

Survey Number CH-5

Owner Canehill College Board of Trustees

Property Name Canehill College Building

Address c/o Conrad Russell

Location McClellan Street at College Street

Box 32, Canehill, AR 72717

Construction Date 1887

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The last of four buildings to house the Canehill College is situated on a hilltop site just west of Main Street (Highway 45). It is a massive brick-veneered masonry structure, two-stories in height. The building is constructed on a "T"-shaped plan consisting of a three-bays deep, five-bays-wide pile with a two-bays-deep, three-bays-wide wing projecting to the east to form the stem of the "T". Each section of the building is capped with a gable roof. Originally pairs of chimneys appeared in each gable end of the building; only three of these chimneys remain. The fenestration of the building has been considerably altered. Rectangular windows of various dimensions now pierce the elevations where round-arched windows were originally featured; the infill of the round arches as well as the bricking-in of some windows and doors is evident on the building. A round-arched opening also originally articulated the principal entrance to the building. The only decorative features of the building that remain are the strong vertical and horizontal bands of raised bricks that relieve the otherwise severe elevations. The building has not been utilized since the 1950's. A simple woodframe belltower holding the school's bell is located to the northwest of the building. Situated to the southwest is a 1940's concrete block building which served as a cafeteria.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Founded by Cumberland Presbyterians to prepare men for the ministry, the Canehill College evolved into one of the state's first four-year colleges. As a result of the school's prominence in the history of education of the state and its parallel influence on the development of the town, the college building is of great historic significance. Originally the school was known as the Canehill School (1834-35); in 1850 it began to grant two-year degrees and was renamed the Canehill Collegiate Institute; and in 1852 the institution received a charter to grant four-year degrees, the second such school established in Arkansas. Although the school was forced to close its doors during the Civil War, it continued to function until 1891 when a lack of financial support from outside the community brought about the school's demise. This structure is the only extant building associated with the development of the college. In its original condition, the design of the building exhibited some vague references, particularly in its round and segmental arched door and window opening, to the Victorian Italianate style. Constructed of locally fabricated bricks, the building is also significant in connection with Northwest Arkansas' traditional brick architecture.

Verbal Boundary Description See attachment "A"

Acreage more or less 2 5/8 acres

Quadrangle Name Lincoln, Ark.

Quadrangle Scale 1:24000

UIM Reference

Zone <u>15</u>	(A) Easting <u>373865</u>	Northing <u>3974820</u>	(B) Easting <u>373960</u>	Northing <u>3974790</u>
	(C) Easting <u>373930</u>	Northing <u>3974675</u>	(D) Easting <u>373840</u>	Northing <u>3974730</u>

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Verbal Boundary Description E1/2 of NW1/4, SE1/4, SE1/4, of Section 8, T14N,  
R32W. Beginning 9 chains 57 links west from a point of a section line between  
Section 8 & 9 and 13 chains 43 links north of the 1/4 section corner of said  
line, thence N 14 degrees, east 5 chains 79 links , thence N 76 degrees, west  
5 chains, thence S 64 degrees east to the beginning point.