

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls

Other names/site number: Janie Porter Barrett School for Girls; Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center; Barrett Learning Center; VDHR File # 042-0126

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 11391 Barrett Center Road

City or town: Mechanicsville State: VA County: Hanover

Not For Publication: N/A Vicinity: X

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national X statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A X B X C ___ D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____ Signature of commenting official:</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
<p>_____ Title :</p>	<p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	buildings
<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	structures
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>26</u>	<u>8</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION; School

GOVERNMENT; Correctional facility

DOMESTIC: Institutional Housing; Dormitory; Superintendent's Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/Not In Use

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT: International style

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK; STONE: Limestone; CONCRETE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The former Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls (more recently known as the Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center and as the Barrett Learning Center) is located in Hanover County and sits on a 143.7 acre tract. It is bounded by Georgetown and Chestnut Church roads on the west and north, respectively, private property on the east, and Crump Creek to the south. The land rises from the creek to gently rolling field and woodland. A tree lined drive, entered from Georgetown Road between stone pillars designating the school, leads to the campus arranged in a semi-circle around an open lawn. The most significant structure from the institution's early years, a four-square brick home built for founder Janie Porter Barrett in 1927, has been renovated as an administration building. Nearby is a small garden installed in memory of Maggie L. Walker, an early member of the Board of Trustees. The campus was transformed in the 1950s and 1960s by Richmond architect Merrill C. Lee, who designed a one-story International-style school and gymnasium (1951), a Laundry/Cannery (1953), and four International-style dormitories (Walker and McNeill, 1951), Virginia (1955) and Lowe (1960), all known as cottages. There are several more International-style buildings that postdate the period of significance, but maintain the same materials, form and scale as the rest of the core campus area. The campus landscape and buildings possess a high level of integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association, allowing the historic district to convey the property's significance and use as an education-oriented juvenile correctional facility from the 1920s through the late twentieth century.

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Narrative Description

SETTING

The Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls is entered by way of Barrett Center Road from Georgetown Road on the west. Four stone posts and a low semi-circular brick wall stand at the intersection of Barrett Center Road and Georgetown Road. The two taller posts carry commemorative plaques. The inscription to the north reads: “Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls established by the Virginia State Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs 1915 Taken over by State of Virginia 1920.” The inscription to the south reads: “In memory of the founders and pioneers who helped to build this school.” Barrett Center Road is lined with a split rail fence and mature trees. Approximately 800 feet into the property the road branches to the north and south. To the south are a collection of secondary resources, namely a maintenance building and various sheds. To the north is the main academic and residential portion of the complex. The core complex is currently surrounded by a high chain link fence.

The buildings in the academic and residential complex are arranged in a semi-circle around an open ellipse. The Administration Building (1927), which originally was built as Barrett ‘s house, is located on the west side of the ellipse and is a vernacular interpretation of Colonial Revival style. To the northwest is the Administration Annex, a converted 1954 Minimal Traditional-style dwelling that originally served as the Superintendent’s House/Office. Along the north and east sides of the ellipse are five International-style buildings designed by architect Merrill C. Lee – the school and gymnasium (1951), Virginia Cottage (1953), Walker Cottage (1951), McNeill Cottage (1951) and Lowe Cottage (1961). Along the south side of the ellipse are Buck Cottage and Infirmary (1971), the Dining Hall (1961) designed by architect Eugene Tucker Carlton, and O’Kelly Cottage (1969) designed by the architectural firm of Ballou and Justice, all in the International style.

Much of the southern side of the parcel is covered in deciduous trees and the terrain drops off from the plateau of the campus area into deep ravines. Crump Creek runs across the parcel’s southern edge and the mill and miller’s house site are located in the wooded area, near the creek. A small cemetery is also located in the wooded area of the property.

ARCHITECTURE

The campus has evolved significantly since the facility was founded in 1915 by social activist Janie Porter Barrett. The first phase of construction took place between 1915 and 1930. A second phase occurred during the early 1950s; this was expanded upon with two additional major buildings in the early 1960s. As the correctional center’s uses changed, a few more buildings were added in the late 1960s through 1970s.

Early images of the property shortly after it opened in 1915 show one prominent building that was called the Federation House. This two-and-a-half-story, Colonial Revival-style building served as the location of primary classroom and administration functions. Barrett’s dwelling, an

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American Foursquare with Colonial Revival detailing, was built in 1927 (it was later converted for use as the Administration Building). This early campus was designed and built by John Sugden, Superintendent of Construction at Hampton Institute. Sugden was known to have worked with Hampton students so it is possible that the early buildings were constructed using student labor. The 1915-1920 campus consisted of several large cottages and farm buildings. Along with the Federation House, there were Virginia and Hanover Cottages. Hanover Cottage appears to have been a frame building in a vernacular style. The two-story building had a side gable front section with a long ell at the rear, five bays deep. Virginia cottage was larger, at two-and-a-half stories, and had a more formal Colonial Revival design with a distinctive gambrel roof. While a 1910s barn and vehicle shed survived into the 1980s, when VDHR surveyed the complex, none of the major buildings from the original 1915-1920 campus now survive. Barrett's house was built about ten years after the initial buildings and it is now the oldest major building on the campus, relating to the early development of the institution.

The second campus period design, executed by architect Merrill Lee, enlarged the campus significantly. Executed in the International style, the complex built in 1951-1953 included a school and gymnasium, McNeill Cottage, Walker Cottage, and Virginia Cottage. The large school and gymnasium provided space for functions that had been housed at the Federation House, while the three new cottages introduced improvements over the heavily used older buildings. Several additional core campus buildings, designed by Eugene Tucker Carlton and the architectural firm Ballou and Justice, were added in the 1960s and 1970s. These later buildings, Lowe Cottage, O'Kelly Cottage, Buck Cottage and Infirmary, and the Kitchen and Dining Hall, completed the current "U" shape campus plan and were designed to blend in with the 1950s campus. The 1950s buildings are clad in cast concrete and limestone and the later additions feature some pebbledash panels.

There are miscellaneous resources that surround the core campus. Most notable are the 1953 Laundry/Cannery (Merrill Lee design) and a c. 1954 Superintendent's House/Office. A variety of resources associated with the school's water system are extant across the campus. All of the buildings are one story and masonry construction. The oldest are non-functioning, abandoned buildings in a ravine behind the Buck Cottage and Infirmary. These appear to date to the 1920s. There is a large functioning water plant south of the core campus with more modern pumps, next to 1950s non-operational equipment and two holding ponds. The 1958 Water Tower with nearby brick pump house is located in the northeast corner of the property. Finally, there is a handful of utilitarian maintenance and storage buildings.

There was a greater focus on farming activities in the facility's early years and the old mill that had been part of the Mill Farm was rebuilt in 1919 and put into service. Today, only the site of the mill remains, along with the site of the miller's house on the southern edge of the property. A photograph of the miller's house appears in one of the facility's early annual reports.

A small cemetery with two burials is located in the southern wooded area of the campus. The annual reports note several student deaths, but the total number of burials is unknown. Currently, two burials with plain wood markers are visible but there may be other unmarked burials.

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INVENTORY

Resources within the nominated property have been categorized as contributing or non-contributing based on their integrity and association with one or more of the property's areas of significance within the period of significance. Resources that postdate the property's period of significance are non-contributing regardless of their condition.

Core Campus Resources

Administration Building, DHR No. 042-0126-0013

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, 1927,

Contributing Building

The Administration Building was built in 1927 as a private residence for Janie Porter Barrett. It is a Colonial Revival-style, two-story, two-bay dwelling on a raised foundation constructed of brick laid in a 6-course American bond pattern. A soldier, belt-course wraps the building at the sill line of the first and second story windows. The building has a hipped roof covered with slate shingles. There is a hipped dormer on the west elevation. On the south elevation there was a two-story porch with a hipped roof and hipped dormer. The porch has been enclosed and a one-story addition wraps the southwest corner of the building. A one-story porch on the east elevation has also been enclosed. There is strong reason to believe that this building was designed by architects associated with Virginia's Hampton Institute. This is the only formally designed building that survives from the original campus. Early images of the campus show buildings that were in the Colonial and Classical Revival design, some as large as two-and-a-half stories. The early campus plan was organized in the same circular pattern as the later campus. Some of the current buildings may have been built over the sites of the older buildings, but there are some indications, such as ground depressions, that former buildings sites are still intact and have future potential for archaeological testing.

