

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

SEP 23 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Eden Hall

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

Northwest intersection of U.S. Highway 221 and County Road 24,
6 miles northeast of McCormick *off U.S. 221 and R.R. 24*

STREET & NUMBER

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

McCormick

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

South Carolina

CODE

045

COUNTY

McCormick

CODE

065

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. E. E. Grier

STREET & NUMBER

Eden Hall

CITY, TOWN

McCormick

 VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina 29835

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

McCormick County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

McCormick

STATE

South Carolina 29835

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE

1972 (update)

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina 29211

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at the northwest intersection of U.S. Highway 221 and County Road 24, in rural McCormick County, South Carolina, Eden Hall is believed to have been constructed ca. 1854 as a residence for Dr. John Wardlaw Hearst. The Greek Revival house with Egyptian influences was, according to family tradition, designed by Henry Jones, Atlanta architect.

The house is a large two and one-half story, white frame house, three bays wide, resting on a high brick foundation. The medium gable, composition roof, has four interior chimneys and a boxed cornice. The heavy, pedimented, two-story front portico (south elevation) is supported by four large stucco-over-brick pillars. Double-leaf front entrance doors have sidelights and a rectangular transom. Two pilasters support a large entablature over the doorway. Matching double-leaf doors, sidelights and a transom are found directly over the main entrance and lead onto the cantilevered second story open porch that is supported by brackets. Flushboard siding is found under the front portico as well as under the east and west porticos. The windows are 9 over 9 panes with louvered shutters. The decorative iron lattice railing and the slate on the floor of the front portico were installed during a 1948 remodeling, the only time any major alterations have taken place.

The east and west elevations of Eden Hall are identical with one-story porticos that feature two square pillars. There is a double-leaf door with sidelights, a rectangular transom, and molded trim with corner blocks. On the second story double doors covered by louvered blinds lead to a small open porch. The first floor windows are 9 over 9 panes, while the upstairs are 9 over 6.

The north elevation of Eden Hall has undergone the only significant exterior alteration. The small shed porch has been enclosed as well as the walkway to the old kitchen, a one-story frame building, with exposed handhewn framing and pegging (interior); and a seven feet wide fireplace, now covered by a metal shield for a wood burning stove. The kitchen was remodeled into a den in 1948.

Interior: The plan consists of a central hall, running east-west, connected to the main entrance (south elevation) by means of a foyer which provides access to the music room and parlor. The arrangement is repeated on the second floor, while remaining rooms are parallel to the central hall, creating an inverted "T" shaped configuration.

Interior details are classically inspired. Architraves and door surrounds are triangular in imitation of a temple roof. The mantels partially repeat this pediment motif, yet add variation by curvilinear woodwork at center, and above and behind each stylized Doric post. Remaining woodwork is unelaborated, with the exception of a console newel post on the primary stairway.

Surroundings: Eden Hall is situated in a rural area approximately 6 miles north-east of McCormick, South Carolina. South of the main house is a formal garden, which according to family tradition, was designed by an English landscape architect. The garden contains paths (running south to north and east to west) lined with boxwoods. Other plantings consist of myrtles, spice wood and sweet olive. A

continued

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—RELIGION
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
X 1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—OTHER (SPECIFY)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1854 BUILDER/ARCHITECT attributed to Henry Jones

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located in rural McCormick County, South Carolina, Eden Hall, reputedly constructed ca. 1854, is a Greek Revival plantation house with Egyptian influences. According to family tradition, designed for Dr. John Wardlaw Hearst by Henry Jones, Eden Hall derives its significance from its eclectic blend of architectural styles, and from its association with Dr. Hearst, who attained recognition in the fields of politics, agriculture, and education.

Dr. John Wardlaw Hearst, son of "Hard Labor John" Hearst and Sarah Wardlaw was born on October 15, 1813, and lived at Sylvania near Hard Labor Creek. He graduated from Miami University in Ohio in medicine. In 1835 he married Ann Childs (1814-1891). According to an unpublished family history, about twelve years later Hearst and his wife moved from Sylvania to a cabin near the site of their future home, Eden Hall, which was designed and built between 1850 and 1854 for Hearst by Henry Jones of Atlanta. During the Civil War Dr. Hearst enlisted as a volunteer and was attached to Company C, Seventh South Carolina Infantry until he transferred on June 4, 1861 to the Confederate States Army. After the war he continued to maintain his plantation at Eden Hall and was known to be a scientific farmer.

