OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property			
historic name: McNUTT, DR. ROBERT B., HOUSE other name/site number:			
2. Location			
street & number: 1522 North Walker Street city/town: Princeton state: WV county: Mercer code: 055	not for publication: N/A vicinity: N/A zip code: 24740		
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
As the designated authority under the National Historic Procertify that this _X_ nomination request for determined documentation standards for registering properties in the National Reproperty _X_ meets does not meet the National Reproperty be considered significant nationally state Signature of Certifying Official Date	nation of eligibility meets the National Register of Historic Places and orth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, Register Criteria. I recommend that this ewide _X_ locally.		
State or Federal agency and bureau Date			
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet See continuation sheet for additional comments.)	et the National Register criteria.		
Signature of Certifying Official/Title Date			
State or Federal agency and bureau Date			

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property

Mercer County, WV County and State

	rtification 		
I, hereby certify that this prop	perty is: Sig	nature of Keeper	Date of Action
entered in the National	Register		
See continuation shee			
determined eligible for the			
National Register			
See continuation shee			
determined not eligible for	or the		
National Register removed from the Nation	al Register		
removed from the reation	an Register		
other (explain):			
5. Classification			
Ownership of Property:		Category of Pro	operty
Ownership of Property: (Check as many boxes as apply	y)	Category of Pro (Check only one	
(Check as many boxes as apply	y)	(Check only one	box)
(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private	у)	(Check only one _X_ building(s	box)
(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local	y)	(Check only one _X_ building(s	box)
(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local public-State	y)	(Check only one _X_ building(s district site	box)
(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local	y)	(Check only one _X_ building(s) district site structure	box)
(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local public-State	y)	(Check only one _X_ building(s district site	box)
(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local public-State public-Federal Number of Resources within	Property	(Check only one _X building(s district site structure object	box)
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(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local public-State public-Federal Number of Resources within (Do not include previously list Contributing	Property ed resources in the	(Check only one _X building(s district site structure object e count.)	· box)
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(Check as many boxes as apply _X_ private public-local public-State public-Federal Number of Resources within (Do not include previously list Contributing	Property ed resources in the	(Check only one _X building(s district site structure object	buildings sites

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register __0_

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property	Mercer County, WV County and State	
6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling HEALTH/MEDICINE: Doctor's Office	Current Functions VACANT/NOT IN USE	
7. Description		
Architectural Classification:	Materials	
MID-19th CENTURY: Early Gothic Revival	Foundation: Sandstone Walls:Wood Roof:Asphalt Shingle/Metal Other:	
Narrative Description (See continuation on sheets.)		
8. Statement of Significance		
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualisting.)	alifying the property for National Register	
X A Property is associated with events that has patterns of our history.	ve made a significant contribution to the broad	
X B Property is associated with the lives of pe	rsons significant in our past.	
X C Property embodies the distinctive charact construction or represents the work of a master, or significant and distinguishable entity whose compositions of the contract of	possesses high artistic values, or represents a	

_____ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property

Mercer County, WV County and State

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years
Areas of Significance Military Health/Medicine Architecture
Period of Significance ca. 1840-1894
Significant Dates ca. 1840 1862
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) McNutt, Dr. Robert B.
Cultural Affiliation N/A
Architect/Builder Unknown
Narrative Statement of Significance (See continuation sheets.)

Mercer County, WV County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References			
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)			
Previous documentation on file (NPS):			
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #			
Primary location of additional data:			
X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other			
Name of Repository:			
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property: Less than one.			
UTM References			
Quad Map: Princeton			
Zone Easting Northing			
17 / 490910 / 4135400			
Verbal Boundary Description (See continuation sheet.)			
Boundary Justification (See continuation sheet.)			

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property

Mercer County, WV County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Alan R. Rowe, Structural Historian, with William Sanders, Old Town Princeton, Inc.

Organization: WVSHPO Date: February 21, 2001

Street & Number: The Cultural Center.

1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East Telephone: 304-558-0220

City: Charleston State: WV ZIP: 25305-0300

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name: Old Town Princeton Foundation, Inc.

