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

1. Name of Property
President's House, Bluefield State College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>historic name:</th>
<th>President's House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>other name/site number:</td>
<td>Hatter Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>street &amp; number:</th>
<th>Rock Street</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>city/town:</td>
<td>Bluefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state:</td>
<td>WV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>county:</td>
<td>Mercer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>code:</td>
<td>055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zip code:</td>
<td>24701</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property **_x_** meets **_x_** does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant **_x_** nationally **_x_** statewide **_x_** locally.

Susan M. Pierce 10/7/99
Signature of Certifying Official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau Date

In my opinion, the property **_x_** meets **_x_** does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of Certifying Official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau Date
4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  

- [ ] entered in the National Register  
  Signature of Keeper  
  Date of Action  
- [ ] See continuation sheet.  
- [ ] determined eligible for the National Register  
  Signature of Keeper  
  Date of Action  
- [ ] See continuation sheet.  
- [ ] determined not eligible for the National Register  
  Signature of Keeper  
  Date of Action  
- [ ] removed from the National Register  
  Signature of Keeper  
  Date of Action  
- [ ] other (explain):  
  Signature of Keeper  
  Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:  
(Choose as many boxes as apply)

- [ ] private  
- [ ] public-local  
- [x] public-State  
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Choose only one box)

- [x] building(s)  
- [ ] district  
- [ ] site  
- [ ] structure  
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

buildings  
sites  
structures  
objects  
TOTAL

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register  
0
President's House, BSC
Name of Property

Mercer County, WV
County and State

6. Function or Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Functions</th>
<th>Current Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic: Single Dwelling</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architectural Classification:</th>
<th>Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival</td>
<td>Foundation: Concrete Block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walls: Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roof: Asbestos Shingles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other: Wood/Vinyl Siding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Narrative Description
(See continuation on sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

____ X  A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

_____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_____ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

_____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
President's House, BSC

Mercer County, WV

Name of Property
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.
___x__ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
Social History

Period of Significance
1930-1966

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Garry & Sheffey, Architects
McMullen & Dye, Contractors

Narrative Statement of Significance
(See continuation sheets.)
President's House, BSC
Name of Property

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:

_____ 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 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

    17  479080  4124400
Zone  Easting  Northing  Bluefield Quad Map

Verbal Boundary Description
(See continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(See continuation sheet.)
President’s House, BSC  Mercer County, WV
Name of Property  County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Katherine Jourdan, with Doris Payne, Alumni Association
Organization: WV SHPO  DATE: August 1999
Street & Number: 1900 Kanawha Blvd East  Telephone: 304/558-0220
City or Town: Charleston  State: WV  Zip: 25305-0300

Property Owner

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

Name: Bluefield State College
Street & Number: 219 Rock Street
City or Town: Bluefield  State: WV  Zip: 24701
Just inside the stone gates of Bluefield State College is the President's home sited on a hill reached by a long single flight of steps. The brick Colonial Revival home was built in 1930. The home is on a level with the Administration Building and a brick walk led from the front entry and study door to the east door of the Administration Building. This walk is now under a shallow carpet of grass. The home is currently fenced with a wire chain link fence for the sides and rear.

**President's Residence 1930 Contributing Building**

The 2 1/2 story home is 3 bays with one bay side wings. In the center is a projecting entry with the door being surrounded by vinyl siding. This siding covers the original wood molding which had flanking pilasters. The pediment over the door was removed. On the sides of the projecting entry are small casement windows. The front facade is symmetrical with metal casement windows with fixed lights on top row, on the first floor. The second floor also had metal casements, although only the fixed top row is now intact. Above the second floor windows is a stone keystone design. There is a center round arched dormer for the attic level which has been covered with vinyl. The roof is hipped with asbestos shingles. A vertical row of bricks surrounds the house at the watertable height.

The side wings step back from the front facade with elevation having a paired casement window on the right wing, and a door on the left wing to the study. Each side elevation is the same with a single metal casement window on the side of the projecting entry, and paired casement windows on the front room, and the gable ended wing. The gable end has vinyl siding over wood. An arched dormer on the attic level over the wing has been covered with vinyl siding. There is a dormer on each side of the house. All the window openings have white shutters which were originally wood, but are now plastic replacements. The window sills are concrete.

The rear of the house has a stairway leading down to the basement level. Sheltering the basement entry is a rear mud room with side brick storage room that has a single casement window. The hipped roofed mud room has been covered with vinyl siding but from the interior the original wire screen and frame enclosure is still visible. This original feature would have offered an enclosed screened airing porch. To the right on the facade is a shed roofed deck on the second floor for a rear exit door, with metal stairs and metal supports. The rear door is original and there is a slight hipped roofed area for this projecting entry. Casement windows are on the first floor, and those on the second floor have a fixed top row of lights. On the attic level is a hipped dormer area with a row of three paired casement openings. There is a center chimney for the fireplace in the front room and a small chimney for the furnace.

The interior is well designed with many special amenities for storage, and use. The entry has a closet and low bench before opening into the large front room with fireplace. A sun porch is off the front room with several casement windows. Off the front room is a dining room with the kitchen centered in the rear. A rear door leads onto the back porch and to the storage room. A hall opens off the front room with an open staircase to the second floor. A door under the steps leads to the basement and there is a small bath in the rear. Next to the stairs is a door to a small
room believed to be the president’s study. A door leads outside and the brick walk led to the Administration Building.

On the second floor are four bedrooms and two baths. Steps lead to the attic space which has two good size rooms and a bath with an original tub under the eaves. Built-in bookcases are near the steps and in each room, the original hardwood floors are uncovered on this floor. The rear dormer windows give the only natural light into the space since the front and side dormers have been covered. The basement level has three good size rooms which serve utility functions and/or as a furnace room.

