

Survey Number CH-2Owner Roger and Maryann CoreyProperty Name John Edmiston HouseAddress Canehill, AR 72717Location West of Highway 45Construction Date 1896

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Prominently sited on a hillside facing Highway 45 to the east, the John Edmiston House is a two-and-one-half-story, asymmetrically massed, structure with one-story wings projecting from rear (northwest and southwest) corners. Capped by a hip roof with cross gables, the building's roofscape is actively punctuated with a hip-roofed front dormer and a cupola that rises above the north elevation. The building is raised above grade on a stone foundation wall. Horizontal weatherboard faces the first floor of the house while imbricated shingles enrich the second-floor elevation and gable ends. A lavishly detailed one-story, shed-roofed, Eastlake-influenced front porch wraps around to the south elevation forming a half-hexagonal bay as it turns the corner. The porch features a gable-roofed entrance, turned columns supported on and terminating in square piers spanned by decorative wood segmental arches, sawn balusters, and spindled frieze. Two chamfered bays -- one, a one-story bay in the second floor, the other a two-story bay at the northwest corner of the house -- project from the principal (east) elevation. A second-floor balcony is prominent in the corner bay. Other decorative exterior details of note include rooftop finials, bargeboards, pendanted brackets, modillions, tiling and cornice boards. Fenestration consists of simple, yet distinctively framed rectangular windows; a leaded glass transom enhances the chamfered bay. Some original wainscoting, pocket doors and central staircase are all that survive of significant interior fabric.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Displaying a fine interpretation of the actively articulated decorative details associated with the Queen Anne and Eastlake styles of the late Victorian era, the John Edmiston House is Canehill's most architecturally outstanding late-nineteenth-century residential structure. Especially prominent in the townscape as a result of its comparatively large scale and auspicious site, the house is embellished with the eclectic vocabulary of its period, including Eastlake wrap-around porch, imbricated shingles, lofty finials, chamfered bays, and distinctive cupola. The craftsmanship of the house is as noteworthy as the variety of elements that enrich it. The house is historically significant in connection with its builder John Edmiston, a member of a family prominent in the mercantile business. In addition to operating a commercial establishment, Edmiston served on the board of the Bank of Canehill and had interests in the town's apple industry.

Verbal Boundary Description Block 3, Pyeatte's Addition, Lots 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10Acreage less than one acreQuadrangle Name Lincoln, Ark.Quadrangle Scale 1:24000

1 Reference

Zone 15 Easting 374 030 Northing 3975 080