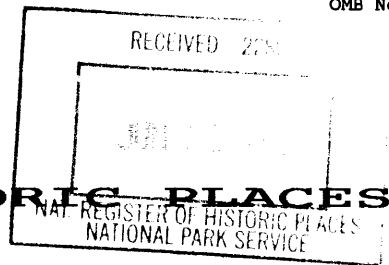


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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 McMaster School
other names/site number McMaster College, the University of South Carolina School of Music

2. Location

street & number 1106 Pickens Street not for publication
city or town Columbia vicinity _____
state South Carolina code SC county Richland code 079 zip code 29208

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 6/2/97
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S.C. Department of Archives & 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): _____

M. J. May 7/25/97

Signature of 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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education

Sub: school

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education

Sub: College

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
roof other
walls brick
other wood, stone: limestone

Narrative Description

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

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 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)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

Significant Dates

1911

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Period of Significance

Architect/Builder

Edwards & Walter

(William A. Edwards)

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(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

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: University of South Carolina Archives

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>17</u>	<u>497580</u>	<u>3762200</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
_____	See continuation sheet.					

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Doris M. Schmitz

organization University of South Carolina date May 4, 1995

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29208

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name University of South Carolina

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29208

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

DESCRIPTION

The McMaster School, presently McMaster College of the University of South Carolina, is located on two acres of land, comprising half of a city block,, bordered on the north by the property of the First Church of Christ Scientist and others, on the east by Henderson Street, the south by Senate Street, and the west by Pickens Street. The original structure dates to 1911. It is of frame construction with a brick veneer, wood trim, and cast stone detailing. The architectural style is a result of the standardized plans created by the architecture firm of Edwards and Walter in 1905, and can be characterized as an early 20th century revival style. There have been two additions, the first of which incorporates many of the architectural details of the original structure. The facade which faces Pickens Street retains its original appearance with the exception of the "McMaster College" sign that was added by the University of South Carolina in 1965. Despite these additions to the original structure, the property stands as a nearly intact representation of an early 20th century public school and of the standardized school designs that were in use at that time.

The original plan of the building is a symmetrical H shape. The facade is divided into five vertical bays, each having four central windows flanked by narrow slit windows. The windows are double-hung; in each of the outer bays of the first story there are four small windows flanked by slit windows. The central bay of the second and third stories have a pair of windows centered over the door flanked by single double hung windows that are then flanked by the slit windows. The outer bays have four grouped windows flanked by the outer slit windows. The brick veneer incorporates a Flemish Stretcher Bond, with belt courses on the first story, blind panels between the second and third stories, brick pilasters, quoins at the corners, and gauged arches with keystones above the windows.

The north and south elevations, with side entrances, are mirror images of one another. These elevations are divided into three bays, the outer two similar to the outer bays of the facade with the exception of the roofline. The central bay of the side elevations has a group of three triple-hung windows that provide light to the interior stairwells, centered over the double glass doors. There are keystones above the third story windows on all four elevations.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 2

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

The roofline of McMaster has castellated parapets, hiding a flat roof. There is a decorative cornice at the roofline supported by fluted wooden brackets and adorned with dentils. The roofline and its architectural elements are the most distinguishing feature of the structure and remain completely intact.

The interior of McMaster School also retains much of its original character, including three wood staircases, one in the center of the building, and one at both the north and south entrances. The wood balustrades with square newel posts are in excellent condition. The center foyer is supported by large square, wood columns, and matching pilasters are placed at intervals throughout the corridor. There are three pediments, one over each bay in the entrance foyer, arches over the corridor doorways, and the original hardwood floors.

McMaster School has experienced two architectural additions. The first, c. 1950, was a three-story addition at the north end of the east elevation which transformed the building's original H footprint plan into an L-shaped plan. Many of its features were designed to blend in with the original structure, including the brick coursing, the shape and size of windows, and a matching cornice on the far east end of the addition. The architects also incorporated the original arched entrances and keystone details. The second addition dates to 1969. It is a 4,700 square foot auditorium and rehearsal hall known as Fraser Hall. It is attached to the east end of the first addition by a breezeway. Fraser Hall is a solid brick cube with a concrete band at the roofline. The Fraser Hall addition was subsequently demolished in May 1997.

Despite these additions to the original structure, and the alterations of the facade in the form of the "McMaster College" sign and the installation of several window air conditioning units, McMaster School stands as a nearly intact representation of an early 20th century public school, and of the standardized school designs that were developed and distributed at that time.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 1

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

McMaster School in Columbia, South Carolina, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for its association with the campaign for educational reform that swept through the state in the first quarter of the twentieth century. It is also eligible under criterion C as an example of the style of school architecture and the standardized plans that were developed as a direct result of this campaign.

McMaster School was opened February 6, 1911. The official opening ceremonies were held on March 3, 1911, a result of a long struggle for the improvement of educational conditions and the beginning of a new era of educational progress and civic development. At the opening, Dr. Joynes, a member of the first Board of School Commissioners, read the following resolution adopted by the School Board on April 15, 1890, when Colonel F. W. McMaster was elected mayor of Columbia:

Colonel McMaster may justly be called the founder of public schools in Columbia. In the most depressed and straightened condition of the city, and through all changes of its fortunes, he has ever been the leading advocate of public schools. By this wise foresight and these devoted services, Col. McMaster has entitled himself to be regarded as a foremost benefactor of our community and to be forever remembered in connection with the foundation and early program of the public schools of our city.¹