The trim work in the house - baseboards, door molding and window molding are original, as are the doors and glass knobs. The bath on the first floor has the early hexagonal tile floor and early toilet tank. The rear bath on the second floor has early white and yellow tile in a log cabin pattern.

Garage 1930 Contributing Building

The stone gate for Bluefield State College is the exterior wall for one side of the garage used by the college president. A one-story building with a single bay, the building is rectangular although it is set at an angle on the street. The front corner is a large post capped with limestone. The stones over the garage bay have a keystone effect, and the roof appears flat. The garage door appears to be a later replacement. On the exterior wall is a limestone plaque inscribed with “BLUEFIELD/STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE.” A low stone wall extends from the garage across the property line.

Summary:

The house still retains many of the original interior and exterior features. The Colonial Revival style home was well used by the various president families. Some of the exterior changes and application of vinyl siding over exposed wood features were made to lessen the upkeep by the college. The removal of the vinyl siding is seen as reversible.
**President’s House, BSC**  
**Mercer County, WV**  

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The President’s Home is being nominated under Criteria A for Social History connected with the development of Bluefield State (Teachers) College. The period of significance is from the residence’s construction in 1930, until the last president vacated the home in 1966.

Bluefield State College was established in 1895 for black students as a facility for higher education. The school began modestly with 40 pupils under the supervision of Hamilton Hatter, Bluefield’s first president, although he had the title of principal. Hatter was an energetic leader who built the foundation of the college during his tenure of 30 years. He oversaw the construction of Mahood Hall, the administration building, as well as Lewis Hall and West Hall dormitories. Eventually the President’s home would be given the title of Hatter Hall.

During the early years of the school the President was housed in an apartment contained within Payne Hall, the women’s dormitory, which was a cost saving measure but not a preferred alternative to living. The construction of a President’s Home permitted the president to have a separate residence on campus. It also lent a certain prestige to the college campus.

The Bluefield firm of Gany and Sheffey were hired to design the presidents home with the contractor being the firm of McMullen & Dye. The home is Colonial Revival in style with brick construction and wood trim in the dormers and gable ends. The interior is well planned with a central living room opening off the foyer. A study on the side of the home has a separate entrance and a brick walk (now covered by grass) is still extant leading to the Administration Building.

While the primary use of the home was as a residence for the president and his family, it was also used for school functions such as Freshman receptions, and formal occasions for special visitors, and graduations. Students were welcome to talk to the president in his study after hours.

The home was vacated in 1966 by then President Wendell Hardaway, the school’s first white president. The 1960s had sparked racial unrest on campus with the black students resenting the presence of a white president. After a bombing that destroyed Payne Hall, the threat of future violence caused the president and his family to move off campus. The house has remained vacant since that time.

Recent interest in the late 1990s by the Alumni Association has led to agreement that the Alumni Association will use the building for alumni receptions and meetings, but that the property will also be available for other groups and Greek organizations. The college will continue to maintain the property. Plans also call for a exhibits to be in the building including a “Wall of Fame” and school artifacts.

**Summary:** The President’s Home marked the growth of the college and its efforts of higher education for blacks in southern West Virginia. The home was constructed on a high hill next to the administration building giving it a presence on campus. The home’s name on campus of Hatter Hall was associated with the first president who served the school for over 30 years.
(NPS Form 10-900)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Property</th>
<th>County/State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Mercer County, WV</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section number</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bibliography

Bluefield City Directories 1930 to 1945.


BUREAU OF NEGRO WELFARE AND STATISTICS, Biennial Reports 1920s to 1930s, Coal Archives, Bluefield.

INTERVIEWS
Interview with Frank Wilson, co-author of the Centennial History of Bluefield College, by Jim Nelson, August 1999.
Verbal Boundary Description

The property boundary begins at the bottom of the steps along Rock Street and proceeds NE along the north edge of the street to the side street and including the garage; thence running NW along the side street and up the hill, parallel with the chain fence to the corner fence post; thence following the chain fence and running SW along the rear of the property (parallel with the street behind the home); thence turning south and running with the chain fence SE and when the fence ends extending down the hill to Rock Street; thence turning east and running NE with the edge of the street to the steps and the place of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the president’s home and garage, and the rear yard now enclosed with the chain link fence. This is the portion of the college campus historically associated with the president’s home.
Name of Property: President's Home  
Address: Bluefield State College  
Town: Bluefield, WV  
County: Mercer County

Photographer: Jim Nelson  
Date: March 1999

Negatives: WV SHPO, Charleston, WV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1 of 12      | Streetscape of the front of the property, house and garage  
Camera facing NE along Rock Street |
| 2 of 12      | Front or south facade of the residence  
Camera facing NW |
| 3 of 12      | East facade of residence  
Camera facing NW |
| 4 of 12      | Rear or north facade and west facade of residence  
Camera facing SE |
| 5 of 12      | West facade of residence  
Camera facing NE |
| 6 of 12      | Interior - living room with center fireplace  
Camera facing E |
| 7 of 12      | Interior - sunporch  
Camera facing SW |
| 8 of 12      | Interior - stairs to third floor  
Camera facing N |
President's House, BSC
Name of Property

Mercer County, WV
County/State

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section number</th>
<th>Photo Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Photo 9 of 12:</td>
<td>Interior - third floor room Camera facing E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo 10 of 12:</td>
<td>Interior - third floor bath Camera facing S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo 11 of 12:</td>
<td>Side wall of garage doubling as gate Camera facing NW</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo 12 of 12:</td>
<td>Front of garage, west elevation Camera facing NE</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USCLGS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1955. Field checked 1962
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on West Virginia coordinate system, south zone, and Virginia coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map