School and Gymnasium Building, DHR No. 042-0126-0002

Primary Resource: School (Building), Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1951,

Contributing Building

The school and gymnasium was built in 1951 in the International style. This building is organized into six blocks that are all constructed of brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern set on a concrete plinth. At the westernmost end is a slightly elevated block with no fenestration and a metal coping at the edge of the flat roof. The next massing to the east is slightly lower and recessed from the front plane of the adjacent block. Centered in this elevation are two single-light windows separated by a decorative cast concrete panel; the composition is organized by a continuous concrete frame. The next block is a recessed entrance composed of three, single-leaf glass doors. The next section of the building is five bays long and has a concrete coping at the edge of the flat roof. Each bay is defined by a ribbon of six, two-light windows separated by a decorative cast concrete panel with a single square light in the center. The entire composition is contained within a continuous concrete frame. The next section of the building to the east is recessed from the front plane of the adjacent blocks and steps up to two stories in height. This block contains the entrance to the gymnasium that is composed of three pairs of glass-and-metal doors with transoms above. Centered above the entrance are three single-light windows separated by decorative cast concrete panels. The composition is organized by a continuous

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concrete frame. The last bay on the east aligns with the projected bays to the west. Centered in this block are paired two-light windows separated by a decorative cast concrete panel. This block, unlike the others, has a flat roof with an overhanging eave. The roof line extends to the west to shelter the gymnasium entrance.

Walker and McNeil Cottages, DHR Nos. 042-0126-0004 and 042-0126-0006

Primary Resource: **Dormitory/Barrack (Building), Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1951 Contributing Buildings (2)**

Walker and McNeill Cottages were built in 1951 in the International style. These dormitory buildings are identical in design. The Modern one-story, cruciform-plan buildings are faced with brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern. The buildings are set on concrete plinths and have flat roofs with overhanging eaves. The central portions of the building are composed of slightly taller offset brick blocks. Each block face is pierced by a bank of wood-framed rectangular windows that are four windows high by five windows long. The unit is organized by a continuous concrete frame. To the sides and the rear are lower wings with groupings of three-by-three and three-by-two banks of wood-framed windows also organized by a continuous concrete frame. The primary entrance is located in one of the lower wings and is protected by a cantilevered section of the roof. The entrance is composed of a pair of wood and glass doors with a continuous side-light and transom. This same door and side-light and transom motif is repeated on the interiors of the buildings. The end wall of the higher block next to the entrance is clad with cast-stone concrete panels and a decorative motif of projecting blocks. A large rectangular chimney is incorporated into this decorative wall. The interiors of both buildings are largely intact and reflect the Modern design found on the exteriors. In the entries there is birch wainscoting and a low birch partition with rounded ends. There are also a black tile fireplace and recessed birch bookcases.

Virginia Cottage and Lowe Cottage DHR Nos. 042-0126-0003 and 042-0126-0007

Primary Resource: **Dormitory/Barrack (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, 1953 and 1961, Contributing Buildings (2)**

Virginia Cottage (built 1953) and Lowe Cottage (built 1961) are identical in design and flank the Walker and McNeill cottages. They are both one-story dormitories with rectangular plans that are thirteen bays long and two bays deep, constructed of brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern. They are set on concrete plinths and have flat roofs with overhanging eaves. The long elevations are fenestrated with a series of four-by-three and four-by-two groupings of windows separated by brick piers and organized by continuous concrete frames. The entrance is set in the second bay and protected by a cantilevered section of the roof. The entrance is composed of a single-leaf wood door with a small light and transom above. One end bay has two sets of four-by-three windows separated by brick piers and contained in a continuous concrete frame. The opposite end has a single-leaf wood door and an engaged rectangular chimney with a concrete top. The interiors are largely intact and undecorated. There is a double loaded central corridor and the interior walls are exposed concrete block.

Dining Hall and Kitchen, DHR No. 042-0126-0009

Primary Resource: **Dining Hall/Cafeteria (Building), Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1961, Contributing Building**

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The Dining Hall, built in 1961, was designed by architect Eugene Tucker Carlton. The Dining Hall is also a one-story building constructed of brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern, set on a concrete plinth with a metal coping at the edge of the flat roof. There are five, 1/1 windows with cast concrete frames to the west of the main entrance. The entrance is contained in a slightly lower projected block that is clad with cast concrete panels. The recessed entrance is composed of a pair of paneled wood doors with a concrete surround.

O'Kelly Cottage, DHR No. 042-0126-0010

Primary Resource: **Dormitory/Barrack (Building), Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1969, Non-Contributing Building**

The O'Kelly Cottage, built in 1969, was designed by the architectural firm of Ballou and Justice. The cottage is a one-story building constructed of brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern, set on a concrete plinth with a metal coping at the edge of the flat roof. There are five, 1/1 windows with cast concrete frames to the south of the main entrance. The entrance is recessed in a porch area. The porch is supported by square columns that are clad in concrete panels. Each window bay is accented with concrete panels that have pebble dash. The windows have heavy metal security panels.

Buck Cottage and Infirmary, 042-0126-0008

Primary Resource: **Clinic (Building), Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1971, Non-Contributing Building**

Buck Cottage and Infirmary, built in 1971, was designed by architect Eugene Tucker Carlton. The hybrid building is also a one-story building constructed of brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern, set on a concrete plinth with a metal coping at the edge of the flat roof. The entrance elevation is three bays wide. The south elevation is 16 bays long and the north side has 17 bays. The 1/1 windows are set in cast concrete frames with pebble dash concrete panels on the rear building area for design accent. The entrance is currently under a porch that was added within the last 20 years; it is a metal, gable-roofed porch supported on metal posts.

Superintendent's House/Office, DHR No. 042-0126-0001

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Minimal Traditional, 1954, Contributing Building**

The Superintendent's House/Office was built 1954 in the Minimal Traditional style. It is a 7-bay, one-story building constructed of brick laid in a stretcher bond pattern. The building has a low-pitch gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The windows have 2/2 horizontal lights, a type commonly used in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Picnic Shelter, 042-0126-0026

Primary Resource: **Shelter (Structure), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 2005, Non-Contributing Structure**

The picnic shelter is located east of the Superintendent's House. The one-story, gable-roofed, open-sided structure is built over a concrete slab. The roof structure consists of laminated bent wood framing, clad in asphalt shingles.

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Walker Memorial and Garden, DHR No. 042-0126-0018

Primary Resource: Garden (Site), Style: No discernible style, Ca 1935, Contributing Site

The Walker Memorial and designed garden areas are located in the open campus quadrangle, generally in between O'Kelly Cottage and the school and gymnasium. The memorial is a circle of cut segmental stone blocks with one block inscribed: "Erected by the Virginia State Federation of Colored Womens Clubs In Memory of Maggie L. Walker." The circle may have had a fish pond or plantings, but it is now grown over. The designed garden area is defined by some berms and may have been as large as a quarter- to half-acre. There is a cedar and a catalpa tree within the bermed area.

Campus Secondary Resources

Commemorative Entry Posts, DHR No. 042-0126-0019

Primary Resource: Gateposts/Entry (Object), Stories , Style: No discernible style, Ca 1940, Contributing Objects (4)

Four stone posts and a low semi-circular brick wall stand at the intersection of Barrett Center Road and Georgetown Road. The two taller posts carry commemorative plaques. The inscription to the north reads: "Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls established by the Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs 1915 Taken over by State of Virginia 1920." The inscription to the south reads: "In memory of the founders and pioneers who helped to build this school."

Laundry/Cannery, DHR No. 042-0126-0005

Primary Resource: Agricultural Outbuildings, Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1953, Contributing Building

Designed by architect Merrill Lee, the Laundry/Cannery building (more recently used for storage) was built in 1953. It is located in the northeastern corner of the property, near the 1958 pump house and water tower, adjacent to Chestnut Church Road. It has a more unusual International Style form. Built in brick, the building has some two-level sections that appear to have been designed for venting.

Pump House, DHR No. 042-0126-0015

Primary Resource: Pump House (Structure), Stories , Style: No discernible style, 1958, Contributing Structure

The 1958, one-story, concrete-block, side-gabled pump house with nearby water tower is located in the northeast corner of the property, directly west of the Laundry and Cannery Building.

Water Tower, DHR No. 042-0126-0014

Primary Resource: Water Tank/Tower (Structure), Stories , Style: No discernible style, 1958, Contributing Structure

The 1958 water tower has a steel, elevated tank with a storage capacity of 65,000 gallons. The tower has four round support posts with diagonal tie rods and an 8-inch stand pipe. It is used for water storage and pressure for the water system throughout the property. The water tower and

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nearby brick pump house are located in the northeast corner of the property, directly west of the Laundry and Cannery Building.

