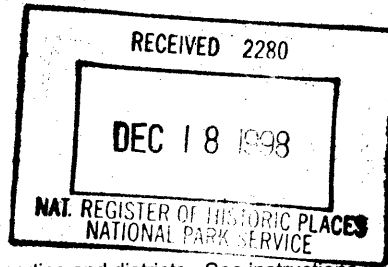


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



1624

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Turner, R. Perry, House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 211 North Main Street not for publication _____
city or town Greer vicinity _____
state South Carolina code SC county Greenville code 045 zip code 29650-1635

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 12/4/98
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

for Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Mary W. Edmonds

2/11/99

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property

Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing

Noncontributing

4

4

buildings
sites
structures
objects
Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: DOMESTIC
DOMESTIC

Subcategory: Single Dwelling
Secondary Structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: DOMESTIC
DOMESTIC

Subcategory: Single Dwelling
Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

roof Slate

other Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property

Greenville County, South Carolina
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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.
X 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 a grave.
d a cemetery.
e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
f a commemorative property.
g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1937

Significant Dates

1937

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Ward, William

Narrative Statement of Significance

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other
Name of repository:
S.C. Dept. of Archives and History,
Columbia, S.C.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property
Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

The R. Perry Turner House, at 211 North Main Street in Greer, South Carolina, was built in 1937. The building's full-height entry portico, with its use of elements from the early Greek Corinthian or Temple of Winds order, and the balustrade-capped side porches of this stately residence place it clearly within the Classical Revival style, highly prevalent in the southeast during the first half of the twentieth century.

The house's plan, symmetrical along both the façade and side elevations of the main block, is yet irregular in its overall massing. Approaching 10,000 square feet, the residence rests upon a poured concrete foundation. The house is divided into six masses: a dominant lateral gable block, two single story side porches, a two story front gabled entry portico, a two story gabled rear ell or wing, and a one story flat-roofed with parapet extension at center rear. The roof, clad in the original slate tiles, is pierced by gabled dormers on the front and rear.

Of brick construction, the house features a protruding rowlock water table and wood framed windows and doors with cast stone sills, keys, and imposts. The first floor windows of the façade contain eight over eight light double-hung sash with fanlight transoms and radiating brick voussoirs. Upper floor windows, as well as most others on secondary elevations contain six-over-six light double-hung sash and brick jack arches. Some four-over-four light double-hung sash windows appear on the first floor of the rear ell, while multi-light paired and triple casement windows with transoms occur and the end and on all three elevations of the rear ell's second floor. A large arched and traceried window with brick and cast stone accents is centered on the upper floor of the rear elevation. Most windows have operable wooden louvered shutters. The single storied rear extension features Palladian windows. Each gable, with the exception of the front portico, contains a semicircular window or fanlight. A boxed, block-modillioned cornice with returns encircles the house, inclusive of those in the rake of the gables. Two exterior end chimneys rise well above the roofline of the main block, while an equally massive chimney extends high above the inner side of the rear ell where it joins with the one story rear extension. The original copper gutter system remains in place.

Dominant on this building's façade is the centered tetrastyle portico with its fluted Temple of Winds columns and pilaster responds, full entablature, and elliptical, traceried oculus which adorns the tympanum of the pediment. Within the portico is the single-leaf, six-paneled wooden door with traceried fan and sidelights. Flanking this entrance are traceried cameo windows with brick surrounds and cast keystones. Above is a consoled balcony with iron railing, accessed from the second floor through a glazed door with flanking operable sash windows and underpanels. Hanging from the paneled ceiling is a large metal and glass lighting fixture. The side porches are identical except that the one on the north side is a porte cochere. Each features fluted Roman Doric columnal supports arranged in sets of three around the outer corners and a single with corresponding pilaster at the intersection of porch and main block of the house. A turned balustrade with pedestals encircles the flat roof of each.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property
Greenville County, South Carolina
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The interior of the house features a curved walled foyer where a cantilevered curving staircase and upper floor balcony opening draw the eye. The staircase has a scrolled carriage, while the railing and balustrade terminate in a turn-out easement type newel. Other interior elements include cased archways, paneled walls, ornate mantelpieces with paneled overmantels, chairrails with paneled dados [wainscotting], elaborate shelf architraves over doors, and paneled corner cabinet with arched shell alcove in the dining room. Many of the furnishings, including lighting fixtures, wallpaper, and furniture are original to the house. They were chosen by the owners and the architect, William Riddle Ward.

The R. Perry Turner House is surrounded by several outbuildings: an octagonal brick summer house with conical roof, a two-bay brick garage with exterior single-leaf entrance door, and a brick stable. The garage still maintains its original slate roofing and copper gutter system. The gable end or street elevation of the garage contains an inset arched fountain with brick and cast stone accented surround, a header bond field within the arch, and a cast stone lion's head water spout.

