city, town

OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-87

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

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AUG 1 9 1988 received

date entered

NATIONAL REGISTER

1. Nan	ne					
historic Ca	enty House					
	"The Magnol	i o 11				
and or commor		La				
<u> 2. Loc</u>	ation					
street & number	er W.Va. Stat	e Route	25	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		not for publication
city, town	Institute		vicini	ty of		
state West	Virginia	code	54	county	Kanawha	code 039
3. Clas	ssificatio	n				
Category districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership X public) private both Public Acquisit N/A in process being consider		Status X occupied unoccupie work in processible yes: restriction yes: unrestriction	ogress icted	Present Use agriculture commercial _X_ educational entertainment government industrial military	museum museum park private residence religious museum religious transportation other:
	Virginia Board	d of Reg	ents			
	Charleston	Doutev		tu of	otata	U. U. 05001
city, town	ation of	lega	vicini		state	W.Va. 25301
		T				
courthouse, re	gistry of deeds, etc.	Kana	wha County	Court 1	louse	
street & numbe	er	Cour	t and Virgi	nia Str	reets	
city, town	Charleston				state	W.Va.
6. Rep	resentat	ion i	n Exist	ing :	Surveys	
title West D	unbar - Instit	ıte	ha	s this pro	perty been determined e	ligible? yes _X_ n
	ember 28, 1984					ite county _X_ loca
depository for	survey records	SHPO,	Department	of Cul	ture and History	
city, town	Charleston				state	W.Va.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
excellent _X good	deteriorated ruins	unaltered _X altered	original site _X moved date	1960's
fair	unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Canty House is located at the northeast corner of the campus of West Virginia State College on State Route 25, at Institute, West Virginia, 9 miles west of Charleston.

At the time of construction about 1900, Canty House was a simply designed, two-story farm house. In 1923, however, Colonel Canty carried out a massive renovation project which gave the house the form that it now has.

Neo-Classical Revival stylistic elements are well represented in the design of Canty House. A modified rectangle, the 2-story frame house features flanking 2-story side galleries and a center pedimented pavilion, in this case a portico, occasionally seen in Greek Revival architecture of the 19th-century Midwest. The side gables and front-facing pedimented gable lend the house an air of formality.

The dominant feature of the house is the 2-story portico which shelters a doorway with a semi-elliptical overlight and sidelights. Both the door and sidelights are multi-paned. Centered in the facade above the entrance is a wood balcony with classical consoles and a wood railing. The balusters are decorated with classical-style wood grilles. A door opens onto the balcony.

Two Corinthian wood columns with fluted shafts carry the triangular pediment of the portico.

The tympanum of the portico is stuccoed and centered with an arched window. A dentil row details the cornice of the entablature and raking cornice of the pediment. Another classical feature of prominence includes the Doric-style square columns that carry the side galleries.

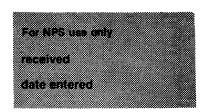
When West Virginia State College purchased the property, the house had to be moved to make room for a new building that was being constructed. No internal changes are believed to have been made at that time although the house was placed on a new foundation. Later, when Canty House served as the campus health center, some temporary partitions were added to provide the needed configuration.

Canty House remains close to its original site and setting within the West Virginia State College community.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

East Hall

Item number

Page 2

Perhaps the most dramatic change made at this time was the 1937 move of the building from the east side of campus to the west side to make room for the new physical education building that was to be constructed. As a part of the move, the house was turned completely around so that it would continue to face the quadrangle.

During the residency of Dr. and Mrs. Wallace, the bookcases in the second living room were added, and the front porch was enclosed.

Despite the move to West Quadrangle in 1937, East Hall remains close to its original site and setting within the West Virginia State College community. The building continues to serve a useful purpose on the campus and retains its historic identity, despite minor alterations, while conveying a strong sense of association with events and persons significant to the development and growth of black education in West Virginia and the nation.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources

1 contributing building

Total - 1

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	• •	•	_		
1400–1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science		
1500–1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture		
1600–1699	X architecture	X education	military	social/		
1700–1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian		
1800–1899	commerce	exploration/settle	ment philosophy	theater		
_X 1900	communications	industry	politics/government	transportation		
		invention		X other (specify)		
			Ethnic Heritage:	Black History		
Specific dates	1923	Builder/Architect	James Canty			

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Meets National Register Criteria B and C.

The Canty House is one of the most architecturally distinctive buildings in Institute. Now a part of the holdings of West Virginia State College, it was privately built and privately owned until the 1960's when it was purchased by the college. Since its purchase, West Virginia State College has used the Canty House as an office building and, for a time, as the campus health center. Originally, however, the building was the home of "Colonel" James Munroe Canty who was one of the early instructors at the West Virginia Colored Institute which later became West Virginia State College. Colonel Canty also served as the Institute's acting principal during the summer of 1898 between the resignation of J.H. Hill and the appointment of J. McHenry Jones.

