United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic name: SHOTWELL HALL, WEST LIBERTY STATE COLLEGE

Other name/site number: ________________________________

2. Location

Street & number: BETHANY PIKE

City/town: WEST LIBERTY

State: WV

County: OHIO

Zip code: 25074

Not for publication: N/A

Vicinity: N/A

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: PUBLIC

Category of Property: BUILDINGS

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing Noncontributing

1 buildings

0 structures

0 objects

1 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related property listing: N/A
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
____ 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 of Certifying Official ___________________________ Date __________

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 ___________________________ Date __________

5. 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):

Signature of Keeper ___________________________ Date of Action __________
Function or Use

Historic: EDUCATION

Current: EDUCATION

Description

Architectural Classification: COLONIAL REVIVAL

Other Description: N.A

Materials:
- foundation: BRICK
- walls: BRICK
- roof: SLATE / RUBBER
- other:

Describe present and historic physical appearance.
X See continuation sheet

Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: 0

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N.A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1937

Significant Dates: 1937

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: FARRIS, FREDRICK F.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.
3. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet. X

Previous documentation on file NPS:

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 57) 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 -- Specify Repository:

Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property: LESS THAN AN ACRE

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing

- 51822 4143752

Verbal Boundary Description: X See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: X See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Dr. David Javersak, West Liberty State College
and Katherine Jourdan, Northern Region, WV SHPO
Organization: West Liberty State College Date: 5 October 1995

Street & Number: Bethany Pike Telephone: (304) 336-3254

City or Town: West Liberty State: WV Zip: 26074

Property Owner

Name: WEST LIBERTY STATE COLLEGE

Street & Number: Bethany Pike Telephone: (304) 336-3254

City or Town: West Liberty State: WV Zip: 26074
Shotwell Hall, also known as Fraternity Hall, was used as a male dormitory until being made into faculty offices. Built as part of a PWA project, Shotwell Hall was designed by noted Wheeling architect, Fredrick F. Farris. The building's Colonial Revival design was popular in the early part of the 20th century for public or state buildings.

Located on the west side of what has become a quadrangle of buildings, Shotwell Hall was originally constructed as a male dormitory to house students on campus. Before its construction students were roomers in local houses. In recent years it has been used to house faculty offices.

Colonial Revival in style, the building has two and a half stories, with nine bays. The red brick over concrete block structure has brick quoins at the corners. Limestone details include a water table, keystones over the windows, and stone sills. The five center bays project out with a recessed center door and transom having decorative wood molding with fluted piers, side panels, and a broken pediment. Part of this pediment has been replaced in a fibreglass or plastic to compensate for the HVAC units installed under each window opening. The windows have also been replaced with metal 6 light double-hung openings, and they have brick voussoirs. The small terrace at the front door has been altered at the side for a handicapped ramp. The terrace retains the original metal railing.

Over the center door is a pedimented gable end with a center cartouche with shield and swag chain, and dentils. The cornice also has a dentilled entablature. There are four front or east gable dormers with slate sides. The roof is gable with the original slate shingles.

The north and south ends have two bays with the third floor having one window opening. The roof has a gable end with return.

The west side has a projecting center of five bays with two end doors with the moulding carried upwards to the stair landing window. Above that is a circular limestone medallion. There are nine dormers across the upper level. Details on the building include the downspouts which end in a metal ground spout with a lion holding a ring in its mouth.

On the interior the configuration of the rooms remain the same, with possibly two rooms being modified with new partition walls. There are two staircases on the west side of the building. Records indicate that the dormitory was originally designed to hold 48 students, but the third floor was remodeled in 1960 to hold 60 residents.
Located high on a hill in Ohio County is West Liberty State College, which has been a seat of learning since 1857. When crowding forced the move from the original location of the college in West Liberty, the present site on the south side of town was selected. Shotwell Hall was built in the 1930s with money from the Public Works Administration. The period of significance is 1937 when Shotwell Hall was constructed. The building is noted under Criterion J for Architecture.

Shotwell Hall is named for Nathan Shotwell, first president of the West Liberty Academy (founded 1837), the forerunner of the modern West Liberty State College. He served from 1838 to 1854 and is considered the institution's founding father. John C. Shaw's presidency of the West Liberty State Normal School lasted from 1908 to 1919. He initiated the college's move from a four-acre site in town, now occupied by the West Liberty Elementary School, to a location on the southern edge of the village, where the present institution is now centered.

The years, 1913-1943, were transitional years in the college's history: the evolution of a small teacher's preparatory school to a multi-faceted institution offering a strong liberal arts and sciences curriculum. As the first building in the new campus, Shaw Hall served as a women's dormitory, opening in 1913; it is the college's oldest structure. It remained the only dorm until Shotwell Hall opened in 1937 and was the only women's residence hall until 1958.

Shotwell Hall was designed by Wheeling architect, Fredrick F. Faris, whose original building plans were replaced with drawings for a smaller building. Part of a Public Works Administration project, the contractor Don Byrum, Inc. of Wheeling, was awarded the contract for $34,342.00. Ground was broken in 1936, with the building ready for occupancy by the fall 36 batters on February 1, 1937. This Colonial Revival building has a number of details popular in the early 20th Century. These details include the broken pedimented doorway and pedimented gable end above, the brick quoins, limestone details, and dormers.

Within a few years of its opening, the state funded additional construction including a new library and classroom building, a classroom and laboratory structure and a gymnasium. West Liberty was a normal school, or teacher preparatory institution. Growth in the 1920s, however, led to a change in 1931, when the college became West Liberty State Teachers College. Continued growth in the Depression years necessitated a place for resident male students. President Paul E. Elbin (1935-70) garnered New Deal monies for construction of Shotwell Hall. This building opened in 1937 and remained the only male dorm until 1964. Six years after Shotwell opened its doors, West Liberty changed its name to West Liberty State College.

Today, the Shotwell is a faculty office building. The building is well maintained and retains its historic character and relationship to the campus setting.


Doddridge, Gordon, Village Map of West Liberty with notes, c. 1933.

The boundary includes only the building, and ten feet beyond the base of the foundation.

This is the property historically associated the building.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

SHOTWELL HALL, WEST LIBERTY STATE COLLEGE
WEST LIBERTY, WEST VIRGINIA, OHIO COUNTY

PHOTO INFORMATION

SHOTWELL HALL
WEST LIBERTY STATE COLLEGE

ADDRESS: State Route 83 - Bethany Pike
Ohio County
West Virginia

PHOTOGRAPHER: David Javersak

DATE OF PHOTOS: August 1995

NEGATIVE: David Javersak

PHOTO 1 OF 5: View of Shotwell's East Facade
Camera looking West

PHOTO 2 OF 5: View of Shotwell's East Facade
Camera looking West

PHOTO 3 OF 5: View of Shotwell's West Facade
Camera looking East

PHOTO 4 OF 5: View of Shotwell's West Facade Doorway
Camera looking East

PHOTO 5 OF 5: View of Shotwell's South Facade
Camera looking North