Street & Number: 1518 North Walker Street Telephone: 304-425-2368

City or Town: Princeton State: WV Zip: 24740

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

7

1

Page

Architectural Description:

General Setting:

The Dr. Robert B. McNutt House is located in Princeton, West Virginia on a corner lot adjoining a busy street intersection. The main elevation faces Walker Street to the east, and the south elevation faces US 19/Honaker Avenue. The east and south sides of the house both abut a concrete sidewalk directly adjacent to Walker Street and Honaker Avenue. The north side of the property terminates at a gravel alley, and the west two-thirds of the property is an open, grassy lot divided from the main house by a screen of white pine trees. The lot was at one time twice as wide, but was reduced in size when Honaker Avenue was widened early in the twentieth century. The neighborhood to the north of the house is generally residential, composed of houses built between 1880 and 1920. Three adjacent houses were built by C.R. McNutt, son of Dr. R.B. McNutt, in the early 1900s. Toward the south, the character of the neighborhood quickly shifts to a general commercial orientation, with a mixture of modern and historic commercial buildings flanking the block of Walker Street between the house and the Mercer County Courthouse. Directly behind the house is a small stone storage building/well house.

Dr. Robert B. McNutt House ca. 1840 Contributing Building Exterior Description:

Architecturally, the McNutt House is a classic I-house configuration, with a two story. three-bay main facade and a one-bay wide, two story centered portico. The original, ca. 1840 portion of the house is two stories high, two rooms wide and one room deep, with a dividing center hall and stairway. Later additions include a one story, hip roofed section attached to the north gable end of the original section of the house, and a two story ell that branches from the east elevation of the main section, lending the house an overall ell-shape. The present portico, rebuilt in 1999 to match the earliest known photograph of the house, has a steeply pitched front gable roof and is supported by four square profile wood columns. The curvilinear design of the porch brackets and second story railing reflect Gothic Revival stylistic idioms, and represent the only purely decorative detailing present on the house. All parts of the house, including the ca. 1840 section and all later additions, are supported by a perimeter, random ashlar sandstone foundation, with a basement located beneath the ca. 1840 section. The structural system is a wood braced frame sheathed in white wood clapboards. Between the frame and the foundation are tree-length hickory sill logs fifteen inches in diameter. Two plain brick exterior chimneys are present on the gable ends of the original section of the house, and a small brick chimney is visible on the south facing roof slope of the rear addition. Roof surfaces on the main section of the house and the rear addition are covered with asphalt shingles, the exception being the one story, hip-roofed addition on the north end of the original section, which is roofed with standing seam metal. Old

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Page

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

7

2

photographs and physical evidence in the attic reveal that the house originally had a wood shingle roof. As mentioned above, the main facade of the McNutt house is symmetrically balanced with three bays and a centered entryway beneath a two story, one bay wide portico. The main entry on the first floor has a four paneled wooden door with sidelights and a rectangular transom window. There is an identical entry located directly above on the second floor of the portico. On the first and second story, there are two 12/12 double-hung wood sash windows to each side of the portico. There are shutter irons present at the sides of all four windows, but the shutters have been removed. A white, wooden lattice fence divides a gravel walkway at the front of the house from the public sidewalk adjacent to Walker Street. At the far right side of the facade, there is a one story, hip-roofed addition. This addition has one 12/12 double-hung wood sash window centered on the wall.

The south elevation fronts Honaker Avenue and a concrete sidewalk, with a minimal setback from the public way. The gable end of the ca. 1840 section is visible on this elevation, showing an exterior brick chimney with a slight taper two-thirds of the way up from grade. To the left of the chimney, there are two 12/12 double-hung wood sash windows, one present on the first story, and one present on the second. Beginning immediately to the left of the 12/12 windows is the two story rear addition. There are two 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows on the second story of the addition, and a paired set of 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows on the right half of the first floor. On the left half of the first floor level, there is a single 6/6 double-hung wood sash window, with a four panel exterior wood door immediately to its left.

