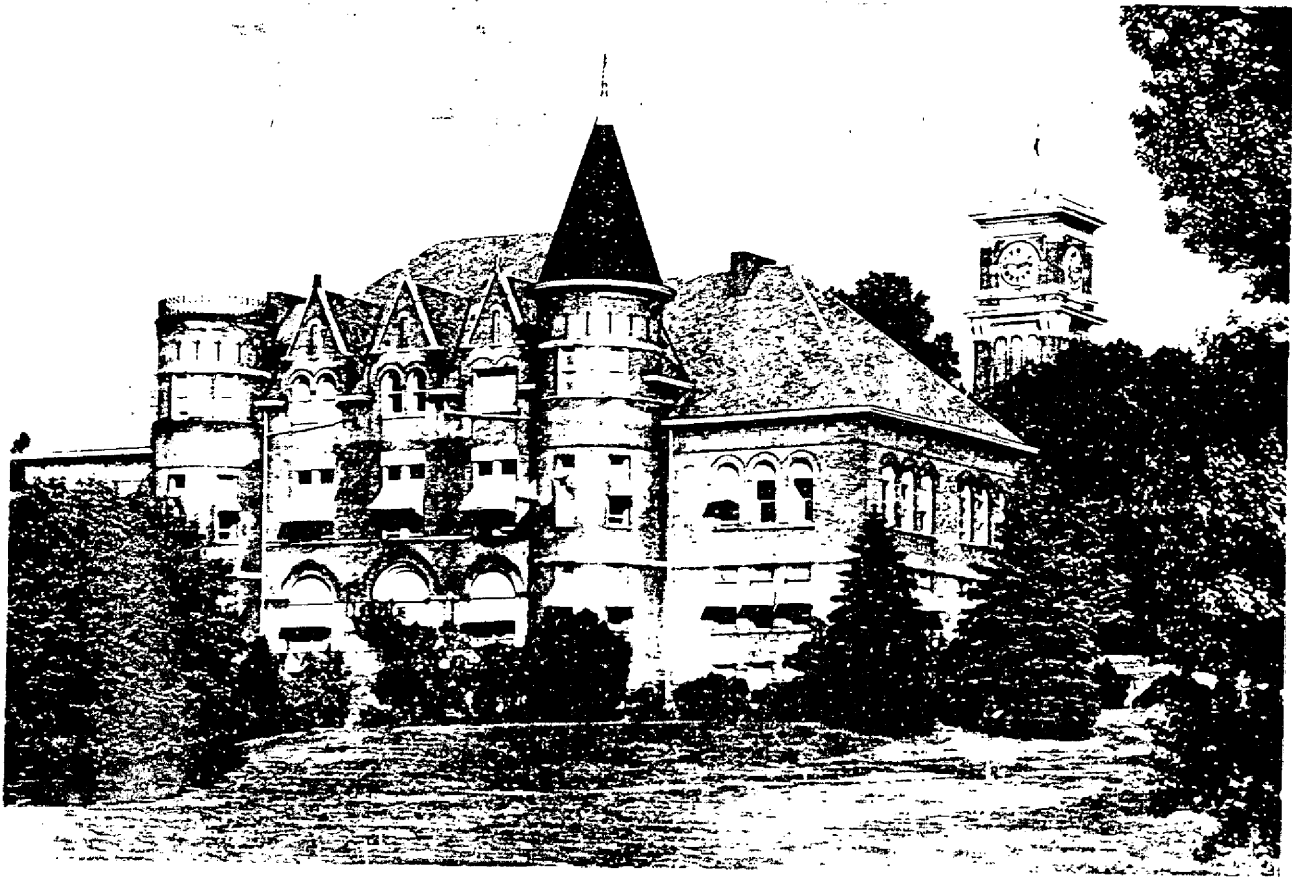
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

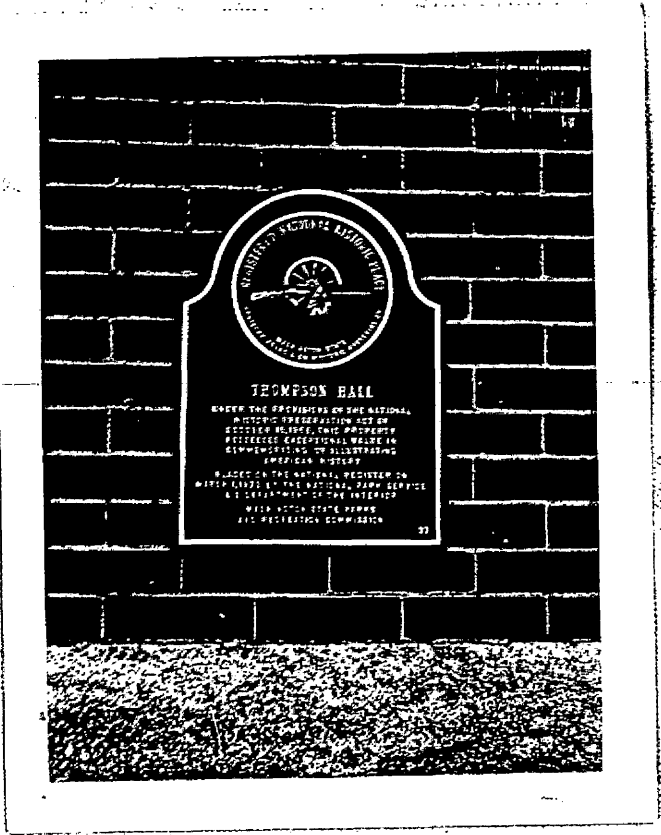
Robert W. Utter
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 3/1/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2-27-73





THOMPSON HALL

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT AND
EXECUTIVE ORDER, THIS PROPERTY
IS DESIGNATED A NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARK IN
RECOGNITION OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE
TO AMERICAN HISTORY

LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF
HISTORIC PLACES BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540

27