

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
VLR: 6/19/73 NRHP: 7/26/73
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Virginia
COUNTY: Staunton (in city)
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Mary Baldwin College, Main Building

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mary Baldwin College

CITY OR TOWN:
Staunton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Sixth; M. Caldwell Butler

STATE: Virginia CODE: 51 COUNTY: (in city) CODE: 790

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" 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 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)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
c/o Dr. William Kelly, President

STREET AND NUMBER:
Mary Baldwin College:

CITY OR TOWN:
Staunton

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
24401

51

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Augusta County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Staunton

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Richmond

STATE:
Virginia

CODE:
51

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: (in city) Staunton

OR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

I. General Statement:

A. Architectural statement: The Main Building is a well-preserved example of a Greek Revival educational building.

B. Condition of Fabric: Excellent

II. Description of the Exterior:

A. Overall Dimensions: The central section is two-stories high with a full basement and five bays long. Three-bay two-story wings with full basement project gable ends on either side of the original main section. Main is connected to McClung Hall to the north by a two-story, wide passageway running across the rear of Main.

B. Foundations: Brick.

C. Wall construction and color: Brick laid in Flemish bond is painted a cream color.

D. Porches: A four-bay portico features four Greek Doric columns supporting a Doric entablature and pediment. A cast-iron balcony opens under the central second floor window and is sheltered by the portico. The projecting wings form antae for the portico.

E. Chimneys: Two interior end chimneys are found in the walls of the main block.

F. Openings:

1. Doors: The slightly-recessed double doors of the principle entrance are framed by molded pilasters and sidelights. A four-paned transom is framed by simple consoles with an additional light above each sidelight. Additional pilasters and consoles frame the sidelights. The doorway is surrounded by symmetrically molded trim with corner blocks and rosettes. A door framed by Roman Doric columns supporting a Doric entablature and pediment opens in the basement center bay of each of the wings. These doorways appear to be twentieth century alterations.

2. Windows: Wooden double-hung windows have six-over-six lights and symmetrically molded trim with corner blocks and rosettes.

G. Roof: Sheet metal gable roofs cover both the main section and the wings.

III. Description of the Interior:

A. Floor plan: The main block consists of a central hall flanked by a room on either side. Each wing is two rooms deep.

B. Stairways: Different levels are reached by stairways located in the passage at the rear of the building.

C. Wall and ceiling finish: Painted plaster.

D. Doorways and doors: Paneled wooden doors have architrave trim.

E. Trim: The trim in the main block features a later molded cornice, original chair rail and original baseboard. The wings have an original molded chair rail and baseboard.

IV. Site and General Setting: Main faces south and is located on one of the hills overlooking Staunton. Additional college buildings are now clustered around the original building.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 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"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mary Baldwin College was founded as the Augusta Female Seminary, and is the nations's oldest woman's institution of higher learning associated with the Presbyterian Church. The handsome Greek Revival Main Building is the college's original structure, and has become the architectural symbol of this distinguished institution.

Augusta Female Seminary was established in 1842 by the Reverend Rufus W. Bailey, who, after an extensive search, selected Staunton as a suitable site for a school for young ladies. The direct connection with the Presbyterian Church was established in 1843 when the Presbyterians granted the Seminary permission to build a college structure on the lot adjoining the church on the corner of New and Frederick streets. The agreement between the trustees of the school and those of the church called for a brick building not less than thirty feet by fifty feet and two stories high on the church lot. Construction of what was to be named the Main Building was completed by June, 1844. The wings were added in 1853.

In 1863 Miss Mary Julia Baldwin and Miss Agnes R. McClung were appointed principals of the Seminary. Miss Baldwin was to have full control over the school and Miss McClung presided over the boarding portion of the Seminary. Mary Baldwin maintained the Seminary as an excellent and flourishing school, even though conditions were difficult during and after the War Between the States. Miss Baldwin offered a high course of study modelled on the plan of instruction given at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Under her direction the Seminary grew in size, property was acquired and new construction was undertaken. In 1873, the Seminary obtained the deed to the Main Building and grounds and severed its direct connection with the Presbyterian Church.

In recognition of Mary Baldwin's contribution to Augusta Female Seminary the trustees elected to change the name of the Institution to Mary Baldwin Seminary in 1895. The Seminary continued to prosper and grow in the twentieth century; in the 1930's the name was changed to Mary Baldwin College. Today the College continues as one of the foremost women's colleges in the South.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

GPH

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fannie B. Strauss, "Mary Julia Baldwin," Augusta Historical Bulletin, vol. 7, no 2, fall 1971.

