

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM

Continuation Sheet

Item Number

Page

Name Historic : Osborne Wells House

Location : 1101 Fair Street

Common:

Classification : Building

Owner: Mrs. Hagood Clary
1105 Fair Street
Newberry, S.C. 29108

Representation in Existing Surveys Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina
(1979 update)

Description: Built in 1860, this brick and stucco residence consists of a piano nobile over a raised basement. A raised porch projects from the center of the facade. The four stuccoed brick piers which carry the porch rise to a central four-centered arch and two flanking lancet arches. The four-centered arch motif is repeated to frame the side bays of the facade. The stucco on the piers and arches is scored to represent masonry. The front door is framed by multi-paned sidelights and transom. The six over six windows have flat brick arches beneath the enframing four-centered arches. Triangular stuccoed end chimneys project from the hip roof. The back porch, a mirror of the front porch, has been enclosed.

Significance: This unique house was designed and built by Osborne Wells, prominent nineteenth century Newberry builder, planter, and brick manufacturer, whose building speciality was with decorative detailing in plaster and masonry. His design work for this house, and the original (1857) and the postwar reconstructed Smeltzer Hall of Newberry College (added to the National Register June 23, 1976) established him as the city's first architect. A native of Lincolnton, N.C., he arrived in Newberry in 1854. His decorative masonry work survives in the Newberry Opera House, the present Mollohon Row in front of the Old Courthouse, many commercial buildings on Main and Boyce Streets, and also the plaster bas-relief on the Old Courthouse tympanum.

Acreage : .8

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary of the Osborne Wells House nomination is shown as the red line on the accompanying map, which is drawn at a scale of 200 feet to the inch. The nominated property includes all significant buildings and structures.

UTM Reference Point

17/ 442298/3793458

OCT 21 1980

Other Information