

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
		district
		site
	1	structure
		object
2	2	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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American

Movements: Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Brick

walls: Weatherboard

roof: Metal

other: _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The McDowell House, at 500 North Main Street in Fountain Inn, Greenville County, South Carolina, built ca. 1922, is a one-and-a-half story, frame, single family Craftsman style bungalow that has a low pitched side-gabled roof with a broad front-gabled porch that forms a cross gable. The walls are covered with weatherboard siding, the roof is covered with standing seam metal, and the foundation, two chimneys, and porch pedestals and knee walls are brick. The partial-width front porch wraps around the house's east elevation with paired [triple at corners] wooden pillars supported by brick pedestals, cushion capitals, wide overhanging eaves with simplistic knee brackets, shingle siding in the front porch's gable, and a pergola at the southwest corner over the exposed section of porch. On the roof's front slope and above the pergola-shaded porch is a shed-roofed dormer with three nine-light casement windows. Extending from the house's north, rear elevation is a hipped-roof ell the walls and roof of which are covered in the same material as the house's main body. The pool at the rear elevation was added during the 1980s, and the back porch and concrete walkway from back porch to the pool was added between 1992 and 1998.¹ The house is situated on a .88 acre lot that measures 3,288 square feet and is less than one mile west of downtown Fountain Inn in Greenville County, South Carolina. The house fronts south onto North Main Street with a southwest to northeast orientation and is set among residential historic and modern Colonial Revival, Folk Victorian, and Ranch style houses. Located at the property's southwest boundary is a curvilinear paved walkway that leads from the sidewalk on North Main Street to the house's porch and central entry, and a paved driveway partially lined with concrete pavers leads to the house's rear entry and a contributing outbuilding that was historically used as a single car garage. The current owners use this garage as a storage building. Boxwoods and other shrubs line the house's south and east elevations, and a monumental oak tree shades the front yard near the driveway at the property's southeast boundary. A chain link fence surrounds the property's expansive back yard that includes a pool (non-contributing structure), and two outbuildings (one contributing, the other non-contributing).

¹ Matthew King, interview with author, 16 November 2009.

Narrative Description

The McDowell House is located at 500 North Main Street, near the intersection of North Main Street and Quillen Street, and less than one mile from downtown Fountain Inn. The property, rectangular in shape, measures 94.9 feet wide at its southern boundary, 91.5 feet wide at its northern boundary, 416.5 feet long at its western boundary, and 415.7 feet long at its eastern boundary. The house constitutes the property's primary historic resource, with a front-gabled frame garage located at the end of the asphalt driveway that runs along the property's eastern boundary at the northeast corner of the house. This outbuilding was built the same year or within a few years of the construction of the house, and has exterior detailing consistent with those found on the house including weatherboard siding, a tin roof, and exposed rafter tails under its eaves. The property adjoins lots nearly identical to its size at its northern, western, and eastern boundaries. The house is situated over fifty feet from North Main Street in a natural setting that echoes the ideals of the Arts and Crafts movement. A curvilinear paved front walk crosses the grassy front lawn and winds to the steps at the southwest corner of the front porch. A mature oak tree at the property's southeast boundary dominates the side of the front yard, asphalt driveway, and the house's eastern elevation. Junipers and other small shrubs surround crape myrtles and other small trees at the house's southwest corner. Boxwoods, camellias, and other small shrubs form a continuous wall that covers the brick foundation and piers. This natural area terminates at the house's southeast corner, and four large boxwoods are placed equidistant from each other along the house's eastern elevation.