The west-facing rear elevation is typical of I-house designs, lacking the visual cohesion of the main facade. Typically, this space was used for service functions and domestic chores that were kept hidden in the backyard, away from public view. The jutting presence of the ell and two story sun porch breaks the rhythm of bays into a jumble of windows and roof-lines. The sun porch has a continuous row of 6/6 double-hung wood sash windows on the ground floor. The two story section of the porch is attached to the north wall of the rear addition, with the upper level enclosed to create a room. The one story section of the porch is attached to the west elevation of the ca. 1840 section of the house and its one story addition, and has likewise been enclosed to create a room. Originally, the lower and upper portions of the porch were open galleries.

The north elevation presents much the same view as from the west, with a look into the backyard and the disorderly architectural arrangement of the rear elevation of the original house and the rear addition. Also visible from this vantage point is the north gable end of the ca. 1840 section, which is devoid of windows, and the north end of the one story, metal roofed addition. A side view of the shed-roofed enclosed porch is also visible, adjoining the west wall of the main house and the addition. A 6/6 double-hung wood sash window is centered in the north wall of the one story addition, and there is an identical window centered in the north wall of the porch. A square, brick exterior chimney is present, centered on the gable end of the ca. 1840 main house.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

7

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

Page

3

Interior Description:

Interior spaces are organized in the ca. 1840 section along a typical I-house plan, with a dining room and parlor on the first floor, and two bedrooms on the second floor, divided by a hall and stairway. The stairway is located on the north wall of the entry hall, and features a sweeping curve from a landing up to the second floor. Most of the interior trim, including the stair balustrade and handrail is walnut. The sides of the stair-risers are carved with a curvilinear motif that continues from the ground floor to the upstairs landing. Doors throughout the interior are the original four-panel wood variety, with the more decorative door trim located in the ca. 1840 section of the house. The door trim there features a plain architrave, flat corner blocks, and an unadorned pediment above the door. Oak tongue and groove floors are present throughout the house, and were laid over the original wide white pine flooring. Walls are lath and plaster throughout the house, with split oak laths and cut nails in the oldest sections.

There is a parlor to the north of the entry hall, which is known locally as the "bloodstain room" due to its use in 1862 as a temporary hospital. The stains are present on the original pine floor boards, which are located beneath the more recent oak tongue and groove floor. The room is dominated by a large fireplace and wood mantel on the north wall, with a ceiling-height built-in cabinet between the fireplace and the east wall. Centered between the fireplace and the west wall is a door to the single story addition at the far north end of the house. The addition was used by Dr. McNutt as his office. The exact date of this addition is unknown, but it was probably built between 1865 and 1880. The room is rather plain, with a fireplace and wood mantel in the south wall, with a ceiling high, built-in cabinet located between the east wall and the side of the fireplace. Dr. McNutt used the cabinet to store medical equipment and supplies, and according to local legend, the McNutt family stored their valuables in a secret compartment in the base of the cabinet.

South of the entry hall, through an open archway, is a formal dining room. There is a fireplace and wood mantel located on the south wall, and a door that opens into the rear addition in the west wall. The rear addition has two rooms up and two rooms down, with a kitchen on the first floor at the far west end of the addition. A 1939 account states that the rear addition was completed in two phases, beginning at an unknown date as a single story kitchen wing. The two upstairs rooms were added circa 1900 by Dr. Joseph P. McNutt, who inherited the house from his father.

Storage Building/Well House 1868/1888/1909 Contributing Building

Located approximately twenty feet behind the main house is a random ashlar sandstone outbuilding. The single story building is roughly square in plan, with a steep, standing seam metal gable roof. The gable ends of the building face north and south, respectively, and are sheathed in white wood clapboards. The south facing gable is cantilevered out over the south wall, which has

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

7

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

Page

4

a wood plank door offset on the right side of the elevation. Centered in the triangle of the south . gable is a small rectangular wood plank door. In the center of the east wall is a small square window opening with a six pane, wood frame window. At one time, the southern gable overhang sheltered the opening to the well. The building is presently used as storage, but historically was used for food preservation. Beneath the gable overhang and set into the southeastern corner of the building is a cornerstone inscribed with the dates 1868, 1888, and 1909. These dates may record a series of reconstructions over the years. The outdoor well was used until 1908, when Dr. Joseph P. McNutt had the water piped into the house.

