Old Main at Frostburg State College
South side of College Avenue between Maple and Beall Sts.
Frostburg
Public

Old Main is the first building to be constructed on the campus of Frostburg State College, originally known as State Normal School No.2 and then Frostburg State Teachers College. Basically unaltered since its construction in 1899, Old Main is a good example of a regional interpretation of late nineteenth century Renaissance Revival architecture. The building continues to serve as classroom and office space for the college.
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
HISTORIC
OLD MAIN at Frostburg State College

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
College Avenue between Maple and Beall Streets

CITY, TOWN Frostburg

STATE Maryland

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
BUILDING(S)
STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT

 Ownership
PUBLIC
PRIVATE
BOTH

Present Use
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
MUSEUM
COMMERCIAL
PARK
EDUCATIONAL
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
ENTERTAINMENT
RELIGIOUS
GOVERNMENT
SCIENTIFIC
INDUSTRIAL
TRANSPORTATION
MILITARY
OTHER

STATUS
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
YES RESTRICTED
YES UNRESTRICTED
NO

PRESENT USE

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME State of Maryland
Contact Dr. Nelson Guild, President
Frostburg State College, Frostburg, MD
Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER
Frostburg State College

CITY TOWN Annapolis, Maryland 21401
STATE, ZIP CODE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
Liber #:
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC
Folio #:

Allegheny County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
30 Washington Street

CITY TOWN Cumberland, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY TOWN STATE
Architectural Description

Prominently sited on a rising slope of land, Old Main at Frostburg State College stands on the south side of College Avenue between Main and Beall Streets in Frostburg, Allegany County.

Old Main, constructed in 1899, is a structurally sound and basically unaltered regional example of a Renaissance Revival structure interpreted in brick laid in Flemish bond. The cornerstone, located in the northeast corner, is inscribed "Normal School No. 2 September 4, 1899."

The building, which sits on a high stone foundation, consists of three parts: a hip roofed, three-story tall, two-bay wide central section flanked by slightly projecting two-story tall, two-bay wide wings. The first story level of the building is brick to imitate rusticated stone. A belt course of mold-brick egg and dart decoration separates the first story from the second.

The principal (north) facade of the central block is defined by two semi-circular arched openings which shelter a recessed entrance. Brick laid to imitate stone voussoirs articulate both arched openings. An arched doorway is found in the western bay with a similarly arched window opening to the east. The entrance itself consists of a set of multi-paneled double doors surmounted by an oversized, semi-circular, multi-light transom. The flanking arched window is divided into three areas by heavy wooden mullions.

Windows, placed in recessed arched panels, define the corresponding bays of the second and third stories. At the second-story level, the window openings are rectangular and divided into three areas: a central double-hung sashed window flanked by double-hung sashed side lights. Dressed-stone lintels further articulate the window openings. Smaller, double-hung sashed windows appear at either end of these windows.

Between the windows of the second and third story are blank, recessed brick panels.

The window openings of the third story are arched, outlined by pronounced archivolt trim with a molded impost course extending to the end of this central section. The windows are arched and double-hung sashed and surrounded by semi-circular, multi-light transom and side lights. Bulls-eye openings are located on either side of these windows above the molded impost course.

An elaborate, multi-molded, ventilated cornice articulates the roof area of the main block. At the peak of the slate hip roof is a wooden, open, octagonal cupola. Interior, corbel-capped chimneys are located along the east and west walls.

...Continued
Old Main at Frostburg State College is the first building erected for the school when it was established as State Normal School No. 2 in 1899. The building itself is a good regional example of a Renaissance Revival structure interpreted in brick.