McDowell House, ca. 1922

Contributing Building

Exterior Description

The McDowell family built a one-story Craftsman style side-gabled residence with a projecting cross gabled front porch supported by grouped wooden pillars on brick piers, decorative knee brackets, and exposed rafter tails under wide overhanging eaves ca. 1922. In the 1980s, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blair added the interior upper half-story, vinyl replacement windows at the gabled ends at the east and west elevations, the pool, rear deck extension, and concrete walkway from the deck extension to the pool. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Osborn added the back deck during the 1990s, and Mr. and Mrs. Erin Littleson renovated the kitchen after they purchased the property from S. Blanton Phillips, III and Elizabeth Gilliam Phillips.² The house measures approximately 3,540 square feet of heated space whose foundation is laid in a common bond brick pattern, and the exterior is sheathed in wood weatherboard siding with wood corner boards. A hipped-roof ell extends from the house's rear elevation, and a small covered back porch empties on a rear deck extension and concrete walkway leading to the pool. A hipped-roof addition that was enclosed as an office during the 1980s is at the northwest corner of the hipped-roof ell. Ribbons of six-over-one replacement windows cover all three sides of this hipped-roof addition. Three poured concrete steps lead to the front porch at the house's southwest corner, and a pergola at this corner covers nine, square concrete pads that measure between 46" x 46 1/2" and 49" x 53". These concrete pads, added between 1992 and 1998, partially replaced the original three and one-half inch pine tongue-and-groove porch decking that is still extant throughout the remainder of the porch deck.³ Beaded board covers the porch ceiling. Two large nine-over-one windows flank the principal entrance.

Interior Description

The interior of the McDowell House retains the original wood flooring, window and door surrounds, trim, brick and wood mantels, and detailing. The layout of the first floor has been minimally changed since its construction ca. 1922. Alterations to the first floor include the removal of a wall at the house's north elevation

² Greenville County Deed Book 2108, Page 710. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

³ Greenville County Plat Book 22-H, Page 82; Plat Book 38-Z, Page 82. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

to open the kitchen to the current dining space. The kitchen at the house's northeast corner was updated during the 1980s and 1990s with modern cabinetry and appliances, although the owners were sympathetic to the design and hardware found on cabinetry from the 1920s. The owners have retained an original pantry off the kitchen that retains its original weatherboard covered ceiling and walls. The lower cabinets have drawers and bins and the upper cabinets are glass-faced, both of which retain their original hardware. During the 1980s, the Blair family enclosed the rear porch at the house's northwest corner.

Garage, ca. 1922

Contributing Building

This one-story, 10'3" x 23', front-gabled outbuilding was built ca. 1922 and was originally used as a garage. The building rests on a concrete block foundation, is sheathed in horizontal weatherboard siding, the roof is covered in metal, and there are exposed rafter tails under wide overhanging eaves. This building's roofing material, exposed rafter tails, and paint color match the materials on the McDowell House. Double doors of vertical wood siding provide access to the building at its south elevation, and a secondary access is found at the building's west elevation through a modern wooden door.

Outbuilding, ca. 1950

Noncontributing Building

This one-story, 16'1" x 26'.2", front-gabled outbuilding rests on a concrete block foundation and has a north-south orientation. The building was built ca. 1950 by the McDowell family, and has been used continuously as a storage building by the McDowell House's various owners. The building's walls and entrance doors are sheathed in five-V crimp metal sheets applied horizontally, and its roof is covered with five-V crimp metal sheets, as well. Access to its interior is provided at its south and west elevations.

Swimming Pool, ca. 1984

Noncontributing Structure

The in-ground swimming pool was added to the property's backyard ca. 1984 by the Blair family after they purchased the property from Sara I. McCarter, Ralph H. McCarter, George W. McCarter and Elizabeth M. Shell in 1981.⁴

Alterations

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Blair added the interior half-story to the house during the 1980s, in addition to vinyl replacement windows at the gabled ends at the east and west elevations, the swimming pool, rear deck extension, and concrete walkway from the deck extension to the swimming pool. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Osborn added the rear deck during the 1990s, and Mr. and Mrs. Erin Littleton renovated the kitchen after they purchased the property from S. Blanton Phillips, III and Elizabeth Gilliam Phillips. These alterations or additions to the house and property are not visible from the front of the house or from North Main Street.