Summary:

Dr. McNutt's house and outbuilding continue to reflect his time period and are good examples of a frame I-house with Gothic Revival detailing and a vernacular stone storage building. The main house has retained its original, ca. 1840 to 1894 materials, general plan, and appearance. Later modifications, including the asphalt shingle roof and the ca. 1900 expansion of the rear wing have resulted in a minor impact on the appearance of the house overall. The stone storage building, although probably altered by Dr. McNutt's son in the early 1900s, retains the same general appearance, plan, and materials that were present during the period of significance.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

8

Page 1

Statement of Significance:

The Dr. Robert B. McNutt House is significant under Criterion A for Military history, Criterion B for Dr. McNutt under Health/Medicine, and Criterion C for Architecture. Used as a headquarters and field hospital by the Union Army in the spring of 1862, for a few days the house stood at the center of events in the often fluid and tumultuous years of the Civil War in western Virginia. The house is also significant as the home and office of Dr. Robert Blaine McNutt, a prominent local physician who was for a time the only licenced doctor between Kanawha Courthouse, Va. (now Charleston, W.Va.) and Bristol, Va., a distance of approximately 200 miles. Dr. McNutt was a prominent citizen who participated in the commercial and political growth of the town in the years leading up to and following the Civil War. The architecture of the house is significant as the single remaining antebellum dwelling in Princeton, and as a well-preserved example of an I-house with early Gothic Revival stylistic embellishments. The period of significance begins with the construction of the house ca. 1840, and ends with the death of Dr. McNutt in 1894. During that time the house attained most of its character defining architectural features, served as Dr. McNutt's home and office, and during the Civil War served briefly as the Union army headquarters and field hospital.

Dr. Robert Blaine McNutt was born in Rockbridge County, Va., in 1814, and was part of the fourth American generation of an Irish family. Very little is known about Dr. McNutt's early life, including where he received his medical training. It has long been assumed that he was trained in Baltimore or learned directly from another practitioner, as was common before the Civil War. He married Elizabeth Ellen Peck, of Giles County, Va. and moved to Princeton, Va. in 1842. In the 1840s, Princeton was just beginning to develop as a result of improved road connections east to the Tidewater and west to the Kanawha Valley and the Ohio River. A trained physician would have been a welcome addition in the growing town, and Dr. McNutt was quick to establish himself as a leading figure. He enjoyed a monopoly on the doctor's trade well into the late 1860s, when Dr. Isaiah Bee settled in the town. His medical practice centered on Princeton and Mercer County, but he served a wide territory that included Giles, Bland, Monroe, McDowell, and Wyoming Counties. As personal physician to Captain William Smith, the founder of Princeton, Dr. McNutt received ten acres of land between present day Bee and Mercer Streets as in-kind payment for treatment of an illness. As a result of his lucrative practice, by 1851 the doctor was wealthy enough to help co-found the Princeton Savings Bank, the first financial lending institution in the town. The bank ceased to function during the chaos and dislocation of the Civil War.

Robert and Elizabeth McNutt obtained the present house and property in April, 1844 at a court sale, paying \$200 for the "house and lot on a half acre on the west side of Walker Street nearly opposite the publick spring and designated in the plan of said town as #15." There are no surviving reports of its original appearance, but local historians report that the house was enlarged and improved by the McNutt family in several phases before and after the Civil War. At the time

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

8

Page 2

of its construction circa 1840, the clapboard sided frame house would have been a curiosity in a village comprised entirely of log buildings. By the 1860s, several frame dwellings of comparable mass and style arose to compliment it, including the "Billie" McNutt house and the David Hall house, but both were demolished by the 1950s. All other houses in the center of town were destroyed by fleeing Confederate forces in the spring of 1862, leaving Dr. McNutt's house as the sole representative of Princeton's antebellum residential architecture. Dr. McNutt's son, Charles R. McNutt built the three houses that bound his father's house on the west, northwest, and north, but all appeared around the turn of the twentieth century and bear no resemblance to the I-house plan of the McNutt house.

