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Cantrill House, according to Scott County records, was owned before the turn of the 19th century, by the family of John Hawkins, a pioneer who was living in this region around 1790. John Hawkins, a son of the pioneer who died in 1807, deeded the property to Thomas Hawkins in several tracts between 1810 and 1815. Deeds refer to Jackson Street as being "the ropewalk alley" and "the lane leading to the ropewalk of Thomas Hawkins" and the tract on which the house stands as being "the ropewalk." The early part of the house may have served either as an office or residence connected with the ropewalk. Other foundation remains have been uncovered on the lot in the general area with the house. Tradition recalls "an old pioneer named "Suggett" as having built the house, although this is subject to some dispute.

This building is doubly significant to the history of the region. Its role as the location of a hemp establishment and bagging factory represents the relation of the mainstay of early Kentucky economy-hemp--to the properous city of Georgetown. It also became the first building to be actually owned by the founders of Georgetown College, the Kentucky Baptist Education Society. Georgetown College, the first Baptist College west of the Appalachians, acquired the house and a four and three quarters acre lot on August 20, 1831. On August 23, 1834, the Baptist deeded the lot to Joseph Lemon, who resumed the ropewalk operation and sold it as a hemp establishment that December to Leon Tarleton and William Connell. Again in 1853 the college acquired the house along with a total of eleven acres. It was used as a president's house and then transforded into a men's dormitory known as Judson Hall. Dr. J.J. Rucker, professor of mathematics, bought the property in 1858 for a home. When the Georgetown Female Seminary burned in 1865, Dr. Rucker took the women students under his care and moved the Seminary into his home. When his health failed, he sold the house to Dr. J.B. Tharp, seminary principal, who resold it to Dr. Rucker in 1869 after the new seminary had been completed. The college acquired the property for the third and last time in 1930, and sold it a year later.

Various phases in construction of this imposing residence can be established tentatively: 1) the west wing was built in the late 1790s or early 1800s probably by John Hawkins and possibly by an old pioneer named Suggett;

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MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RE	FERENCES								Ĩ
	t County Deed Bo									
B. O	. Gaines, <u>Histo</u>	ry of Sco	ott Coun	ty	, Vol.	II (Ge	eorget	own, 1906) p	. 45	
	B. Bevins, ''Geo Lexington Leade					Hem	p Indu	stry, Colleg	e,''	
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE Kontucky

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

Kentu	ucky	
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FOR N	IPS USE ONI	_Y
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#8 Statement of Significance

2). the east wing was built circa 1815-1820 probably by Thomas Hawkins, or by William Nash who bought it in 1817 and devised it to son-in-law Alpheus Shepard, who sold it to the college in 1830; and 3) the central block, begun around 1820. An upstairs room was completed in great Greek Revival style probably by Dr. E.N. Elliott or the college after 1853 when it served briefly as the home of the college president. The portico dates from this period also.