Pump Houses, DHR Nos. 042-0126-0016 and 042-0126-0028

Primary Resource: Pump House (Structure), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1928, Contributing Structures (2)

Located in a ravine south of Buck Cottage and Infirmary are two of the oldest pump houses on the property. Both were constructed about 1928 and are one-story, brick structures. Neither pump house has been functional for several decades.

Pump House, DHR No. 042-0126-0027

Primary Resource: Pump House (Structure), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1980, Non-Contributing Structure

The 1980 pump house is built of concrete block with an asphalt-shingled, gable roof. It is located directly south of the Dining Hall and Kitchen.

Vehicle Shed, DHR No. 042-0126-0022

Primary Resource: Shed - Vehicle (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1995, Non-Contributing Building

The Vehicle Shed is a frame building constructed with sawn dimensional lumber with exposed rafters and trusses. The side-gabled roof is sheathed with metal. Three of the walls are covered with wood siding while the fourth is open to allow entry of large equipment. The Vehicle Shed stands a short distance southwest of the 1980 pump house.

Training Tower, DHR No. 042-0126-0023

Primary Resource: Fire Tower (Building), Stories 5, Style: No discernible style, Ca 2005, Non-Contributing Building

The Training Tower is a multi-story wood building with partially enclosed walls on each level except the top story. The Training Tower is located southwest of the Vehicle Shed.

Cottage Foundation, DHR No. 042-0126-0030

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling Ruins (Site), Stories , Style: No discernible style, Ca 1915, Contributing Site

This site is believed to be that of the first residential cottage on the property. Today it consists mainly of foundation remnants, visible above the surface. The site has not been subjected to archaeological testing, but is undisturbed. It is located a short distance southwest of the Training Tower.

Pump House, DHR No. 042-0126-0021

Primary Resource: Pump House (Structure), Stories , Style: No discernible style, 2000, Non-Contributing Structure

Built in 2000, the one-story pump house has concrete block walls and a side-gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. This pump house is situated directly south of the Cottage Foundation.

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Pump House and Holding Ponds, DHR No. 042-0126-0025

Primary Resource: Pump House (Structure), Stories , Style: No discernible style, 1951, Contributing Structures (3)

The 1951 brick, one-story pump house and its two associated holding ponds are located south of the core campus and west of the ca. 2000 pump house. The holding ponds were designed as part of the campus's wastewater treatment system.

Maintenance Building, DHR No. 042-0126-0011

Primary Resource: Storage (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, 1959, Contributing Building

The one-story Maintenance Building, along with a storage building, is located away from the core campus area, to the southwest, near the current tree-lined edge of the property. Of frame construction, the rectangular building ten bays along its longitudinal wall and an asphalt shingle-clad gabled roof. The building originally may have been designed for another purpose.

Storage Building, DHR No. 042-0126-0012

Primary Resource: Storage (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, 2000, Non-Contributing Building

The one-story Storage Building is located slightly northwest of the Maintenance Building. It is a frame, utilitarian building with a gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles.

Cemetery, DHR No. 042-0126-0029

Primary Resource: Cemetery (Site), Stories , Style: No discernible style, Cemetery, c. 1915-1950, Contributing Site

A small cemetery with two burials is located in the southern wooded area of the campus, southwest of the pump houses and holding ponds and northwest of the ruins of the miller's house and mill. The school's annual reports note several student deaths, but the total number of burials at this cemetery is unknown. Currently, two burials with plain wood markers are visible but there may be other unmarked burials. The site has not been subject to archaeological testing, but has not been disturbed over the years.

Mill Ruins, DHR No. 042-0126-0017

Primary Resource: Mill Ruins (Site), Stories , Style: No discernible style, Ca 1800-early 19th century and rebuilt 1919, Contributing Site

Ruins of a mill and a miller's house are located at the south end of the property, on the north bank of Crump Creek, which roughly parallels the property's southern boundary. Although the site has not been subject to professional archaeological testing, it has not been disturbed since the Virginia Industrial Home School ceased including agricultural instruction in their curriculum.

Miller's House, DHR No. 042-0126-0020

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling Ruins (Site) Stories , Style: No discernible style, Ca 1820, Contributing Site

Ruins of a mill and a miller's house are located at the south end of the property, on the north bank of Crump Creek, which roughly parallels the property's southern boundary. Although the

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site has not been subject to professional archaeological testing, it has not been disturbed since the Virginia Industrial Home School ceased including agricultural instruction in their curriculum.

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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.)

- 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.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE: African American

SOCIAL HISTORY

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1915-1965

Significant Dates

1915 – Industrial Home School opens

1920 – School transferred to Commonwealth of Virginia

1927 – Construction of two-story brick house for Barrett (School Superintendent)

1950 – Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls renamed Janie Porter Barrett

School for Girls

1951 – Construction of International-style school & gymnasium & 2 dormitories (Walker &

McNeill)

1965 – School is racially integrated

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Barrett, Janie Porter

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sugden, John (architect-builder)

Lee, Merrill C. (architect)

Carlton, Eugene Tucker (architect)

Ballou and Justice (architect)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls is significant at the statewide level under Criteria A and B and locally significant under Criterion C. It is significant under Criterion A in the areas of Education, Social History, and Ethnic Heritage: African American for its association with the juvenile reform movement in the United States, especially for African American girls. It was the third such school for black girls in the United States and survived its predecessors in Maryland and Missouri. The property is significant at the statewide level under Criterion B in the areas of Social History and Education for its association with Janie Porter Barrett, the first African American woman to head a training school, and for her pioneering rehabilitation philosophy that was adopted throughout the United States and around the world. The center is also significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for its association with Merrill C. Lee, a well-known Richmond architect. The buildings Lee designed for the Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center reflect the trend towards architectural modernism in mid-twentieth century school design being embraced by school systems across the country and complement the progressive pedagogy established by Barrett in 1915. The period of significance is from 1915 when the school was established to 1965 when the facility was racially integrated.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Janie Porter Barrett (1865-1948), founder and longtime superintendent of the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls, was the first African American woman to head a training school and was a pioneer in developing modern ideals and principles of rehabilitative care for juveniles.

Barrett was brought up in the home of the Skinners, a prominent white family in Georgia. The Skinners offered her the opportunity of education in the North where she could have passed into a white world due to her complexion and hair texture. Her mother, however, wanted her daughter to be educated among her own people. The Skinners agreed to finance Barrett's education at Hampton Institute in Virginia if she would return to teach in Georgia. She followed their wishes after graduation in 1884, but returned to Hampton in 1888, married Harris Barrett, a Hampton graduate, in 1889, and became an active member in Hampton's growing middle-class community.

Barrett was not content to be solely a homemaker and mother of four children, having seen as a teacher in Georgia what physical privations and poverty of mind and spirit did to her people. Like Jane Addams working at the same time in Chicago at Hull House, Barrett felt it was women's responsibility to make better communities by improving moral, social and home life. She started with playgroups for area children in her yard and sewing circles inside for girls. Soon persons of all ages began to come and engage in activities to improve their lives. When groups grew too big for the Barrett home, she and her husband built a clubhouse in their yard. Known as

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the Locust Street Social Settlement, it became more institutionalized and received support from generous donors, black and white, and Northern philanthropists. Hampton Institute students were the backbone of the staff who offered instruction in a variety of domestic and agricultural areas. Her success with organizing the Locust Street Settlement in Hampton prepared her for the more involved work of building and supervising a home school for girls in Hanover County, Virginia.¹

During her lifetime, Barrett said on many occasions that she became convinced a home school was needed when she read in a local newspaper that a girl only eight years old had been sentenced to six months in jail. At that time there was no other option for a child that young. Barrett shared her vision with members of the Virginia Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, a group founded in 1908 as an auxiliary of the National Association of Colored Women. Under Barrett's leadership as the Federation's first president, local club members were inspired to take up the cause of providing a place for girls who, in their struggles to survive, were in trouble with the law. To accomplish their goal of funding and developing an industrial home school, the Federation needed to be incorporated. This was accomplished in December 1911. Nineteen members were elected as trustees to manage the new institution's affairs. In 1912, when the National Association of Colored Women convened in Hampton, Barrett solicited support for the Federation's effort to purchase land in Hanover County. That county was chosen because a home school for African American boys had opened there in 1898 at Broad Neck Farm. That school was supported by Judge Richard H. Cardwell, a Hanover resident who sat on the State Supreme Court of Appeals.²