The doctor and his wife raised a large family, many of whom went on to distinguished careers locally. The six McNutt children included John W., Joseph P., Charles R., Josephine, Mary and Nita. Charles R. was later educated at Emory & Henry College and entered the law profession in 1890. He was also a builder, responsible for several houses in the area, including the three houses adjacent to his father's. Joseph P. followed his father into the medical profession, attending the University of Virginia and later marrying the daughter of the owner of the Red Sulphur Springs resort. The McNutt household was known locally for its hospitality and for Elizabeth's fine cooking. Before and after the Civil War the house was open to travelers in town for County Court sessions. The McNutts were also devoted Methodists who provided shelter for traveling members of the Methodist ministry.

The comfortable life the McNutt family established in the 1840s and 1850s came to an abrupt halt in 1862. Mercer County and environs sided strongly with the Confederate cause, and sent many men in support of the Richmond government. This support would cost the town dearly, as the spring of 1862 would show. Generally, the first year of the war passed quietly in Princeton, but a strong Union push in the early months of 1862 rapidly brought the war into sharp focus for the region's inhabitants. The weak showing by Confederate forces under Generals Wise and Floyd in the fall of 1861 left the territory beyond the Kanawha Valley open to invasion.

Into the vacuum left by Wise and Floyd marched Union Brigadier General Jacob Dolson Cox, with two infantry brigades under Colonel Eliakin Parker Scammon, and Colonel A. Moor. This army left Charleston, Va. in the early months of 1862, headed up the Kanawha River, and in short order captured the towns of Fayetteville and Raleigh Courthouse (now Beckley). While camped near Raleigh Courthouse, future president Lt. Col. Rutherford Birchard Hayes recorded in a letter of April 8, 1862, the intent of the campaign:

We are getting ready to move south. Our first halt, unless the enemy stops us will be at Princeton, forty-two miles from here, the county-seat of Mercer County. We shall stop there for supplies, etc., etc., and to suppress the Rebel recruiting and guerilla bands probably a fortnight, then on to the railroad at Wytheville, Dublin, or some other point.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

8

Page

3

The enemy will try to stop us. They will do their best, as the railroad is of the utmost importance to their grand army in eastern Virginia.

Lt. Col. Hayes thus reveals the crucial nature of the campaign that included capturing Princeton before striking out at the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad, a vital strategic lifeline for the Confederate armies in eastern Virginia. Cox's army fought rain and muddy conditions, but finally reached Flat Top Mountain, near present day Camp Creek, on April 30th. The next day, May 1st, saw a skirmish fought at Clark's log tavern at Camp Creek, followed by a rapid push by the 23rd Ohio, under the command of Hayes, into Princeton proper. Upon reaching the town, Hayes and his men found most of the buildings in flames, torched by Confederate Colonel Jenifer as he withdrew south to Rocky Gap. Despite the destruction, Hayes found the town an excellent place for provisioning an army, with plentiful food and forage, and enough remaining buildings to store equipment and quarter men. Hayes did not mention the McNutt house by name, but did remark that "Some fires were put out; [and] four or five tolerably fine dwellings were saved. . ." Among the buildings saved was the house of Dr. McNutt, which for the next eighteen days would serve as general headquarters and hospital for the invading Union army. The McNutt family avoided trouble during the occupation by taking refuge at the Holyroyd farm near the town of Athens, and upon their return were delighted to find nothing missing or damaged, as per Sgt. William McKinley's promise to Mrs. McNutt on the day Union forces occupied the town.

Following the occupation of Princeton, advance units of the Union army took possession of Pearisburg in neighboring Giles County, but were pushed back into Princeton by Confederate General Henry Heth's advancing army. Sensing his exposed position, General Cox ordered the abandonment of Princeton on May 18, retreating to a more secure position high on Flat Top Mountain. This retreat was hastened by the routing of several German-speaking units under Colonel Von Blessing by Confederate forces under Major Peter Otey. Known as the Battle of Pigeon's Roost, it constituted the largest, and costliest, engagement around Princeton in the early months of 1862, causing the deaths of perhaps twenty of the unsuspecting Union troops. Many of the casualties of this battle were treated in the parlor of the McNutt House, leaving tell-tale blood stains as a reminder of that unfortunate day.