In 1896 through the strong lobbying efforts of Benson Oder, editor and publisher of Frostburg Mining Journal, the State Normal School No. 2 was created by an act of the General Assembly under Governor Lloyd Lowndes. The State appropriated $20,000 for the construction of Old Main and $5,000 annually for its maintenance. Ground was broken for the school on June 27, 1899. The following Labor Day, September 4, Joseph Bear, the mayor of Frostburg, laid the cornerstone. The names of all those who contributed to the purchasing of land for the campus site are sealed within the cornerstone. The school opened on September 15, 1902 under the direction of Principal Edmund Dandridge Murdaugh. In 1904, the school graduated its first class of 8 students.

As the second State Normal School (the first being built in Baltimore in 1865) this institution provided training for students to teach in elementary schools. Initially, the program was four years, consisting of math, Latin, history, literature and the sciences. Students also were required to take teaching courses such as "Philosophy of Education," "Philosophy of School Management," "Practice Work," and "Primary Manual Training." This diverse curriculum was necessary in order to accommodate the various academic levels of its student body. Some had 2 years of college; some had high school degrees; some had only elementary school education certificates.

In 1931, the Maryland General Assembly passed an act requiring that elementary school teaching programs offer a minimum of three years to its student body for certification. Officials at State Normal School at Frostburg complied and lengthened its curriculum.

Three years later State Normal School No. 2 graduated into a four-year college known as Frostburg State Teachers College. The college granted a degree of Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. The institution had taken a dramatic new emphasis -- one of educating rather than training.

As the college grew so too did its curriculum, providing a broad-based liberal arts program. the school became a full-fledged college known today as Frostburg State College. In addition to the variety of Bachelor of Arts and
Please see attached sheet.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ________________________

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY
NAME: TITLE
Bridget Deale Hartman, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
May 27, 1980

STREET & NUMBER
21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (Cont'd)

The rear (south) facade of the main section is five bays, with double-hung sashed windows distinguishing the bays of each of the three stories. The window openings of the first and second stories are rectangular. Those of the third level are arched with semi-circular transoms.

The main (north) facades of the flanking wings are nearly identical. Windows, with 6/2 double-hung sash, occupy the openings of the two bays at both the first and second story levels. Dressed stone lintels and flat-arched brick lintels outline the window openings.

The rear facades of the east and west wings are characterized by first and second story windows positioned very close to the central section.

The east facade of the east wing and the west facade of the west wing have somewhat been altered. The east wing has been connected to Faculty Hall by a one-story brick hyphen. The west wing was at one time connected to Frost Hall by a first story, enclosed wooden sheathed corridor. Old photographs, such as the A. Aubrey Bodine, a copy of which is enclosed in this report, shows this section. Its removal has altered this side of the west wing.

Interior

The interior of Old Main is divided into classroom space. The large number of windows create well-lit open classrooms and hallways in this building. Despite some interior renovations, many of the rooms retain a surprising amount of detail including pressed tin ceilings, multi-paneled wooden classroom doors, door surrounds, baseboards and chairrail moldings in the hallway and classrooms.
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Cont'd)

Bachelor of Science degrees offered, the college has developed postgraduate studies including Master's degrees in Education and Science Management.

Today, Old Main which provided faculty offices, classrooms, science laboratories, an auditorium, and a gymnasium 75 years ago to its early students has known no major renovations. It continues to serve the college classroom and office facilities.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


Thomas, James W., Judge T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County, Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland: Regional Publishing Co., 1969.

Van Newkirk, Mary Elizabeth H., Two Histories of Frostburg State College (Maryland), From Its Earliest Days to the Present, including:


MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

Nomination Form
for the
National Register of Historic Places, National Parks Service

1. NAME
   COMMON:
   Old Main, Frostburg State College
   AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   College Avenue between Maple & Beall Streets
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Frostburg
   STATE:
   Maryland
   COUNTY:
   Allegany