With Judge Cardwell's help, a deed was executed in Hanover Court on January 16, 1913, between John and Fannie Douglas and the Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. It conveyed to the Federation a 144¼-acre tract known as Mill Farm, including a farmhouse, outbuildings, and a grist mill. The price was \$5,200. A deposit of \$100 was made at that time. In a little over a year, the Federation raised \$6,000, out of which the balance due was paid. White residents near the proposed site of the school objected, but Barrett promised that she would take charge as its first superintendent, and should it prove to be a nuisance to neighbors, she would move it. That would never happen.³

Before the note on the farm was paid off, Barrett knew that the era's legally sanctioned racial discrimination policies meant that state appropriations would not be granted to women of color. Undaunted by the challenge, Barrett approached Annie Moomaw Schmelz, a white resident of Hampton whose husband, Henry Schmelz, founded the Bank of Hampton, and persuaded her and other prominent white leaders to help manage the home school. Mrs. Schmelz was chair of the New York branch of the Southern Women's Educational Alliance and a member of the Inter-Racial Committee of the Federal Council of Churches. Her plan called for the resignation of Federation board members and the immediate reorganization of a new bi-racial board.⁴

By January 1914, governance of the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls was reconstituted with Schmelz as its first president and Barrett as secretary. Mary and Frank Darling agreed to serve as Second Vice President and Treasurer, respectively. Mrs. Darling had come to Virginia from Vermont to teach at Hampton Institute where Mr. Darling was later a member of

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its Board. Martha C. McNeill, wife of law professor Walter McNeill at Richmond College, volunteered to be First Vice-President and would later follow Schmelz as President. Board members included Mary-Cooke Branch Munford of Richmond and her nephew, the Rev. Walter Russell Bowie. She was a well-known advocate of woman suffrage, education, and interracial cooperation. He was rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church located one block west of the state's capitol in Richmond.⁵

Board members from black communities included the educator, Lucy Addison of Roanoke, VA; Dr. Robert Russa Moton, President of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama; Thomas Calhoun Walker, an attorney in Gloucester, VA; Mrs. L. E. Titus and Mrs. I. C. Norcum, both educators in Norfolk, VA; and Maggie L. Walker, a prominent leader and banker in Richmond. Virginia Randolph, noted educator in Henrico County, Virginia, was appointed to the Board after Walker's death in 1934.⁶

Soon after reorganization, the school received an appropriation of \$3,000 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as support that would continue from Northern philanthropists including George Foster Peabody, who agreed to serve on the Board. The door of the old house at Mill Farm opened to two girls in January 1915. That same year, construction began on an impressive two-story brick building to be called the Federation House. It was designed by John Sugden, Superintendent of Construction at Hampton Institute, built under his supervision, and dedicated May 22, 1916, "with appropriate exercises in the presence of many hundred people of both races." The philanthropic Stewart sisters of "Brook Hill" near Richmond were the first white people to help defray construction costs for the Federation House. They gave \$2,000. The Russell Sage Foundation of New York offered technical help and continued to support the school.⁷

Sometime after the death of her husband Harris on March 26, 1915, Barrett moved from Hampton to Hanover and took on the duties of school superintendent. The school's successful founding was due in large part to her extraordinary abilities to move comfortably between the black and white worlds, increasingly segregated at that time by Jim Crow laws. Barrett gave due credit to the white women and their clubs but always recognized the greater constancy of her black supporters.

If Barrett, board members and Federation friends were to visit the campus today, they would recognize the open landscape edged by tall trees and split-rail fences. They would be pleased to enter the property through four stone posts, one with the inscription: "In memory of the founders and pioneers who helped to build this school." They would not see fields of corn nor the vegetable and flower gardens tended by students. During the school's first years, the Federation had authorized numerous experiments with various fertilizers to restore the barren soil. They also raised money to rebuild the old grist mill on a concrete foundation. This improvement enabled the miller to grind corn quickly and collect more fees as well as meal from neighbors who used the mill for grinding their corn.⁸

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The impressive Federation House and more modest Virginia and Hanover Cottages are no longer standing. They served the school well but became worn and outdated after years of use. Dormitories built in the 1950s and early 1960s stand now on the east side of the original campus. The dwelling built for Barrett in 1927 and named for her late husband still stands. It served in later years as administrative headquarters. Nearby is a small flower garden encircled by cut stones, one with an inscription: "Erected by the Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs in Memory of Maggie L. Walker." She died in 1934 and is remembered as giving generously to the school, especially the annual Christmas dinner for students and staff. Two cottages built in 1951 were named respectively for Maggie Walker and Mrs. McNeill, both members of the original Board.

The Commonwealth of Virginia assumed control of the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls in 1920, but Barrett's management continued until her retirement. When the National Association of Colored Women held their biennial meeting in Richmond in 1922, nearly 500 delegates visited the school and saw what had been accomplished by cooperation and interracial goodwill. Barrett traveled to Memphis, Tennessee, where she addressed the Southern Commission on Interracial Cooperation about the innovative model of care in Hanover, Virginia. By the mid-1920s the Russell Sage Foundation recognized the school as one of the five best institutions of its kind in the United States. In 1929, Barrett received a William E. Harmon Award for Distinguished Achievement Among Negroes.⁹

The 1930s saw continued exposure and ensuing accolades for the school. Barrett was active in the Richmond Urban League and the Southern Commission on Interracial Cooperation. She participated by invitation in the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection. The Board of Trustees' Annual Reports and secondary sources provide a conservative estimate that the number of visitors to the school between 1915 and 1939 was in the thousands. It served as a training site for future teachers, social workers, preachers, and community workers. Students came from Hampton Institute in large numbers, as well as from the predecessors of Virginia Union University and School of Theology, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work, and colleges in Maryland and as far away as Wisconsin.¹⁰

Barrett wrote in the 1938 Annual Report that she stressed training in citizenship and taught her students that "voting is a duty as well as a right." She had been a registered voter since 1920, the year the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was adopted. The roll of voters registered at Smith's Store Precinct in Hanover shows that Janie Porter Barrett, a "Supt. State School," signed the Registration Oath on September 28, 1920, and was not exempt from paying a poll tax. Anne Firor Scott noted in her biography of Barrett that "it took some courage to tell the government of Virginia that black women were being prepared to be voters."¹¹

Barrett retired in 1940 and returned to Hampton where she died on 27 August 1948 and was buried in Elmerton Cemetery. After her death, in her honor the Board of Managers of the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls and the General Assembly renamed the school she had founded to The Janie Porter Barrett Schools for Girls. Barrett's philosophy of

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rehabilitation influenced individuals, groups, and institutions not only on the east coast but as far away as California, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Philippines, and South Africa.

Janie Porter Barrett's Correctional Education and Reform

Barrett credited the inspiration and influence on her approach to correctional reform to Sir Walter Besant, nineteenth century British author and social reformer. She cited Besant's *All Sorts and Conditions of Men* (1882) as a key example of how lives of the poor could be transformed by introducing education, culture and social structure. Besant's novel focuses on London's working class East End where he proposes a utopian scheme for a cultural center in order to promote education, culture and arts among the working classes. Besant shared Dickens's belief that benevolence and good-heartedness could help overcome social ills and contribute to cross-class co-operation and solidarity. Besant's goal was to encourage members of the upper classes to overcome their fear of the lower classes and contribute to the acculturation of the working classes to middle-class values and mores.¹² Toynbee Hall, in the East End, was founded by reformers Canon Samuel Barnett and his wife Henrietta Barnett in 1884. It became the real example of how Besant's ideas could be employed.

The Locust Street Settlement House was Barrett's first experience of putting into form a model similar to Jane Addams' Chicago-based Hull House. Locust Street was the first example of a community-based settlement organization for African Americans in the United States. In the Settlement House model, middle class residents interacted with the surrounding working class residents. At Locust Street, Barrett, with the assistance of Hampton College, offered clubs, recreation, and classes in domestic skills. The origins of Locust Street began with the women's club movement. Barrett offered club activities daily on sewing, rug weaving, athletics, general gardening, raising poultry, cooking, parenting, quilting and flower growing.

When Barrett founded the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls in 1913 she employed many of the communal settlement approaches from her knowledge of the movement and her success in using club structure at Locust Street. Clubs provided a communal structure for informal learning and creating a community. The clubs fostered pro-social, pro-educational identities. Barrett's approach at the Industrial Home also flowed from her firsthand knowledge of Hampton Institute's Shellbanks Plantation summer program.

