

Bogard Hall (1939) is a two story brick collegiate building in the Colonial Revival style. The large, sprawling building occupies an entire block near the main quad on the campus of Louisiana Tech University. Alterations have been minimal.

Bogard Hall takes its architectural cue from large Colonial era public buildings such as the dorms at Harvard and the College of William and Mary. The building consists of a five-part Colonial style front section with an enormous functional rear wing under a flat roof (see 1941 aerial view). This design shows the limitations inherent in the practice of adapting historical forms for modern buildings. The rear wing was needed because the colonial shaped front section could not fully accommodate the functional needs of the engineering facility.

The Colonial style front section consists of a main block, a pair of large hyphen wings, and large side wings set at right angles to the facade of the main block. All of this is contained under a system of hip roofs pierced in certain places by ventilating dormers. Each of the side wings has its own facade facing a side street. The building rests on a half raised basement which at some points becomes a full story as the ground falls away.

The Greek Revival looking main entrance features four Roman Doric pilasters rising to a heavy entablature. It contains a double door with a transom and side lights and a pair of decorative recessed panels. This Greek revival look is repeated in the entrances to the side wings. Here a single aedicule motif is surmounted by a strong pediment. It is also repeated in the rooftop cupola which consists of heavy aedicule motifs with concave sections between.

No doubt these Greek revival looking features would have been accepted as "Colonial" by the people at the time. More convincing Colonial style features include jack arches over the windows with cast concrete keystones and the use of Flemish bond (looking) brickwork. The brick color varies in several shades from red to brown to create a textured effect similar to that produced by burned headers in real Colonial brick buildings. One very un-Colonial feature is the placing of many of the nine over nine windows in pairs.

Other noteworthy features include the pair of lamp standards at the main entrance which feature Modernistic stylized forms at their base and the Modernistic chandelier that lights the modest lobby. The interiors are in a fairly good state of integrity but, being functional, are of little architectural note. The only major interior alteration has been the lowering of the ceilings. The only exterior alteration has been a small brick extension at one point on the sprawling rear section. These alterations, of course, are minor. There is no doubt that Bogard Hall would be easily recognizable to someone from the historic period.

SIGNIFICANT DATES:	1939
ARCHITECT/BUILDER:	Neild, Somdal & Neild (Architects) T. L. James, Contractor
CRITERION:	A

Bogard Hall is of local significance in the area of education because it is an important component of a critical chapter in Louisiana Tech's history, the great construction boom of the 1930s which increased the physical plant by one-third, including numerous major buildings such as Bogard. See the multiple property cover form "The 1930s Building Boom at Louisiana Tech" for a fuller statement of significance. As noted in the form, the importance of Bogard Hall's construction can be seen by comparing this huge facility with its predecessor, the 1905 Mechanical Arts Building. The campus newspaper in 1937 observed: "One of the new structures, generally believed to be the most urgent need, is an engineering building to replace the present building . . ." When the Mechanical arts Building was erected in 1905, there were less than 1,000 students enrolled at Tech (837 in 1904). By 1939-40, as Bogard Hall was being built to replace the old building, the student body numbered 2,234. And, of course, it was only fitting that the

school's widely respected engineering program be housed in a large facility outfitted with the latest equipment. The cost of Bogard Hall was \$546,592, a little over one-fourth of a two million dollar building program in the late 1930s financed with federal relief funds. It was named for School of Engineering Dean Frank Bogard, who died in August 1937.

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

See multiple property cover form bibliography.