



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE STATE COLLEGES

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RESOLUTION

concerning

Proposed Names for Buildings at
Eastern Connecticut State College

November 7, 1969

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for State Colleges names
the following buildings on the campus of Eastern
Connecticut State College as listed below:

North Campus Dormitory and present Student Union	John Winthrop Hall
New Dormitory	Prudence Crandall Hall
New Dormitory	Daniel Burnap Hall
Present Classroom & Administration Building	George H. Shafer Hall
Early Childhood Building	Katharine L. Keelor Hall
Science Building	Robert H. Goddard Hall
Science Lecture Hall	Virgil J. Grissom Auditorium
Food Service Building	Margaret C. Hurley Hall

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. JOHN WINTHROP (1606-1676) founded Old Saybrook and New London. He exhibited outstanding qualities of leadership and in 1657 was elected Governor of Connecticut. Five years later he obtained the Connecticut charter from King Charles II. In addition to serving as Governor for eighteen years, he was a student of science and a capable physician.

2. PRUDENCE CRANDALL (1803-1889), a Quaker, opened a school for girls in Canterbury in 1831. In 1832 she admitted a Negro girl, an action which promptly brought repercussions. First the white girls were withdrawn; then Miss Crandall announced that her school would be for "young ladies and litte misses of color." As a result the citizens of Canterbury broke the windows of her school, polluted her well and eventually persuaded the General Assembly to prohibit the education of colored people from outside the state. . .without the consent of the town. Twice she was convicted on the basis of this statute which stood on the books until the 1880's. However, her convictions were reversed by the Supreme Court of Errors of Conn. Her home still stands in Canterbury.
3. DANIEL BURNAP (1759-1838) was born in Coventry. About 1780 he moved to East Windsor where he made clocks of skillful workmanship. His handsome brass eight-day clocks are among the most valuable and interesting of his period. Later he moved to Andover where his house still stands. He made the flash mechanism for the Point Judith Light. Burnap made church or tower as well as "moon-phase" and musical clocks.
4. GEORGE H. SHAFER was President of Willimantic State Normal School and Willimantic State Teachers College from 1918 to 1947. His graduate work was done at Clark University with G. Stanley Hall, who developed the saltatory theory of learning. Mr. Shafer did much to establish the direction of the college in individualizing and personalizing contacts between faculty and students.
5. KATHARINE L. KEELOR was one of the most beloved teachers of children and college students at Willimantic, having taught previously at Horace Mann and Lincoln Schools of Columbia University. She was a poet, an author of children's stories and wrote numbers of books. During World War II she did work on Aphasia, especially with veterans returning from combat duty.
6. ROBERT H. GODDARD (1882-1945) had his classic study, "A Method of Reaching Extreme Altitudes" published by the Smithsonian Institute in 1919. Not only did he experiment with liquid fuels and gyroscopic controls but he also developed the idea of step (stage) rockets. During World War II he worked for the Navy on rocket motors and jet-assisted take-off (JATO).

7. VIRGIL J. GRISSOM (1926-1967) was an Air Force lieutenant colonel in World War II and flew missions in Korea. In 1959 he was selected to be an astronaut and was the first man to have been launched twice into space. He died in a capsule fire when the ECSC science building was in construction.
8. MARGARET C. HURLEY, an alumna of the college, was a representative and later a Senator in the Connecticut General Assembly who was tireless in her support of the college. It was largely through her efforts that state funds were granted to rebuild the college after the original building was burned in 1943.