The Institute employed Shellbanks as a mixed farm for hands-on education purposes. It featured crops (corn and hay) and animal husbandry (dairy cattle, hogs, ducks, and laying hens). The increase in enrollment in the program throughout the 1880s and 1890s resulted in the need for additional buildings on the Shellbanks farm, including Whipple Barn; an American Indian boy's dormitory, the Wigwam; Holly Tree Inn; and the Armstrong-Slater Trade School. The new trade school would offer instruction in farming, carpentry, harness making, printing, tailoring, clock smithing, blacksmithing, painting, and wheelwrighting. By 1904, nearly three-fourths of all boys at Hampton were taking trades classes.¹³ The summer program was offered to boys in the regional rural community. The attendees lived in dorms, wore Institute uniforms and participated in 4-H style projects. The goal was partly to socialize rural youth into student life.¹⁴

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The Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls offered socialization through a carefully planned club structure. The activities included domestic and agricultural activities on a working farm. The original (and current plan) of the facility was also designed in a campus style to align the built environment with the educational mission. The Federation House (no longer extant) was the administrative and classroom facility. Virginia and Hanover cottages (no longer extant; a new Virginia Cottage was built) were more like private school or college dormitories.

Within this more collegial structure, Barrett maintained a rewards and improvement system by ordering the residents as they entered and attained status by merit of their performance in activities. The girls wore uniforms to signify status. A brown dress was assigned for poor performance and the highest attainment was a white dress. Corporal punishment was banned.

Ultimately, Barrett's goal was to forge new positive identities through social/behavioral methods. As stated by noted historian Anne Firor Scott in her article about Barrett published in the *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*:

The school embodied nineteenth-century female values. Barrett emphasized that it was a home rather than a prison and instituted a carefully structured system of rewards instead of punishment. Her purpose was to build Christian character. She strictly regulated the behavior of the girls, required them to be clean, and taught them household and agricultural skills so that they could support themselves as domestic servants or farm workers until they were able to establish homes of their own...She also tried to prevent the exploitation of former students by employers in search of cheap labor...she criticized families, black and white, who failed to offer adequate support and encouragement to the young women who lived and worked in their homes.¹⁵

Barrett's personality was the "glue" that held the various programs of the School together. Her philosophy and methods were appreciated by the funding entities, women's club federations and philanthropists, and the Virginia General Assembly, who kept Barrett at the School after the State took ownership in 1920. Barrett ran the school until she retired in 1940.

Typical Operations of the Virginia Home School

The day-to-day operations of the Virginia Home School for Colored Girls followed many trends associated with the early 20th century reform house movement which sought to detain and rehabilitate juvenile offenders outside of adult correctional facilities. Girls were "committed [here] by the State Board of Welfare"¹⁶ as an alternative to adult prison after having been deemed "delinquent or dependent" and "sentenced to prison by local judges."¹⁷ Instead of being incarcerated with adult offenders, girls of color under 18 were "entrusted to the [Virginia Home] school by Virginia judges and courts."¹⁸ Between the institution's founding on May 6, 1910 through September 30, 1919, a total of 201 girls had been committed from 39 counties, cities and towns throughout the entire Commonwealth, from Wise county in the far west, Alexandria in the north, Norfolk in the east, Danville in the south and Richmond in the center. The majority of

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girls came from Richmond (96), Norfolk (31) and Petersburg (13), with 1-4 girls received from each of the other 37 localities.¹⁹ Yearly reports indicate that in any given year, between 50 and 77 girls were detained at the school, although only 25 resided there in the first year.²⁰ Each girl was committed for “at least 2 years’ training and more, if necessary, before being paroled either back to her family or to a live-in work-release program providing domestic service in private homes.²¹ Some girls, using medical testing and terminology of that period, were deemed “feeble minded” and thus were not considered eligible for parole.²² The 5th annual report indicates that girls were also released to the “Feeble Minded Colony [in] Lynchburg” as well as to “other institutions.”²³

By 1919, the Virginia Home School for Colored Girls had a total of 4 staff members, including Barrett. In the first through fourth Annual Reports, Janie Barrett expressed the institution’s serious need of a full-time teacher and a parole officer; by the 5th annual report in 1919, in addition to a parole officer, the school now had “a literary teacher and an industrial teacher.”²⁴

The nature of detainment at the Virginia Home School is not explicitly specified in the annual reports but can be interpreted in the general context of the larger “reform house “movement. Annual reports do not outright indicate if the girls were physically confined to the institution but this type of detainment is strongly suggested. Given the function of reform houses as an alternative sentence to adult prison, confinement was probably assumed as a given. The Department of Corrections Survey of State-Owned Properties repeatedly references those housed in juvenile reformatories in general and at the Virginia Home School specifically as “inmates,”²⁵ indicating that they were indeed incarcerated and not free to come and go as they pleased. This underlying assumption about juvenile reformatories is reinforced by language in the annual reports. The 4th Annual Report indicates that of the then 98 total girls admitted (through May 1, 1919), 7 had “escaped and [were] still at large.”²⁶ Ms. Barrett’s descriptions of “discipline” in these reports also suggest that permission was needed to go off campus. In 1919, she wrote that “fewer girls were given the privilege of spending a day in Richmond during the Christmas holidays [this year] on account of perfect conduct,” indicating that leaving the facility was a special reward for good behavior, not a given right.²⁷

Similarly, an analysis of trends in the reform house movement helps shed light on the types of offenses which led to commitment at the Barrett Center. “Because of the ambiguities in defining the girls’ crimes, it is often difficult to tell the severity of these cases from the records alone.”²⁸ None of the school’s annual reports refer to any specific offenses with which the girls were charged, but like much of reform house movement literature, these reports repeatedly reference “delinquents” and “dependents,”²⁹ notwithstanding that “the definition of a delinquent child versus a dependent one was often blurred.”³⁰ Delinquents were “defined as those who engaged in activities that were deemed illegal.”³¹ And “although dependent children were initially seen as victims of circumstance and delinquents were considered to have criminal intentions, often youth floated between these two categories” due to challenges they faced living in “urban environments.”³² Thus, “delinquency was the overarching issue at” the Virginia Home School as well as at other reform houses in the country.³³ Girls were often committed to such institutions “based on crimes which were often vague and unfair” but “when girls appeared in juvenile courts

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and were committed to reformatories... one factor was always present: sexual promiscuity, real or suspected.”³⁴ The association of promiscuity and charges of delinquency is suggested by 1919 state funding of housing construction at the Virginia Home School in order to remove delinquent girls from nearby military bases³⁵; this may indicate a reason why a large percentage of girls were committed from Norfolk, a city with a large naval/military base. Girls could also be charged with “‘delinquency’... for crimes such as missing curfew, attending a dancehall alone, or staying too late at a suitor’s house.”³⁶ Although the “majority of sentences received by girls at ...[the Virginia Home School] were for petty or minor offenses,” some girls were “committed for serious crimes such as robbery and murder”³⁷ as well as some who were “victims of neglect and abuse,” essentially guilty “for little more than their parents’ poverty.”³⁸ This latter group may have comprised those considered dependents. While the exact charges and type of detainment of girls committed to the Virginia Home School remain ambiguous, their offenses and incarceration become clearer in the context of reform house movement trends.

Merrill C. Lee, Architect

After World War II, Richmond architect Merrill C. Lee was commissioned by the Commonwealth of Virginia to design four new site plans for the racially- and gender-segregated juvenile schools then in existence. According to a booklet published by the architect, \$2.5 million was allocated by the state. Construction began in late 1949 on a school and gymnasium building at Barrett, followed in 1951 by the two International-style dormitories named Walker and McNeill. Another dormitory built in 1953 was named for the original Virginia Cottage. Lowe Cottage was designed and built in 1961. Since then other buildings were added to the campus as needed.

Merrill C. Lee (1892-1981) was born in Hazelton, Pennsylvania. He studied architecture from 1912 to 1914 at Pennsylvania State College from 1912 to 1914, then at the Beaux Arts Institute of Design in New York, and received his degree in 1917 from MIT. His early career was spent in Boston where he worked for Blackall, Clapp and Whittemore, and later for the firm of Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson. While with Cram, Goodhue and Ferguson, he worked on designs for the Millhiser Gymnasium at Richmond College (University of Richmond). Lee came to Richmond in 1919 and formed a partnership with Clifton Lee, the brother of renowned architect Duncan Lee. The two were selected as the supervising architects for the construction of the Millhiser Gymnasium. The firm of Lee and Lee dissolved in 1924. That same year Merrill C. Lee formed a partnership with H. L. Smith and Jameson Van Dervoort. They were joined by Louis W. Ballou in 1932 but the firm dissolved in 1934. During the Great Depression, Lee served as the Virginia architect for the Federal Housing Administration. He had a solo practice until 1965 when he formed a partnership with Edwin H. King and Frank B. Poole. Lee was elected as a fellow to the American Institute of Architecture in 1940.