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission files.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		38 ° 09 ' 04 "	79 ° 04 ' 17 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than ten acres.

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission DATE: May, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
Room 1116 Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond STATE: Virginia CODE: 51

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 Junius R. Fishburne, Jr.
Junius R. Fishburne, Jr., Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
Title _____

Date JUN 19 1973

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

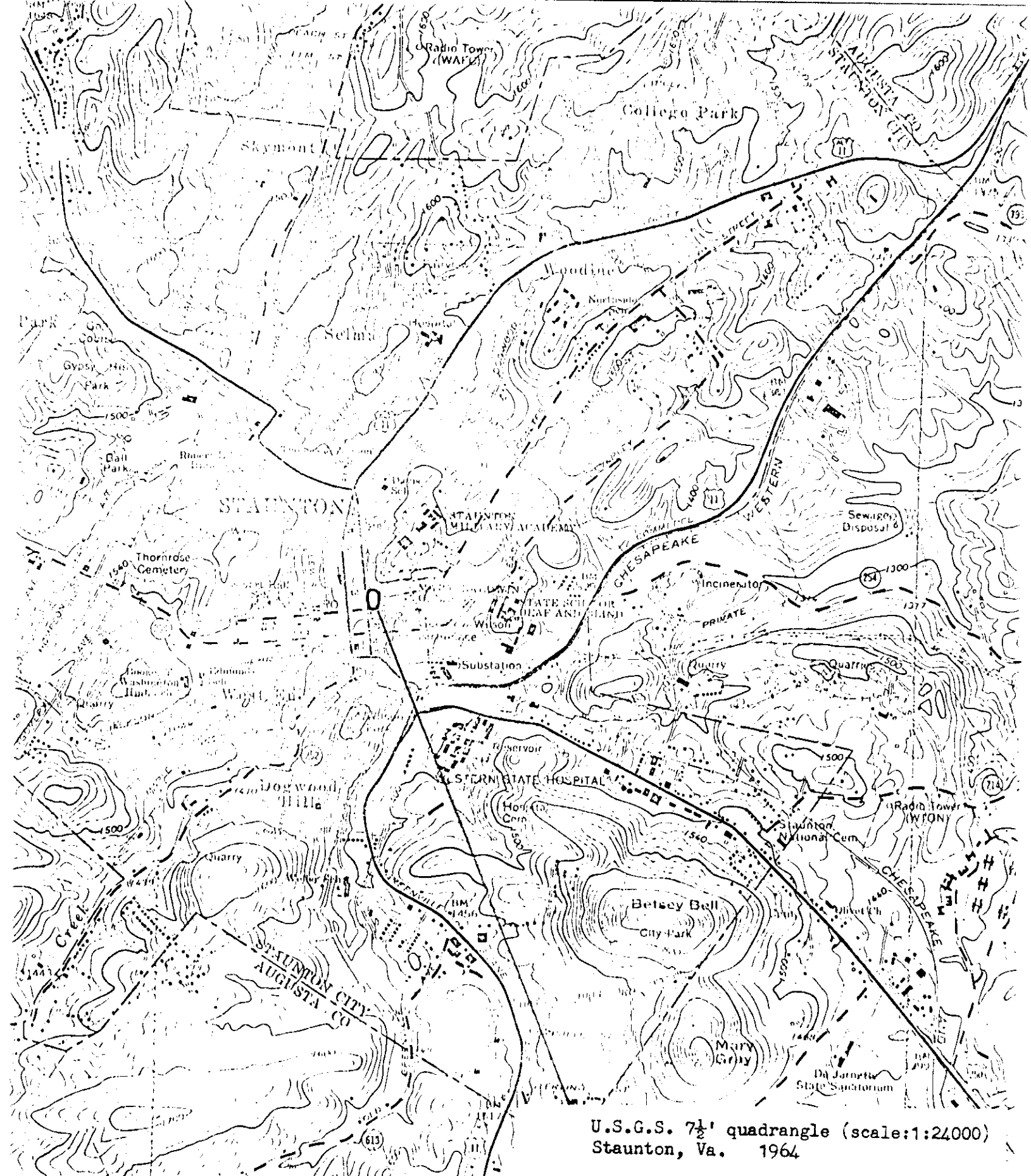
Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



U.S.G.S. 7½' quadrangle (scale:1:24000)
 Staunton, Va. 1964

MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE, MAIN BUILDING
 latitude 38°09'04"
 longitude 79°04'17"

