

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

General Description

Code: WA-086

Congressional District: Third

Name: Ella Carnell Hall
Address: University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, Arkansas
County: Washington

Current Owner: University of Arkansas
Dr. James Martin, President
Address: University of Ark. Board of Directors
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Architectural Information

Architectural Firm: Charles L. Thompson

Date of Construction: ca. 1900

Stylistic Influence: Colonial Revival

Original Use: Dormitory

Present Use: Offices

Geographical Information

UTM Reference: 15 394730/3992090 Acreage: less than one

Verbal Boundary Description: T16N R30W S16

The boundaries of the nominated property extend 75 feet from each exterior wall of the building.

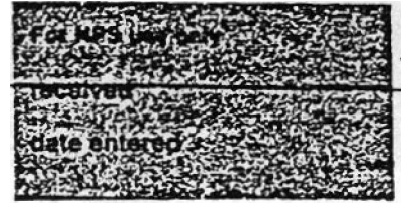
Condition

Excellent
 Good
 Fair

Deteriorated
 Ruins
 Unexposed

Unaltered
 Altered

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Item number 7 & 8

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Code: WA-086

(Carnell Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR)

Physical Description

This unusual sprawling brick building appears to be made of several different blocks in an additive composition. The architectural drawings indicate this project was "new construction," however, and that the entire seven-block scheme constituted the original design. The plan consists of seven distinct blocks: four are wide three-story blocks crowned by pyramid roofs with flared eaves and between these four are placed three smaller recessed two-story-plus-attic blocks. The taller three-story blocks flank both ends; the widest blocks (of 5 bays) mark the center section. The recessed block of the center section features a flat roofed portico on which a full entablature embellished with dentil molding and modillion blocks at the base of the cornice is supported by paired Ionic columns. Similar decorative details embellish the roofline of this entrance block. The taller projecting blocks feature alternating long and short brick panels resembling quoins. The topmost stories of these tall blocks are marked by wide, raised, continuous horizontal brick panels. Further enrichment of these tall blocks includes dentil moldings at the base of the cornice and long, slender curving brackets lining the overhanging eaves. Predictably most decorative detail appears on the recessed entrance block. In addition to the aforementioned portico and moldings, a hipped dormer with decorative windows lights the attic, and the upper sashes of all the plate glass windows feature muntins arranged in decorative diamond patterns. The front door has an elliptical fanlight and transoms and decorative sidelights. The original sash windows throughout Carnell Hall are two-over-two lights with vertical muntins.

Statement of Significance

Carnell Hall on the Fayetteville campus of the University of Arkansas was designed by Charles L. Thompson ca. 1900. Colonial Revival in its design influence, Carnell Hall was constructed for use as a girls' dormitory. The building now houses faculty offices. Carnell Hall features an unusual additive composition in an ingenious plan to build a long, sprawling structure and still maintain a relatively small scale and picturesque composition. This picturesque composition and a marked verticality in the building lend themselves to Victorian architectural design. With the addition of Colonial Revival detailing to the Victorian massing, Carnell Hall is another of the firm's transitional buildings.