Much of Lee’s professional work was dedicated to school design. He was selected in 1950 as the architect for a building program at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia, and commissioned to design an auditorium, a teaching building, a physics building and chapel. He designed several additions for schools in the City of Richmond, including Summer Hill

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Elementary, Oak Grove Elementary, Randolph Junior High, and Norrell Annex. Lee also served as the chair of a committee of six architects who prepared a "School Manual" for the Richmond City School Board. His school designs are reflective of the Modern movement's evolution in school design first seen in the Crow Island Elementary School designed in 1940 by the Chicago firm of Perkins, Wheeler and Will. The new schools were one-story rather than multi-storied, ceilings were lowered, and spaces became more flexible. The incorporation of Modern design aesthetics also resulted in lower construction costs when compared to earlier, more rigidly formal designs.

Conclusion

The period of historic significance for the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls ends in 1965, the year it was racially integrated and began serving girls from twelve to fifteen years old. A coeducational program began in 1972 on a pilot basis. Six years later the Center began serving an all-male population. It continued its history of developing ground-breaking services by adding an innovative intensive substance abuse treatment program in 1993. With a three-year, \$1.8 million federal grant, the program became a national model of substance abuse treatment programs for juveniles (see Department of Juvenile Justice Website).

Since 2007, the Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center has been mothballed by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. As important and notable as it was in the development of the national movement of innovative work with juvenile offenders, the memory of this institution is still important to many in the surrounding Hanover County community. Since 1915 the facility has been a landmark supported by the community and held in collective historical esteem. For many years Founder's Day was a long-standing tradition for the school and the community.

In 2015, the Barrett Center reached its centennial year, an appropriate time to commemorate the work and vision of Janie Porter Barrett and the Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. The United States has changed in many ways in the last one hundred years. The Commonwealth's actions as current owner will play a part in the determination of the property's future use. The Hanover Heritage Alliance has nominated this historic property to inspire the Commonwealth to make the property available for purposes that are sympathetic to Barrett's visions and ideals. As she stated in *The Southern Workman* published in 1926, "Rendering service, climbing to a higher plane of citizenship, and uplifting those farthest down was what the women of the Virginia Federation had in mind when they started out to establish the Virginia Industrial School."

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA;
Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, Richmond, VA; Howard University, Washington,
DC; Hanover Heritage Alliance, Hanover, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): VDHR File No. 042-0126

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 144 1/4 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 37.713750 | Longitude: -77.362970 |
| 2. Latitude: 37.711620 | Longitude: -77.354950 |
| 3. Latitude: 37.706010 | Longitude: -77.356620 |
| 4. Latitude: 37.704790 | Longitude: -77.363920 |
| 5. Latitude: 37.710560 | Longitude: -77.365120 |

Or

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UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary of the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls corresponds precisely to the legal boundaries of tax parcel 8718-24-0841 as recorded in Hanover County land records. The true and correct boundaries are shown on the attached Location Map and Sketch Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundary encompasses the entirety of the school's buildings, sites, and structures, as well as the open and wooded spaces that have been associated with the property since the school was established in 1915.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Maria W. Rippe, Kimberly Chen, Karen A. Ford
organization: Hanover Heritage Alliance
street & number: 8055 Rural Point Road
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telephone: (804) 784-5676
date: April 17, 2015

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

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- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls
City or Vicinity: 11391 Barrett Center Road, Mechanicsville
County: Hanover State: VA
Photographer: Peter Rippe; Marc Wagner
Date Photographed: 2014; 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 15. Stone Gate Posts at entrance, camera facing east.
- 2 of 15. Administration Building, camera facing north.
- 3 of 15. School and Gymnasium, camera facing northwest.
- 4 of 15. Virginia Cottage, camera facing northwest.
- 5 of 15. McNeil Cottage, camera facing northeast.
- 6 of 15. Walker Cottage, camera facing southeast.
- 7 of 15. Dining Hall, camera facing south/southeast.
- 8 of 15. General View, camera facing northeast.
- 9 of 15. Cottage Foundation, camera facing south.
- 10 of 15. Cemetery, camera facing south.
- 11 of 15. Maintenance Building (at left) and Storage Building (at right), camera facing southwest.
- 12 of 15. Interior, Gymnasium.
- 13 of 15. Interior, McNeil Cottage, showing typical door, sash, and finishes.
- 14 of 15. Interior, McNeil Cottage, showing typical classroom.
- 15 of 15. Interior, Walker Cottage, showing typical interior finishes.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls
Name of Property

Hanover County, Virginia
County and State

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Florence Lattimore, *A Palace of Delight: The Locust Street Social Settlement* (Hampton, Virginia: The Press of The Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, 1915), 1-17.
- ² Janie Porter Barrett, "The Virginia Industrial School" Address delivered at the Hampton Anniversary, April 23, 1926, in *The Southern Workman*, August 1926, 355. Hereafter cited as Barrett. J. E. Davis, "Fertilizing Barren Souls" in *The Southern Workman*, August 1916, 463-473. Hereafter cited as Davis.
- ³ Davis, 464. Hanover County, Virginia, *Deed Book 57*, 490-495.
- ⁴ Barrett, 356. According to Schmelz's obituary, she was chair of the New York branch of the Southern Women's Educational Alliance and a member of the Inter-Racial Committee of the Federal Council of Churches.
- ⁵ Davis, 469. *Annual Reports, Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls, 1916-1920* (Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, Peakes, Virginia). Hereafter cited as *Annual Report*. The school's smaller Board of Managers included Mary Haw of Hanover. Her father was for many years Hanover County's Commonwealth's Attorney.
- ⁶ *Annual Reports, 1916-1920*.
- ⁷ Davis, 469. *Annual Report, 1916*, 7. The Stewart sisters of "Brook Hill" near Richmond were the first white people to help defray construction cost for the Federation House with a gift of \$2,000. Father Charles Hannigan of Richmond said in his short address at the dedication of the Federation House: "At no time has there been a more sympathetic coming together of the races than there is now. We are about to demonstrate in Virginia that we can make good, that we can draw out of the colored people the qualities we believe are in them – honesty, fidelity, and an undying affection for their friends." Present at the dedication ceremony was Mrs. C. P. Cardwell, a daughter-in-law of Judge R. H. Cardwell and a great-niece of General Robert E. Lee.
- ⁸ *Annual Reports, 1916-1919*.
- ⁹ Hanover County, Virginia, *Deed Book 79*, 169-170. Scott, 358-59. Karen Ann Ford, *Building an Institution: Janie Port Barrett and the Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored girls, 1915-1920* (a dissertation submitted to the faculty of the School of Social Work, Howard University, Washington, D.C., 2000), 10-11. Hereafter cited as Ford.
- ¹⁰ Ford, 11.
- ¹¹ Scott, 358-59. The Roll of Colored Voters Registered at Smith's Store is in the Collection of the Hanover County Black Heritage Society, Ashland, VA.
- ¹² Dr Andrzej Diniejko, D. Litt.; Contributing Editor, "Walter Besant's Novels of East London" on website The Victorian Web: <http://www.victorianweb.org/authors/besantw/diniejko2.html>.
- ¹³ NASA Cultural Resources (CRGIS) website page on Shellbanks Plantation:
http://crgis.ndc.nasa.gov/historic/Shellbanks_Plantation
- ¹⁴ Bill Muth, Thom Gehring, Margaret Puffer, Camile Maryers, Sandra Kamusikiri, Glenda Pressley, Janie Porter Barrett (1865-1948) Exemplary African American Correctional Educator, *The Journal of Correctional Education*, Vol. 60, No. 1, (March 2009), 42. Hereafter cited as Muth.
- ¹⁵ Anne Firor Scott, "Janie Porter Barrett," in *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, I, 357-359. Hereafter cited as Scott.
- ¹⁶ Barrett, J.P.. "The Virginia Industrial School." *The Southern Workman*, August, 1926 pg. 357

Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls
Name of Property

Hanover County, Virginia
County and State

¹⁷ Hansan, J. "Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls." Social Welfare History Project. <http://socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/corrections/the-virginia-industrial-school-for-colored-girls/> accessed on July 21, 2016.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Barrett, J.P.. *5th Annual Report of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls, 1918-1919*. pg. 18.