Hearst died on June 5, 1873. Mrs. Hearst continued to live at Eden Hall, and remarried, some nine years later, to Major J. K. Vance. Following her death in 1891 the estate was purchased by John Calvin Kennedy, and on his death on March 1, 1941, the property was divided among the heirs. Malvina Kennedy Grier bought out her brothers and sisters and became sole owner in 1948. These successive owners have maintained Eden Hall as a working plantation up to this day.

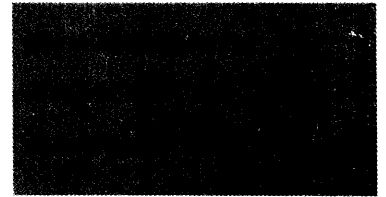
Politics: A politically prominent individual, Dr. Hearst represented Abbeville County in the South Carolina State Legislature for three sessions between 1850 and 1855. Ten years later he served one term from 1865 to 1866.

Agriculture: Dr. Hearst was interested in agriculture and used progressive farming methods, experimenting with seeds to develop new varieties. According to Greenwood County historian Margaret Watson, "He tried out improved farm implements such as a sub-soil plow and had good crops even in dry seasons," and "had pure bred livestock, a relative rarity at the time While Dr. Hearst was 'land poor' after the Confederate War, his farming methods enabled him to get along better than most of his neighbors." His interest in scientific farming is reflected in his participation in the Mill Way Grange (Patrons of Husbandry), of which he was a master.

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picket fence connected to modern concrete pillars surrounds the garden. An arched trellis spans the main gate.

To the east of the house is the original well and canopy. It is adjacent to a modern, brick pump house. Aside from the (previously) detached kitchen no original dependencies remain.

North of Eden Hall is a one-story brick veneer residence of recent construction. South of the modern residence and northwest of the plantation house is a tennis court. Because of their distance from the house, and their placement, the tennis court and modern house do not seriously undermine integrity of time or place.

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Education: A devout Associate Reformed Presbyterian, Dr. Hearst was one of the original trustees of Erskine College, a general college and school of ministerial studies. Organized as an academy in 1835 by the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod, it opened in 1836, and was incorporated as a college in 1850, being the second school of its kind in South Carolina for this particular denomination, the first being Ebenezer Academy in York County. After his death Dr. Hearst willed "two-thirds of [his] estate to Erskine College."

Architecture: Eden Hall is architecturally significant for its eclectic blend of Greek and Egyptian Revival details. The use of obelisk style posts, with their inclined taper from cavetto-capital to a gradually widening base, and the incised panels, which repeat the basic form of the pillars suggest an Egyptian influence on a building which otherwise follows the Greek Revival style.

The temple form is frequently reiterated in Eden Hall. Externally, the steep pedimented gable with triangular panel inset in a broad tympanum creates a visual effect of a vertical steepness and lateral width. Balance is achieved by the symmetrical arrangement of the facade; central, trabeated entrance ways on the ground floor and open porch; and the flanking one-story porticos. The interior extends the use of the temple motif by employment of door surrounds (south entrance) and architraves which resemble the ridge of a temple roof.

Decorative details are austere, and classical in origin; the major points of interest are the centrally placed mantels, which use stylized Doric columns and entablatures. The top of the mantel takes on a characteristic peak, as if to repeat the temple form, yet employs curvilinear wood work centrally and above each column.

Stylistically, Eden Hall represents a consistently designed house, with the relationship between exterior and interior design reiterated in the well developed stylistic motifs. Employment of Greek and Egyptian elements are well integrated into the overall form of the house. Craftsmanship of interior details, though simple, is of high quality.

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"Tribute of Respect." Abbeville (S.C.) Press and Banner, 18 June 1873, p. 3.

Watson, Margaret. Greenwood County Sketches: Old Roads and Early Families. Greenwood, S.C.: Attic Press, 1970. pp. 253-255.

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