Following Cox's retreat, Princeton rapidly dwindled in importance as a military objective. General Heth shifted his focus to Lewisburg, where he was defeated by Union General Crook on May 23, 1862. Cox would abandon his position on Flat Top, eventually returning to the Kanawha Valley. The area around Princeton would remain in the balance until 1864, when General Crook would retrace Cox's steps, defeat the Confederates at Cloyd's Mountain, and finally capture the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad. Princeton was for the balance of May 1862 a point of contention between the forces of the North and South, and the McNutt house was the center of Union occupation, housing three future governors of Ohio (Cox, Hayes, and McKinley), and two future presidents of the United States (Hayes and McKinley).

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

8

Page

4

Life in Princeton was seriously disrupted by the burning of the town in 1862 and the general economic and social dislocations of the war. Just as Dr. McNutt had participated in the antebellum development of the town, he returned to take part in its gradual post-war reconstruction. After the end of the war, Dr. McNutt re-established his medical practice in his home and played an important role in medical and economic post war developments. Typhoid fever ravaged the area in the decade following the Civil War, and the doctor gained renown locally as an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of the illness.

In 1872, the doctor participated in the creation of the Bank of Princeton, the town's first post-Civil War lending and savings institution and a critical factor in its reconstruction. Established by Harrison W. Straley, the bank made it possible for the area's farmers, developers, and business people to rebuild and re-establish their savings and credit. The bank began on a rather humble note, with the books and paper notes kept in a large trunk under a counter. This system was maintained for several years, until business improved and the bank could afford a proper locking steel safe.

By the 1880s, advancing age and the presence of Dr. Isaiah Bee as another medical practitioner in town helped turn Dr. McNutt to other venues. Dr. McNutt retired from medical practice in 1884 for reasons of poor health, and spent the last ten years of his life supporting the cause for paper money, which many felt was necessary for economic growth on a national scale. Prior to the Civil War, Dr. McNutt was a moderate Whig, but following the war he was somewhat ambiguous politically, never aligning clearly with the Democrats or Republicans. But during the 1880s he served as an editor of the *Greenback Banner*, a local newspaper that trumpeted the cause of the Greenback Party and its economic theories. In 1881, local Greenback Party supporters nominated their own candidates for Congress and Governor, which led to a political schism within Mercer County's Democratically-dominated political terrain and the eventual creation of a viable Republican opposition.

Dr. Robert B. McNutt lived and worked from his home until his death on April 2, 1894. He left behind a solid legacy of achievement, a legacy his descendents built upon in the years following his death. Ownership of the house would pass to his son, Dr. Joseph P. McNutt, who altered the house with running water, electricity, and an expanded rear wing prior to his death in 1910. The house then passed to Joseph's son, John W. McNutt, who lived there with his wife, Bessie, until his death in 1936. Bessie left the house to her niece, Miss Eleanor Booker, following her death in 1971. Miss Booker passed the house to her sisters and brother in law, Margaret Booker Tinsley and Posey Booker Potts and her husband James Potts. Dr. Robert Criddle purchased the house from them in 1984. After serving as Dr. Criddle's office for a number of years, the house was purchased by the H.P. and Anne S. Hunnicutt Foundation, Inc. in 1997, and then deeded to the Old Town Princeton Foundation, Inc. The latter organization plans to rehabilitate and develop the house as a local history repository dedicated to interpreting the history of the town and the McNutt family.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

8

Page

5

Summary:

The Dr. Robert B. McNutt House is the last surviving antebellum residential building in Princeton. The other surviving buildings were demolished years ago, leaving this house as a unique representative of the town's formative years. Added to this singular status is the connection to a locally prominent family of doctors and lawyers, who each in their own way contributed to the social and commercial development of Princeton and environs. The house is most strongly connected to Dr. Robert Blaine McNutt, who was important as not only the first trained physician in the area, but also as a booster of the town's commercial growth through his support of its early financial institutions and a supporter of paper currency. The house gains additional significance through its remarkable connection to the Civil War, as it survived the burning of Princeton by retreating Confederate forces, and was then respectfully used by officers of the occupying Union army, including Brigadier-General Jacob Cox, Lieutenant Colonel Rutherford B. Hayes, and Sargent William McKinley. The house also served as a hospital during the occupation, further cementing its link to the wider events of the Civil War.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property

Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

9

Page

1

Bibliography

Books:

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Section number

10

Page

1

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point of intersection of the North line of Honaker Avenue, with the western line of North Walker Street; thence West along and with the northern line of Honaker Avenue; 330 feet to a point at the intersection of the eastern line of an alley, with the northern line of Honaker Avenue; thence along and with the eastern line of said alley in a line parallel with North Walker Street in a northern direction, 90 feet to a point, the point of intersection of the eastern line of said alley with the southern line of another alley; thence along and with the southern line of the last mentioned alley, East in a line parallel with Honaker Avenue, 330 feet to a point in the western line of North Walker Street, and with the same in a southern direction, 90 feet to the point of beginning.