²⁰ Barrett, J.P.. *1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Annual Reports of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls*.

²¹ Barrett, J.P. *1st Annual Report of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls*, pg. 9.

²² Ibid.

²³ Barrett, *5th Annual Report of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls, 1918-1919*. Pg. 18.

²⁴ Barrett, J.P.. *5th Annual Report of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls, 1918-1919*. pg. 12.

²⁵ Land and Community Associates. *Survey of State Owned Properties: Department of Corrections*. May, 1989. pg. 13, 14, 32.

²⁶ Barrett, J.P.. *4th Annual Report of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls*, pg. 25.

²⁷ Ibid. pg. 11.

²⁸ Henley, Lauren, "Delinquents, Deviants, and Dependents: A Comparative Study of Young Black Females at the Missouri State Industrial School for Negro Girls and the Virginia State Industrial Home for Colored Girls" (2012). Washington University Undergraduate Research Digest, Volume 8, Issue 1. http://openscholarship.wustl.edu/vol8_iss1/183. pg. 26.

²⁹ Barrett, J.P.. *1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Annual Reports of the Industrial Home School for Colored Girls*.

³⁰ Henley, pg. 26.

³¹ Ibid, pg. 19.

³² Ibid.

³³ Ibid, pg. 26.

³⁴ Steven L. Schlossman, *Love and the American Delinquent: The Theory and Practice of "Progressive" Juvenile Justice, 1825-1920*, p. 178.

³⁵ Keve, Paul W.. *The History of Corrections in Virginia*. University Press of Virginia: Charlottesville pg. 176.

³⁶ Henley, pg. 26.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Douglas E. Abrams, *A Very Special Place in Life: The History of Juvenile Justice in Missouri*, p. 11.



Location Map

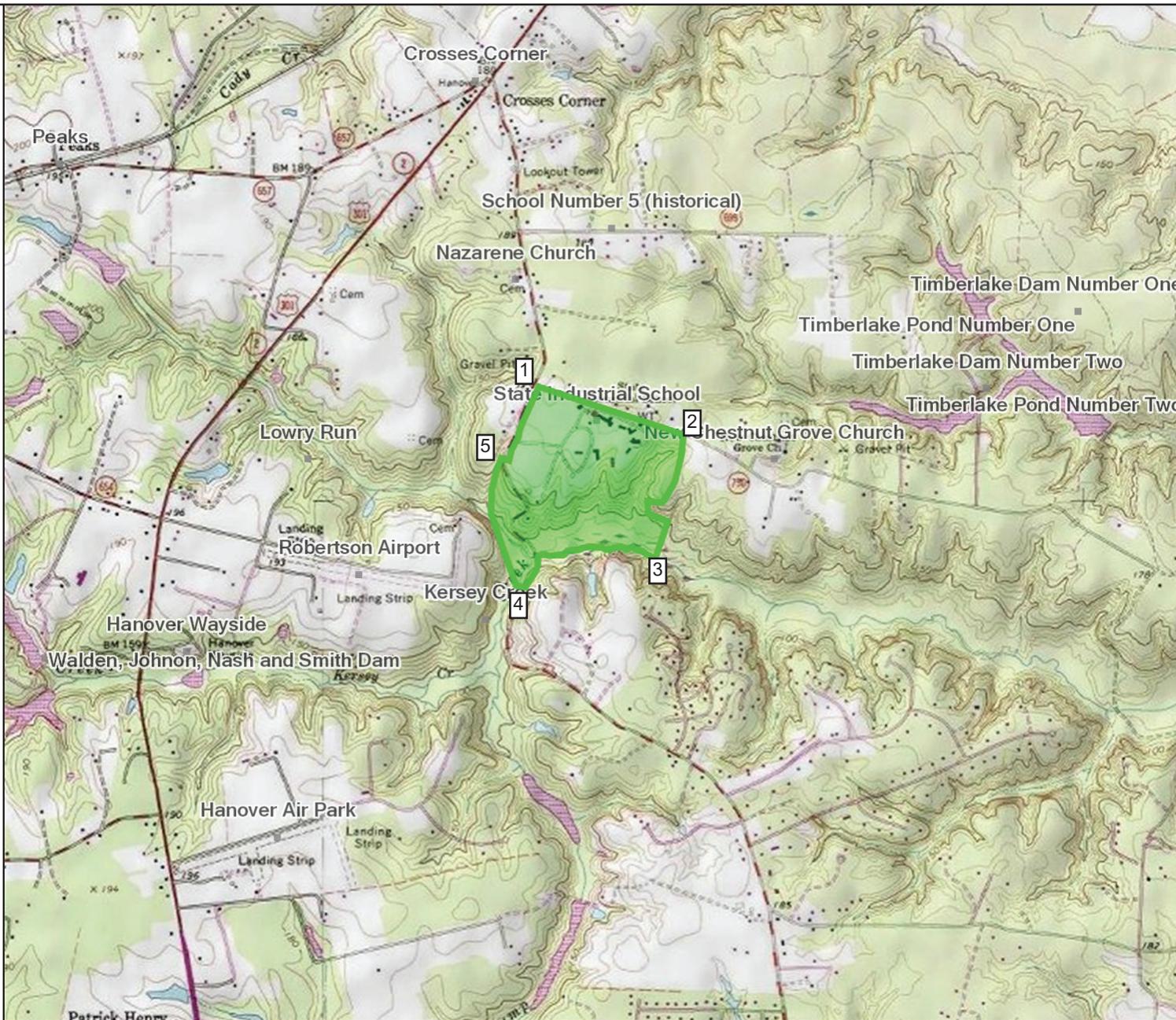
Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls

Hanover County, VA

DHR No. 042-0126

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

- 1. Latitude: 37.713750 Longitude: -77.362970
- 2. Latitude: 37.711620 Longitude: -77.354950
- 3. Latitude: 37.706010 Longitude: -77.356620
- 4. Latitude: 37.704790 Longitude: -77.363920
- 5. Latitude: 37.710560 Longitude: -77.365120