The house is situated approximately in the center of a two-and-one-half-acre lot, with the formal entrance facing North Main Street. There is a large, partially tree-canopied lawn in the front and landscaped gardens in the rear. These include a rose garden and a gazebo as well as a vegetable garden that is hidden from view. A boxwood lined walk leads from the street to the entry portico.

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Section number 8 Page 7

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property
Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

The R. Perry Turner House, built in 1937, is significant as an excellent example of a Classical Revival residence of the period; as an important residential design by prominent Greenville architect William Riddle Ward (1890-1984); and also for its association with Richard Perry Turner (1880-1959), one of Greer's most prominent twentieth century businessmen.

Ward, a native of Alabama, was educated at Auburn University and came to South Carolina in 1916 to work for Greenville architect Haskell H. Martin; he left Martin's firm in 1925 to go into independent architectural practice, and designed over one hundred residences in the state--including many in Greenville and Greenville County--by the time he retired in 1957. He was commissioned to design this house as a result of his 1935 design for Perry Turner's younger brother Robert Gibbs Turner (1882-1964), for a residence at 305 North Main Street in Greer. Ward, who superintended every detail of the design and construction of this house and personally chose many of the furnishings for Perry Turner and his wife Annie, also designed a garage, barn, and summer house for the Turners' backyard.¹

Perry Turner, the son of William Worth and Nancy Howell Turner, was educated in the country schools near Greer and worked on his father's farm near Reidville until he moved to Greer in 1901 to work as a grocery clerk for his cousin A.G. Howell. Turner went into the grocery business for himself soon afterward with partner W.T. Mitchell as Turner and Mitchell, but bought out Mitchell's interest in the firm two years later to create R. Perry Turner, Wholesale and Retail.² An advertisement for "Turner's Cash Store" in the 1915 Greer city directory boasted "the best merchandise that money can buy at the right price. Men's and Ladies' Fine Shoes and Notions, Staple and Fancy Groceries. Remember I sell it for less."³ Within a few years Turner sold the retail portion of his business to his younger brother Robert, retaining the wholesale portion--which was described in 1934, just before this house was built--as carrying "an extensive stock, consisting of staple and fancy groceries, feeds, and flours, and the average stock carried . . . amounts to between \$75,000 and \$100,000 in value ...[it is] one of the very worth while organizations of its kind in the vicinity of Greer."⁴ Turner died in 1959, survived by his widow Annie Moon Turner, who later married John O. Kendrick and still lives in the house with her son, R. Perry Turner Jr.

¹John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The South Carolina Architects 1885-1935: A Biographical Dictionary (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1992), pp. 194-95; interview with Mrs. Annie Kendrick, widow of R. Perry Turner, 211 North Main St., Greer, S.C., March 1996.

²David Duncan Wallace, History of South Carolina (New York: The American Historical Society, 1934), Volume IV, p. 129.

³Greer City Directory (Greer, S.C.), 1915.

⁴Wallace, Volume IV, p. 129.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 8

 R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property
 Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mrs. John O. Kendrick, widow of R. Perry Turner, 211 North Main St., Greer, S.C.,
March 1996

Greer City Directory, 1915.

Wallace, David Duncan. History of South Carolina. Volume IV (Biographical). New York: The
American Historical Society, 1934.

Wells, John E., and Robert E. Dalton, The South Carolina Architects 1885-1935: A Biographical
Dictionary. Richmond, Va.: The New South Architectural Press, 1992.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 9

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property
Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the line marked "R. Perry Turner House" on the accompanying City of Greer Tax Map G22, Block 4, Lot 2.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the historic house, garage, barn, and summer house and immediate setting.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 10

R. Perry Turner House
Name of Property
Greenville County, South Carolina
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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: R. Perry Turner House
Location of Property: 211 North Main Street, Greer
Greenville County, S.C.

Name of Photographer: Brad Sauls, S.C. Department of Archives and History,
Columbia, S.C.

Date of Photographs: 15 July 1998

Location of Original Negatives: S.C. Department of Archives and History

1. Facade, left oblique
2. Facade
3. Facade, portico detail
4. Facade, traceried cameo window
5. Facade, left oblique portico detail
6. Facade, left side porch
7. Facade, porte cochere
8. Rear elevation, left oblique with porte cochere
9. Right elevation, with porte cochere
10. Rear elevation
11. Entrance foyer and staircase
12. Music room
13. Music room
14. Dining room, corner cabinet
15. Dining room, corner cabinet detail
16. Octagonal summer house
17. Garage, entrance
18. Garage, gable end
19. Stable

R. Perry Turner House

Greenville Co., S.C.



**R. PERRY
TURNER
HOUSE**

CITY OF GREER TAX MAPS GREER, S.C.		
TAX DISTRICT	MAP NUMBER	REVISED
285	G 22	
SCALE: 1" = 100'		INDEX-11