⁴ Greenville County Deed Book 1149, Page 954. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

McDowell House
Property Name

Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1922

Significant Dates

ca. 1922

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

The McDowell House is significant as an example of Craftsman Bungalow architecture in Fountain Inn and the period of significance is limited to its date of construction, ca. 1922.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The McDowell House, at 500 North Main Street in Fountain Inn, South Carolina, built ca. 1922, is significant under National Register Criterion C for Architecture, as an excellent local example of a Craftsman style bungalow. The house features shingle siding in its gables, a side-gabled main body with projecting front cross-gabled porch with triangular knee brackets, exposed rafter tails under wide overhanging eaves, pairs of wood pillars on brick pedestals, and a pergola. The period of significance is ca. 1922, the estimated date of construction. The McDowell House was recommended for the National Register of Historic Places under "Residential, Type D: Single Dwelling" in *A Historic Resources Survey of Fountain Inn, South Carolina* prepared by Brockington and Associates (1999). The West Kellett House at 105 South Weston Street and the Welborn House at 405 North Weston Street are the only comparable Craftsman-style single dwellings in Fountain Inn that retain a high level of architectural integrity, but the West Kellett House's exterior is in only fair condition.

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

The McDowell House is significant under National Register Criterion C under the Area of Significance of Architecture as an excellent local example of a Craftsman style house featuring a projecting cross gabled front porch supported by grouped wooden pillars on brick piers, decorative knee brackets, exposed rafters under wide overhanging eaves, a pergola, and interior details that include original wood flooring, window and door surrounds, fireplace surrounds and mantels, trim, and detailing. The craftsmanship, attention to detail, and knowledge of the cross-gabled Craftsman house form is reflected in J.B. Wasson's construction of the McDowell House. Wasson milled the pine and oak on his property in the Fairview Community of Fountain Inn for the house that he built for his sister, Quentine McDowell, ca. 1922.

Architecture

The McDowell House was built on North Main Street in Fountain Inn as this small community was experiencing an increase in population and prosperity in the years immediately following World War. Increased population in Fountain Inn led to the construction of a twenty-room brick school building on North Main Street in 1919, an increased need for housing in the newly demarcated residential areas along North Main Street and Weston Street, and changes to the central business district after World War I that saw a number of the brick buildings converted from blacksmith and wagon shops to garages for automobiles.

J.B. Wasson built the McDowell House on North Main Street, ca. 1922, with the most academic Craftsman styling from the Arts and Crafts Movement. The McDowell House is one of three cross-gabled examples of the Craftsman style built on North Main Street in the town of Fountain Inn that is one-story with dormers, has a low-pitched roof, exposed rafter tails under wide overhanging eaves, and a partial width, front-gabled porch the roof of which forms the cross gable. The other cross-gabled example (305 North Main Street) has vinyl siding and replacement windows, and both gable end chimneys have been removed. These alterations and artificial material affect this house's level of integrity and strongly diminish its architectural significance when compared to the McDowell House. The third cross-gabled example, the West Kellett House (105 South Weston Street) also lacks the integrity of the McDowell House.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Historical Background

The McDowell House was built ca. 1922 by J.B. Wasson from wood milled on his property in the Fairview Community of Fountain Inn, South Carolina, for his sister Quentine "Queen" Wasson McDowell (1867-1930), the widow of James Wistar McDowell (1862-1908).⁵ The house and front-gabled garage are both included on the 1923 Sanborn Map of Fountain Inn, South Carolina.⁶ Wasson built the house on the .93 acre lot on North Main Street that was purchased by Queen McDowell from N.C. Gault on January 29, 1920.⁷ Queen McDowell occupied the house until her death on November 25, 1930. Upon her death, Queen McDowell made her daughters Lula McDowell, Mary McDowell, Ilene McDowell McCarter, and Willie McDowell Peden the executors of her estate. She left her "home place and lot" to her spinster daughters Lula McDowell and Mary McDowell as long as they remained unmarried.⁸

After the deaths of Lula and Mary McDowell, Willie McDowell Peden, as the surviving executrix of the estate of Queen McDowell, sold the McDowell House and property to Sara I. McCarter, Ralph H. McCarter, and George W. McCarter and Elizabeth McCarter Shell on July 30, 1979,⁹ and in turn they sold the McDowell House and property to Harry L. Blair and Mary D. Blair in 1981.¹⁰ The Blairs added the second floor half-story under the existing historic roofline, installed the backyard swimming pool, and made the majority of the interior alterations. Harry L. and Mary D. Blair sold the house and property to Mark T. Osborn and Madelyn F. Osborn on March 31, 1992.¹¹ The Osborns added the uncovered wooden deck at the house's rear [west] elevation. Mark and Madelyn Osborn sold the property with its improvements to S. Blanton Phillips, III and Elizabeth Gilliam Phillips on December 2, 1998.¹² Blanton and Elizabeth Phillips sold the property to Steve and Erin Littleton on September 9, 2004.¹³ Although the Littleton lived in the house for only two years, they spent their time in the house renovating the kitchen. The Littletons sold the property to Matthew E. and Anna K. King, the current owners, on August 4, 2006.¹⁴

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Brockington and Associates, Inc. *A Historic Resources Survey of Fountain Inn, South Carolina*. Greenville County Planning Commission, Greenville, South Carolina, 1999.