3. CLASSIFICATION
   CATEGORY (Check One)
   ■ District  ☐ Building
   ■ Site     ☐ Structure
   ■ Object
   OWNERSHIP
   ■ Public
   ■ Private
   ■ Bath
   PUBLIC ACQUISITION:
   ■ In Process
   ■ Being Considered
   STATUS
   ☐ Occupied
   ☐ Unoccupied
   ☐ Preservation work in progress
   ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
   ☐ Yes:
   ☐ Restricted
   ☐ Unrestricted
   ☐ No
   PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
   ■ Agricultural
   ■ Commercial
   ◐ Educational
   ■ Military
   ■ Religious
   ■ Entertainment
   ■ Museum
   ■ Scientific
   ■ Transportation
   ■ Other (Specify)
   ■ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
   OWNER'S NAME:
   State of Maryland, Board of Trustees of the State Colleges
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Jeffrey Building, 16 Francis Street
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Annapolis
   STATE:
   21401
   Maryland

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
   COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
   Allegany County Courthouse
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   30 Washington Street
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Cumberland
   STATE:
   Maryland
   Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
   TITLE OF SURVEY:
   Maryland Historical Trust Inventory, No. Al-102
   DATE OF SURVEY:
   1970
   DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
   Maryland Historical Trust
   STREET AND NUMBER:
   Shaw House, 21 State
   CITY OR TOWN:
   Annapolis
   STATE:
   21401
   Maryland
Old Main at Frostburg State College stands on the south side of College Avenue, between Maple and Beall Streets, in Frostburg, Allegany County.

Old Main is an 1899 Renaissance Revival brick structure that consists of a hip roofed three stories high center section with flanking wings of two stories in height. The principal facade (north side) has a recessed entranceway with an arced porch on the first floor and arced windows on the third. The bricks of the first floor level are laid in imitation rusticated stone base. The cornerstone, northeast corner, has "Normal School No. 2 September 4, 1899" inscribed on it.

Most of the interior rooms have tin ceilings.

Old Main is structurally sound and basically unaltered.
8. SIGNIFICANCE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Old Main at Frostburg State College is the first building that was erected for the school. The cornerstone was laid in 1899. Frostburg State College was founded as a "Normal" school, a two year institution which generally graduated students to teach in elementary schools. (Burnap letter) The General Assembly passed the act establishing the school in 1893, during the governorship of Lloyd Lowndes, a native of Allegany County. The school opened in 1902 and graduated the first students in 1904. The building, which had no major renovations, is presently used for classrooms and offices.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hansrote, H.G. Notes, 1970. On file at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

Burnap, Edward A., Staff Specialist, Board of Trustees of the State Colleges, Annapolis, MD., Letter, 1974, on file at Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Site Survey

ORGANIZATION:
Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Inc.

DATE:
6/3/75

STREET AND NUMBER:
Algonquin Motor Inn, Suite 510

CITY OR TOWN:
Cumberland

STATE:
Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
National [ ] State [ ] Local [ ]

Signature
1. STATE  Maryland  
   COUNTY Allegany  
   TOWN Frostburg  
   VICINITY  

2. NAME  Frostburg State College (Normal School)  
   DATE OR PERIOD: 1929  
   STYLE  
   ARCHITECT  
   BUILDER  

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE  

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION  
   OPEN TO PUBLIC: Yes  
   1896--Act of the General Assembly, under Gov. Lloyd Lowndes, of Allegany County, was made to establish a State Normal School at Frostburg, Md.  
   1896--Appropriation of $20,000 for the building and $5,000 a year for maintenance.  
   1899--Sept. 4, Cornerstone laid.  
   1902--Sept. 15, School opened. OLD MAIN on Loo Street now College Avenue. 57 students.  
   1904--8 students graduated.  
   1912--Gymnasium authorized.  
   1918--Gymnasium completed.  
   1919--First unit of Dormitory opened.  
   1925--Second unit of Dormitory opened.  
   1927--New Auditorium, Gymnasium and central heating.  
   1930--Six room elementary practice school opened. Campus enlarged to 40 acres.  
   1947--Government building purchased and reassembled to house Department of Science (now used by day students). $277,000 Science building constructed later.  
   1949--Third auditorium, Gymnasium.  
   1954--Lloyd Lowndes Hall completed, $300,000; Library and Administration building.  
   1955--Compton Hall completed, $477,000. Auditorium & gymnasium.  
   1959--Thomas G. Fuller School, laboratory school opened with Kindergarten.  
   1960--Gunter Hall, dining hall, student union.  
   1962--Residence Hall for men and one for women built. 170 acres added in last ten years.  