Feet



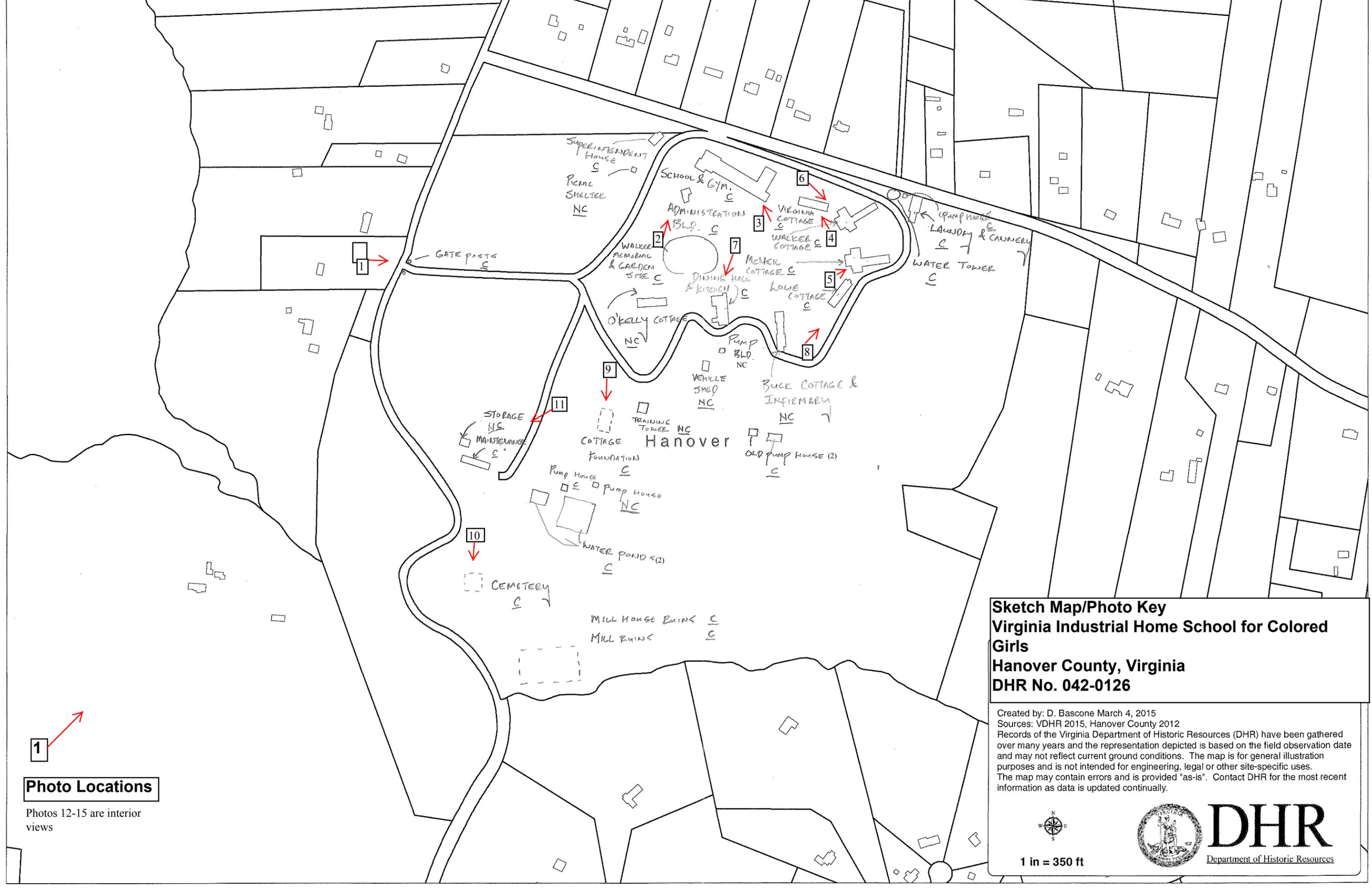
1:36,112 / 1"=3,009 Feet

Title:

Date: 4/21/2015

DISCLAIMER: Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

Notice if AE sites: Locations of archaeological sites may be sensitive the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) and Code of Virginia §2.2-3705.7 (10). Release of precise locations may threaten archaeological sites and historic resources.



1

Photo Locations

Photos 12-15 are interior views

Sketch Map/Photo Key
Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls
Hanover County, Virginia
DHR No. 042-0126

Created by: D. Bascone March 4, 2015
 Sources: VDHR 2015, Hanover County 2012
 Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years and the representation depicted is based on the field observation date and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general illustration purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. The map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". Contact DHR for the most recent information as data is updated continually.



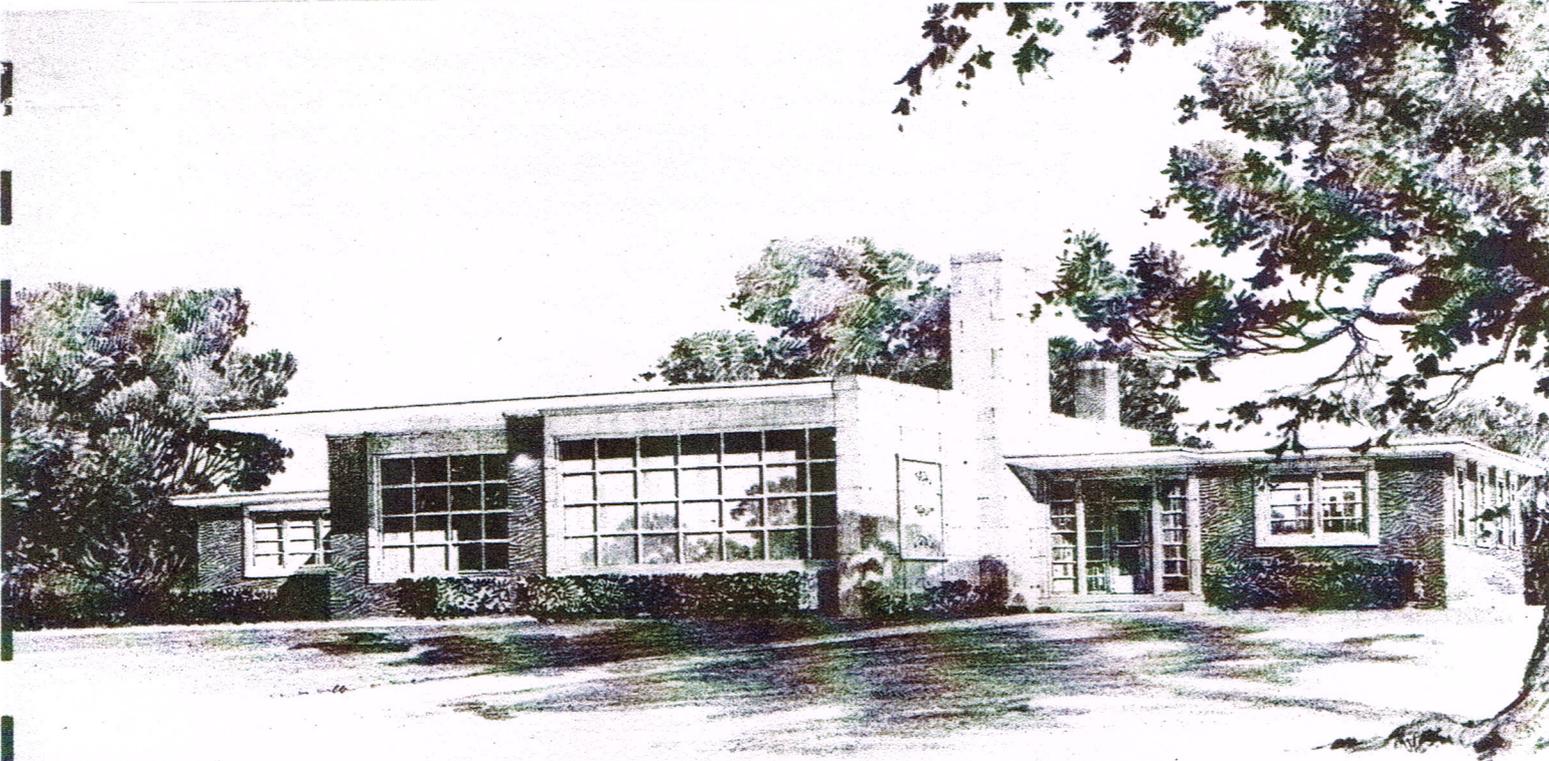
1 in = 350 ft



DHR
 Department of Historic Resources

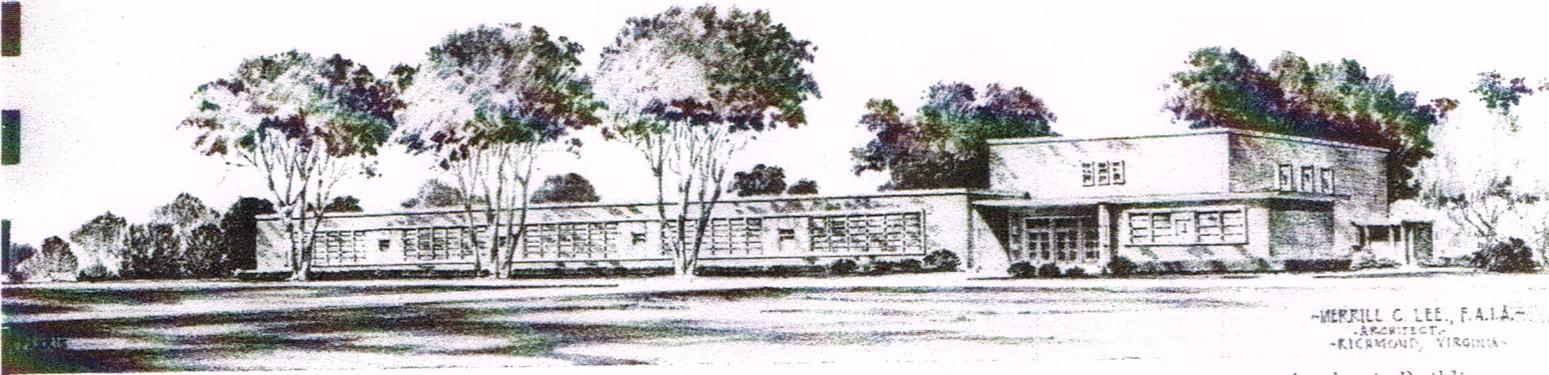
Virginia Industrial Home School for Colored Girls
Name of Property

Hanover County, VA
County and State



MERRILL C. LEE, F.A.I.A.
ARCHITECT
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Dormitory



MERRILL C. LEE, F.A.I.A.
ARCHITECT
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Academic Building

JANIE PORTER BARRETT SCHOOL
Commonwealth of Virginia

Architect: MERRILL C. LEE
Contractor: THORINGTON CONSTRUCTION Co., INC.