Quoted as found in Deed Book 781, page 122, on record in the Office of the Clerk of the County Commission of Mercer County, Mercer County Courthouse, Princeton, West Virginia.

Boundary Justification:

This is the boundary historically associated with the Robert B. McNutt House.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property

Mercer County, WV County and State

Photo Log Page 1 Name of Property: McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Address: 1522 Walker Street Town: Princeton, WV County: Mercer Photographer: Alan R. Rowe Date: February 10, 2001 Negatives: WV SHPO, Charleston, WV Photo 1 of 12: R.B. McNutt House and general surroundings, camera facing northwest. Photo 2 of 12: Main elevation, camera facing west. Photo 3 of 12: North elevation, camera facing south. Photo 4 of 12: North elevation showing rear addition and stone outbuilding, camera facing south. Photo 5 of 12: Stone outbuilding, camera facing northeast. Photo 6 of 12: Stone outbuilding, detail showing southeast corner and carved dates. Photo 7 of 12: 3/4 view showing south and west elevations, camera facing northeast. Photo 8 of 12: Stair balustrade and curved landing, camera facing west. Photo 9 of 12: Paneling on side of stair case, camera facing north. Photo 10 of 12: Stair detail showing newel post and carving on risers, camera facing northeast. Photo 11 of 12: Dining room fireplace and mantel, camera facing south. Photo 12 of 12: Parlor fireplace mantel and built in cabinetry, camera facing northeast.

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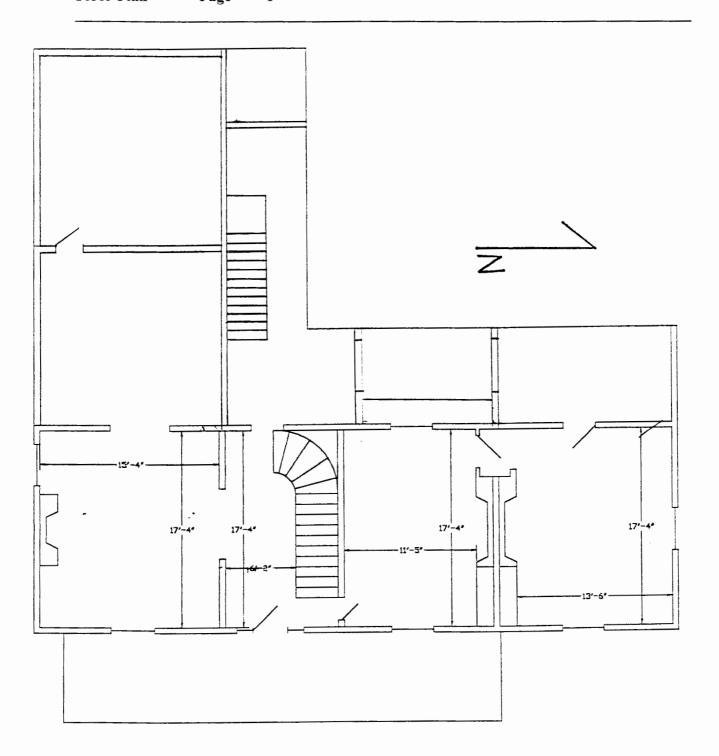
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Floor Plan

