Named for pioneer educator Eliza Hart Spalding, who, with her husband, Henry, established the famous mission school at Lapwai for the Nez Perce people, Spalding Hall was originally a spacious dormitory designed for young women. Its “sleeping porches” could accommodate seventy-two women students who slept in groups of four and enjoyed all the modern amenities of the time, including hot and cold running water, wardrobes, and study halls. Like so many things in the early days of the campus, Lewiston residents made Spalding Hall possible by raising local funds, first forming a company and then selling bonds. Student rents eventually retired the town’s indebtedness for the building.

In 1930, Spalding Hall became the official men’s residence at the college, and later in the same decade the building served as the district headquarters for the Lewiston Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Then, still later, Spalding Hall provided residences for married students until the building closed in 1950. In the 1966, the college remodeled the first floor into faculty offices, as it eventually did on both the second and third floors as well. An elevator now connects all three floors.

Today, Spalding Hall houses the offices for the divisions of Education, Social Science, and the Humanities, as well as the Campus Writing Lab.

The original cost of the building was $50,000.

History taken from Educating in the American West One Hundred Years at Lewis-Clark State College 1893-1993 by Keith Petersen and 1981 LCSC Campus Plan.