United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item or, marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name Canady, B. W., House
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number 600 North Queen Street
   city, town Kinston
   state North Carolina code NC county Lenoir code 107 zip code 28501

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   □ private
   □ public-local
   □ public-State
   □ public-Federal

   Category of Property
   □ building(s)
   □ district
   □ site
   □ structure
   □ object

   Number of Resources within Property
   □ contributing
   □ noncontributing
   buildings
   sites
   structures
   objects
   Total

   Name of related multiple property listing:
   Historic & Architectural Resources of Kinston, N. C.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. □ See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying official
   State or Federal agency and bureau
   Date

5. National Park Service Certification
   □ entered in the National Register.
   □ determined eligible for the National Register. □ See continuation sheet.
   □ determined not eligible for the National Register.
   □ removed from the National Register.
   □ other, (explain:)

   Signature of the Keeper
   Date of Action
The B. W. Canady House is an elegant and substantially intact late 19th century Italianate frame residence which stands on the northwest corner of North Queen Street and West Washington Avenue just north of Kinston’s central business district. It is a rare survivor of the numerous substantial residences which once lined this area of Queen Street. Late 20th century commercial development and public construction have replaced the great majority of these fine houses in which resided some of Kinston’s leading citizens, including the four houses which stood north of the Canady House in this block of North Queen Street. The 140-by-200 foot lot on which the house originally stood has been reduced in size, and none of the associated outbuildings remains. A 50-by-140 foot portion at the rear of the house lot was sold off and a small late 20th century brick office building erected at its north end. The eastern edge of its paved parking lot is only a few feet from the rear of the house. North of the house is a late 20th century two-story bank and office building. Most of the foundation plantings around the house have been removed or severely cut back, but several evergreen trees and large shrubs survive in the north side yard.

The two-story, L-shaped frame gable-roofed house has a three-bay main facade with a gabled two-story projecting central entrance bay. Original one-story wings extend to the rear (west) of the house; the south rear wing was extended after 1901 but before 1908. Between the wings is a porch, the south section of which has been enclosed. The 1914 and 1919 Sanborn maps indicate that a small one-story addition was built along the rear portion of the house’s north elevation and a second-floor sleeping porch was constructed above the rear southwest room. Bay windows project on the first floor side elevations of the front section; that on the north elevation was added between 1914 and 1919.

Elaborate exterior ornamentation includes pendant eaves brackets, a paneled frieze, a narrow dentilled cornice, pedimented window and door surrounds, tall brick interior chimneys with elaborate panelled stacks and corbelled caps, and large circular attic vents with ornate pierced-work screens in the gable ends. Tall, narrow windows have two-over-two
sash; those on the first floor of the original sections of the house have panelled aprons below them. The main entrance consists of double-leaf doors with glazed panels below a large transom.

Originally, a one-story porch with heavily bracketed chamfered posts and turned balusters spanned the facade with a projecting central pavilion. A matching porch extended along the rear wing on the south elevation. These porches were linked in the early 20th century by the construction of an additional section of porch on the south elevation. The original posts were replaced with Doric columns. Although the turned balusters have been removed, the pendant eaves brackets remain. The original wood shingle roof of the main block has been replaced with asphalt shingles, while the wings and porch retain their standing seam tin roofs.

The interior exhibits a double-pile, center-hall plan with plaster walls and four-panel doors in molded, mitered surrounds with operable transoms. The original Italianate mantels survive in the three original second-floor rooms. The four principal rooms on the first floor were remodeled in the Colonial Revival style in the early 20th century. Alterations included the installation of Colonial Revival mantels in three rooms and new floors with parquet borders. In the hall a loggia-like double archway with columns on a low panelled wall divides front from rear. Behind the archway is the staircase which has a paneled square-section newel post with convex four-sided cap, turned balusters, and a paneled closed string above a paneled wall section. At the front of the hall, recessed cabinets with glass doors and an arched top panel were built in on each side of the entrance. Pairs of large glazed doors now separate the hall and front rooms, while a single door links the front and rear north rooms. The second floor sleeping porch has beaded tongue and groove ceiling and wainscot and plaster walls. The first floor rear service wings have been remodeled several times in the 20th century.
In its location at the northern edge of the central business district of Kinston, North Carolina, the B. W. Canady House is significant in the history of that city as its finest surviving example of late Italianate residential architecture. The house also embodies the prosperity of a group of landowner-merchants who established themselves in the community in the 1880s and went on to be the driving forces behind Kinston's emergence as an important tobacco and cotton center. It was built during a period of transition in Kinston's history, when the town had emerged from the Civil War and Reconstruction era and had experienced a decade of expansion in the 1870s. Kinston was already a trade center for the surrounding agrarian counties, and the decade of the 1880s was one of substantial development on both the commercial and industrial fronts. Burwell Westbrook Canady (1854-1905) was one of the central figures in the history of Kinston in the three decades from 1875 until his death in 1905. His ornate residence was occupied by family members for approximately ninety years (ca. 1884-1974). It was built in an area between the older settled section of Kinston and the later 19th and early 20th century suburbs. Of the substantial number of Italianate and Queen Anne residences erected in Kinston in the 1880s and early 1890s, several of which are illustrated in special editions of the Kinston Free Press in 1897, 1899 and 1906, a rapidly diminishing number survive. The Canady House is the finest Italianate survivor, and its significance is strengthened by its association with an individual who played such an important role in Kinston's late 19th century development. Its associated historic context is overlapping, encompassing Kinston from the Civil War to the Beginning of the Tobacco Boom Era, 1861-1890 and Kinston's Era of Accelerating Prosperity, 1890-1941; it is a member of the property type Late 19th/Early 20th Century Residential Buildings and Neighborhoods.
Historical Background