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE  
   Exterior V.Good  
   Interior V.Good  

---over---  

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)  

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
   INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.  
   School booklets,  
   Research- Helen S. Hinkle  
   Normal School--Hazel G. Hansrote  
   both MHT  

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER  
   Hazel Groves Hansrote, V. Chairman  
   Maryland Historical Trust  
   Sec. Preservation Society  
   Allegany County  
   DATE OF RECORD: Oct. 22, 1970
John Leake, of the House of Delegates from Allegany County, in 1898 got an amendment to the appropriations bill through the General Assembly which provided $20,000 for the establishment of State Normal School #2 in Frostburg, Md.

Mr. Leake, himself a poorly educated native of Lancashire, England, for his legislative action can be remembered as the "father" of Frostburg State College. His granddaughter, Miss Anna Drucilla Schriner is a teacher at Beall High School (1970).
Frostburg, MD - PA Quad

U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series

1949

scale 1:24000

Site #: A1-VII-003

Old Main, Frostburg State College

College Avenue between Maple & Beall Streets
OLD MAIN
Frostburg State College

Photo by: A. Aubrey Bodine
Taken from: Sunday SUN Magazine 12/11/1960
Old Main
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Maryland
North View
June 1, 1974

RALPH B. ANDREWS
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Md.
 Allegany Co., Md.
South-East view
June, 1974

RONALD L. ANDREWS
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Md.
 Allegany County, Md.
 South Side
 June, 1974
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Md.
 Allegany Co., Md.
North Side
June, 1974

RONALD L. ANDREWS
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Md.
Allegany Co., Md.
East Side
June, 1974

Ronaldo L.
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Md.
 Allegany County, Maryland
  First Floor Interior
       June, 1977
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Md.
 Allegany County, Maryland
 cornerstone north side
 June, 1974

Ronald L. Andrews
OLD MAIN
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Maryland

SW Elevation

5/80

B.D. Hartman
OLD MAIN
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Maryland

Cornerstone

5/80

B.D. Hartman
OLD MAIN
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Maryland
Interior classroom
5/80
B.D. Hartman
OLD MAIN
Frostburg State College
Frostburg, Maryland

Pressed-tin ceiling

5/80

B.D. Hartman
Old Main at Frostburg State College

N Elevation

Taken from a postcard in the collection of Mr/Mrs Blaine Gallimore located at the Allegany Community College library

State Normal School

Subject caption Frostburg, Md.

Date of original

Type of original print postcard

Photographer

Historical significance

Identified individuals

Holder of original print Mr & Mrs. Blaine Gallimore

Date copy print made 6/80

ALLEGANY COUNTY
LOCAL HISTORY PROGRAM
PHOTO DOCUMENTATION AND PRESERVATION PROJECT
ALLEGANY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Old Main at Frostburg State College

SE Elevation                circa 1905

 Taken from a postcard in the collection of Mr/Mrs Blaine Gallimore located at the Allegany Community College Library

Subject caption: Frostburg, Md.

Date of original: ____________

Type of original print: post card

Photographer: ________________

Historical significance: ________________

Identified individuals: ________________

Holder of original print: Mr. & Mrs. Blaine Gallimore

Date copy print made: 6/80

ALLEGANY COUNTY
LOCAL HISTORY PROGRAM
PHOTO DOCUMENTATION AND PRESERVATION PROJECT
ALLEGANY COMMUNITY COLLEGE