Page

1



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

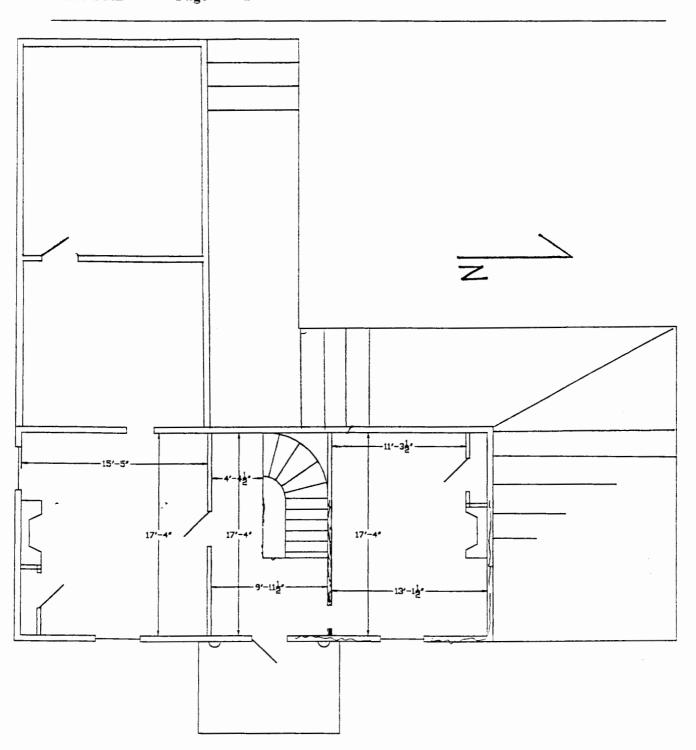
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Floor Plan

Page

2



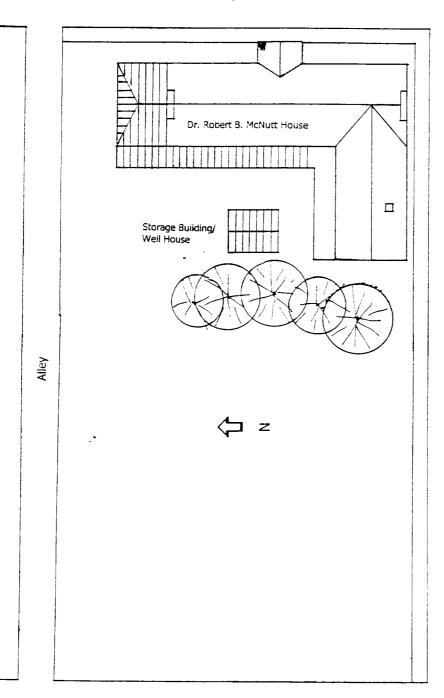
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt. Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Site Plan

North Walker Street



Honaker Avenue/US 19

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property

Mercer County, WV County and State

Tax Map

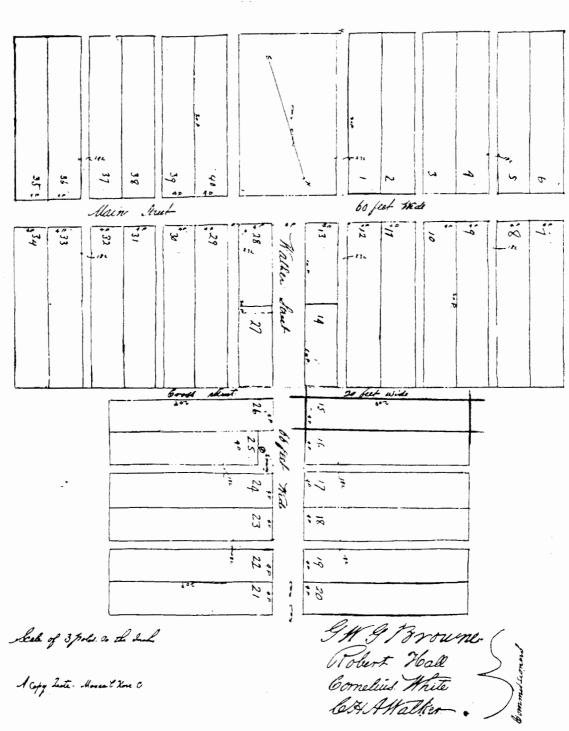


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

McNutt, Dr. Robert B., House Name of Property Mercer County, WV County and State

Original Town Plat



Map of original town-laid out by Captain Smith-C.A. Walker, surveyor.