The residential architecture of the West Dunbar/Institute area is, for the most part, a vernacular type common to tract housing of the period that may be described as builder style housing, workers housing, and modes that derive from common circulation plan books. "There is little stylistic reference and buildings were constructed of locally-available materials." (Marshall, p. 38). Canty House, however, is quite apart from the ordinary, according to Marshall:

The most important house in the area is the Classical-style James M. Canty house, located near the state road on the West Virginia State College campus. The house features fluted Corinthian columns supporting a dentiled pediment at the front portico. Mr. Canty called the house "The Magnolia". The house has several interesting architectural details including a fan light over the double entrance doors, pilaster corner boards and a balcony at the second floor opening above the entrance doors (Marshall, pp. 38-42).

James Canty was born on December 23, 1863 in Marietta, Georgia, the son of slave parents James and Adella Canty. He attended public school in Marietta but was graduated from Tuskegee Institute. While at Tuskegee, in addition to his "literary" work, Colonal Canty learned blacksmithing and taught himself pipe and machinery work, eventually "piping" the first girls' bath command the Institute. After his graduation, he worked for a time as the commandant of students at Tuskegee and then returned to Marietta where he worked at his trade in a carriage shop and did machine work for two furniture factories and a planing mill (Canty, pp. 209-313).

As a result of Booker T. Washington's recommendation to J.M. Hill, principal of the West Virginia Colored Institute, Canty was appointed as its "Superintendent of Mechanics" in January 1893. In addition to teaching in two departments, Canty also provided the mechanical services to the Institute. Of his duties he said in 1905:

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographi	cal Data			
Acreage of nominated property		_	Quadrangle	scale 1:24,000
UT M References				
	12 4 18 3 1 3 10	B Zone E	asting	Northing
C		D		
Verbal boundary description	and justification			
(See Continuation Sheet)				
List all states and counties for	or properties overlap	pping state or cour	nty boundaries	
state N/A	code	county	to the formation and the second secon	code
state	code	county		code
11. Form Prep	ared By			
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
name/title Dr. Ancella Ra				
organization Retired Colle	ege Administrator	date	May, 1988	
street & number		telep	hone 304-34	8-0240
city or town Cross Lanes		state	W.Va.	
12. State Histo	oric Prese	rvation O	fficer Co	ertification
The evaluated significance of this	property within the sta	nte is:		
national	X state	local		
As the designated State Historic F 665), I hereby nominate this prope according to the critéria and proce	erty for inclusion in the	National Register and	d certify that it has	
State Historic Preservation Office	signature	7	77-	
title State Historic Prese	ervation Officer		date	8/15/88
For NPS use only				7 1
hereby certify that this propagative Andres	perty is included in the	National Register	date	9/23/88
Keeper of the National Registe	er			
Attest:			date	•
Chief of Registration				

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Canty House

Item number

8

Page 2

Until the fall of 1898 my duties were many and varied, as I had no assistance in carrying on the industrial work of the school. I taught blacksmithing, carpentering, and mechanical drawing. Beside this, I have had to put the sewerage system into the institution, and the heating apparatus into several of the school buildings. Still a part of my time in 1894 was devoted to teaching in the literary department. My work now, while as exacting as ever, is more along the line of superintending the mechanical industries and in teaching mechanical drawing (Canty, p. 315).

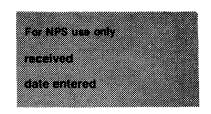
Known by the military title of "Colonel" stemming from his experiences with the para-military emphasis at Tuskegee, Canty began the military training corps at the West Virginia Colored Institute during his term as the acting principal. He was also quite interested in sports and encouraged physical training at the Institute (Daily Mail).

Colonel Canty was married twice. The first time to Sarah J. Harris with whom he had three children. His second marriage was to Florence Lovett with whom he had four children. Mrs. Grace Mitchell, a daughter of the second marriage still resides in Institute, West Virginia.

Canty House is significant primarily for its considerable architectural value and as the surviving structure most importantly associated with James M. Canty. Moreover, the house remains close to its original site and setting within the West Virginia State College community.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Canty House

Item number

9 & 11

Page

2

Bibliography

Canty, James., "The Story of a Supervisor of Mechanical Industries," in <u>Tuskegee and its People</u>, Booker T. Washington, ed., 1905.

Caswell, Cheryl, "The Puzzle of Institute's History Slowly Being Pieced Together." The Charleston <u>Daily Mail Metro West</u>, September 12, 1984.

"Pioneer W.Va. Educator Dies," The Charleston Daily Mail, February 17, 1964.

Interview with Mrs. Grace Canty Mitchell, Summer, 1987. Pictures, courtesy of Mrs. Mitchell.

Marshall, Paul D., <u>Historical</u> and <u>Architectural Survey</u>: <u>West Dunbar/Institute</u> <u>Area</u>, Kanawha County, W.Va., September 28, 1984.

Form Prepared by:

Rodney Collins Architectural Historian West Virginia Department of Culture and History

United States Department of the interiorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 2 Canty House	
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Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated resource stands in a 100-foot square approximately midway between College Drive and Washington Avenue facing State Route 25 (Fairlawn Avenue). The midway point between Washington Avenue and College Drive is 250 feet approximately and the north boundary is State Route 25.

Justification:

The site includes the Canty House only and immediate grounds associated with the structure.