Clark, Clifford Edward. *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1986.

Coleman, Caroline Sprouse, and Burnett Cawood Givens. *History of Fountain Inn; Fountain Inn, South Carolina*. Fountain Inn, S.C.: The Tribune-Times, 1965.

⁵ Mary Francis Garrett, interview with author, 25 November 2009.

⁶ Sanborn Map, 1923.

⁷ Greenville County Deed Book 66, Page 444. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

⁸ Greenville County Deed Book 112, Page 493. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

⁹ Greenville County Deed Book 1108, Page 79. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

¹⁰ Greenville County Deed Book 1149, Page 954. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

¹¹ Greenville County Deed Book 1530, Page 95. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

¹² Greenville County Deed Book 1803, Page 160. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

¹³ Greenville County Deed Book 2108, Page 710. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

¹⁴ Greenville County Deed Book 2220, Page 750. Greenville County Courthouse, Greenville, South Carolina.

McDowell House
Property Name

Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

Garrett, Mary Frances. Interview with author. 25 November 2009.

Greenville County Deeds. Greenville County Courthouse. Greenville, South Carolina.

Hafner, Arthur Wayne, ed. *Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929: a genealogical guide to over 149,000 medical practitioners providing brief biographical sketches drawn from the American Medical Association's Deceased Physician Masterfile*. Chicago: American Medical Association, 1993.

Huff, Archie Vernon. *Greenville: The History of the City and County in the South Carolina Piedmont*. Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1995.

King, Matthew. Interview with author. 18 November 2009.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American House*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. 1989.

Mims, Gwendolyn Walton. Interview with author. 3 December 2009.

National Park Service. *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, 1997.

National Park Service. National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form. Washington, DC: Department of the Interior, 1997.

Phillips, Stephen J. *Old-House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600-1940*. Lakewood, CO: American Source Books. 1992.

Sanborn Map Company. Map of Fountain Inn, South Carolina, 1913, 1922. New York: Sanborn Map Company.

South Carolina. *South Carolina Death Records*. Columbia, SC, USA: South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____ 177

1016

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .88 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

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

1	<u>17</u> Zone	<u>389633</u> Easting	<u>3839976</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> Northing

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

The National Register boundaries follow the parcel lines of Parcel 0352000400900 as shown with a heavy black line on the attached Greenville County GIS map at the scale of 1" = 119'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass .88 acres on North Main Street in Fountain Inn, which is the acreage historically associated with the McDowell House.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jason L. Harpe

organization Harpe Consulting date 9 July 2010

street & number 410 South Cedar Street telephone (704) 477-0987

city or town Lincolnton state NC zip code 28092

e-mail jason.harpe@charter.net

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

McDowell House
Property Name

Greenville County, South Carolina
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: McDowell House

City or Vicinity: Fountain Inn

County: Greenville

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Jason L. Harpe

Date Photographed: November 2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 11. Front (south elevation) of house.
- 2 of 11. Side (east elevation) of house.
- 3 of 11. Oblique (south elevation) of house.
- 4 of 11. Rear (north elevation) of house.
- 5 of 11. Outbuilding, located at the house's east elevation.
- 6 of 11. Outbuilding, located at the property's northeast boundary.
- 7 of 11. Pool and backyard
- 8 of 11. Living Room (south elevation).
- 9 of 11. Bedroom (northwest corner).
- 10 of 11. Dining Room fireplace (east elevation).
- 11 of 11. Kitchen (east elevation).

Property Owner:

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

name Matthew and Anna King

street & number 500 North Main Street

telephone _____

city or town Fountain Inn

state SC

zip code 29644

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 18 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.