The elegant Italianate frame house located on the northwest corner of North Queen Street and West Washington Avenue near downtown Kinston, North Carolina was probably built shortly after Burwell Westbrook Canady purchased this lot in April 1883 [deed book 4, p. 562]. Canady (1854-1905), the son of B. W. Canady, Sr., and Susan (Moore) Canady, had moved to Kinston in 1873 from the family's 2,500-acre Lenoir County plantation "Quebec," after attending Wake Forest College [Kinston Free Press, 18 August 1897; Lefler, History, p. 679; and Heritage, p. 166]. His first position in the growing town was as a clerk for cotton buyers Moore and Cox, where he was employed until 1876 [Kinston Free Press, 18 August 1897].

Canady entered the local hardware business after leaving Moore and Cox; with George E. Miller, he opened Miller and Canady's at the southeast corner of Queen and Gordon streets. They dissolved the partnership in 1882, with Canady taking over the hardware dealership and Miller assuming control of their associated machine works. Canady built a larger building on the same site in 1883 and was among the first to rebuild after the disastrous fire which destroyed much of Kinston's commercial district in February 1895 [Kinston Free Press, 2 September 1899].

Canady's involvement in his community went well beyond the prosperous hardware and building supply business he developed in the 1880s and 1890s. It has been said that he was "... a pioneer in the development of Kinston's industrial life, ... [taking] a large part in promoting its tobacco industry ... " [Lefler, History, p. 679]. He was one of the largest investors in the locally organized Orion Knitting Mills, a stockholder and committeeman of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad, a founder and member of the board of directors of the Bank of Kinston, and owner of Kinston's second tobacco warehouse, the Atlantic [Heritage, p. 167]. He also managed the farming operations at "Quebec," with its extensive tenant-farmed truck and tobacco fields, and, for a time, he owned the Seven Springs resort in eastern Wayne County [Kinston Free Press, 18 August 1897; and Heritage, p. 167]. His contributions in the civic arena included chairing the Board of County Commissioners and the local school board and serving several terms as a town alderman in the 1890s and as mayor of Kinston for two terms (1877-79 and 1881-82) [Heritage, p. 218]. At his death in 1905, the local newspaper made the following comments about Canady:

Ever since Mr. Canady attained his majority he has...
been identified with the political and industrial life of the community and has figured as a leader in all enterprises, putting money and effort into them. To him is largely due the industrial progress of Kinston [Heritage, p. 166].

Canady was clearly an example of the type of New South entrepreneur who did so much to ensure the state's development in the late 19th century.

On 20 November 1877, Canady married Mary Herman Canady, daughter of Henry and Winifred (Williams) Canady, with whom he had five children [Heritage, p. 166; and 1880 U. S. Census]. They apparently lived with his mother and stepfather for several years prior to moving to their new Kinston residence [1880 census]. Canady died in September 1905, "... relatively a young man, but one who had lived a successful life for his family and community" [Lefler, History, p. 679]. His widow died in 1924 ["Death of Member"]. Two of the Canady daughters, Lottie and Susie, never married and lived in the house throughout their lifetimes. A third daughter, Elizabeth, married John B. Long, a vice-president of E. V. Webb and Company tobacco firm; the Longs lived with the Canady sisters during the 1940s [Kinston City Directories].

The house was purchased by the Historic Preservation Foundation of North Carolina in the 1984 who then sold to the current owner [deed book 806, pp. 328 and 330]. He is in the process of rehabilitating the house.

B. W. Canady was associated with numerous other buildings in Kinston, including his Atlantic Tobacco Warehouse (razed), which stood west of his residence on the northeast corner of North Heritage Street and West Washington Avenue, and the two commercial buildings erected after the 1895 fire which survive in the Queen-Gordon Streets Historic District (#s 1 and 17). However, his endeavors on behalf of his community went well beyond his hardware business and his interest in the tobacco industry. He was active in promoting banking and the textile industry locally and an energetic participant in Kinston's civic life, serving as mayor and alderman during important decades in the city's development. The building in Kinston with which his association was the longest is his elegant residence, which so vividly reflects his role in the community, both through its location in close proximity to the core of the city and its well-crafted architectural presence. Occupied by members of his immediate family until the 1970s, the house is the building most closely identified with Canady within the community.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Death of Member a Leading Local Family at Coast." Kinston Daily Free Press, 30 June 1924, p. 1.


For general works, see Major Bibliographical References for Historical and Architectural Resources of Kinston, North Carolina
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 #

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- [ ] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: 0.48

UTM References

A [1, 8] [2, 6, 5] [1, 6, 0] [3, 9, 0, 5] [4, 4, 0]
Zone Easting Northing
C

B Zone Easting Northing
D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property being nominated consists of lot number 5, Lenoir County Tax Map 412 in the city of Kinston, North Carolina.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The property being nominated consists of the surviving portion of the parcel of land historically associated with the house. The remainder of the original parcel has been sold and redeveloped.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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city or town Raleigh
state NC zip code 27605
B. W. Canady House
600 N. Queen St.
Kinston, N.C.

Lenoir County
Tax Map #412

1" = 100'