McMaster School served the city of Columbia as a grammar school in Richland County School District One from 1911 to 1956. The structure was sold in 1960 to the University of South Carolina for \$168,800. On June 5, 1965 it was renamed McMaster College. In the fall of 1969, a 4700 square foot rehearsal hall was added to the rear and East end of McMaster College.²

In 1900, the State Superintendent's Office, in an attempt to create a more structured development process, recommended to the State legislature that a policy be implemented requiring the state and county boards to individually approve construction of all new schoolhouses within their jurisdiction.³ In 1905, the General Assembly passed an "Act to Encourage the Erection of Adequate Public School Buildings." This act linked the concept of schoolhouse consolidation to funding mechanisms, establishing the framework for a more efficient state educational system.⁴ The county boards were authorized to spend 5% of their total funds on building construction costs. Districts could raise money for their new school through various means, including private subscription, special taxes, regular taxes, sale of old buildings, and

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 3

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

issuing bonds.⁵ It was also in 1905 that a system of matching funds was launched to assist individual districts in improving building conditions. For every \$100 raised by the school district, the state would contribute an additional \$50 to the building fund.⁶

As a provision of the Building Act, standardized architectural designs were developed as a means of providing State regulation for schoolhouse construction. For any new school to secure aid under the act, it had to be built according to approved architectural designs. In 1905, the firm of Edwards and Walter of Columbia was contracted, under an act by the General Assembly, to draw up plans for sixteen school buildings of various sizes and costs.⁷ These plans were included in the text of the 1905 School Building Act, as a bulletin written by State Superintendent of Education, Oscar B. Martin, entitled School Improvement: Law, Design, and Suggestions for Schoolhouses.⁸ McMaster School was built by Edwards and Walter of Columbia in 1911, based on these plans. Plans were also developed by the Mechanical Department of Clemson College. These "Clemson Plans" were used extensively in rural areas between the years of 1910 and 1914, and were reissued again in 1917.

The city of Columbia was putting forth great effort towards school reform in this era, relying on the support of state legislation and the perseverance of a few determined citizens. The school district of Columbia was established as an act of the General Assembly, and was approved December 24, 1880.⁹ Immediately following this action, a few community leaders, among them, Fitz William McMaster, initiated a drive for a one mill tax levy to improve the overall educational program. Their efforts were thwarted by voters in both 1881 and 1882, largely because of the reluctance of the public to fund education for blacks.¹⁰ Finally in 1883, the taxpayers were convinced that the city needed a public school system.¹¹ The credit for enlightening the citizens, and encouraging them to pass the vote in 1883 belonged to Colonel McMaster, the first chairman of the Board of School Commissioners in Columbia. Dr. Joynes, a member of the board, writing in 1912, said, "This effort was achieved mainly through the influence of Colonel McMaster, who is now justly commemorated in the beautiful McMaster School Building, as the Father of Columbia Schools." Mr. Thomas, another board member, generously stated that "the auspicious opening of the new schools under the new law was due in a large measure to the energy, bold perseverance, and untiring devotion to the cause displayed by F. W. McMaster."¹²

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 4

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

In 1883, a grant from the Peabody Board, a northern philanthropy, helped provide the initial funding for the new school district and the salary for a Superintendent of City Schools. D. B. Johnson was hired as the first superintendent in 1883.¹³ The second Superintendent of Schools was E. S. Dreher, who served from 1895 until 1918. The most important developments of his administration were the establishment of Columbia High School in 1915 as a result of the High School Act of 1907, the building of several new schoolhouses, including Taylor and McMaster Schools, and the provision for increased financial support of public education. In his report to the board of 1901-2, Mr. Dreher said, "Our school buildings are, indeed, very poor, a fact which I have mentioned in my report from year to year. Small towns all over the state have well-constructed, modern schoolhouses others are issuing bonds for building purposes, but we Columbians have so far done nothing for the suitable accommodation of our school children."¹⁴ In support of his campaign for public support of school reform, he made an economic plea to the community, saying that "without adequate school buildings, the city was without one of the best advertising mediums known to the business world, and that the annual loss to the city in educational values, industrial achievement, improved economic conditions, increased prosperity, and honorable prestige cannot be estimated."¹⁵

Superintendent Dreher was a major figure in the school reform movement in Columbia. The first modern school building in Columbia was erected during his term, in 1906, the Taylor School. This was followed by McMaster School in 1911, Logan School in 1913, Blossom Street School in 1916, and Columbia High School in 1916. Today McMaster School remains as one of a handful of school structures left from this period. The building is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to its association with the educational reform campaign of the early 1900s, and as an example of the standardized plans that came out of the campaign.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 5

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

NOTES

- 1 The State (Columbia, South Carolina), 4 March 1911.
- 2 McMaster College Papers, University of South Carolina Archives, Columbia, South Carolina.
- 3 Michael C. Scardaville, "A Brief History of South Carolina Schools from 1895-1945," (Report, University of South Carolina, 1989), 15.
- 4 Ibid., 16
- 5 Susan Margaret Giaimo, "Health, Neatness, Comfort, Order and Beauty in the Schoolroom: The Campaign to Improve Material Conditions in South Carolina's Public Schools, 1903-1920," (MA Thesis, University of South Carolina, 1986), 21.
- 6 Scardaville, "A Brief History of South Carolina Schools," 7.
- 7 Ibid., 16
- 8 Giaimo, "Health, Neatness, Comfort, Order and Beauty," 63.
- 9 Orin F. Crow, "Public Schools" in Columbia: Capital City of South Carolina 1786-1936 ed. Helen Kohn Hennig (Columbia: R. L. Bryan Co., 1936), 117.
- 10 John Hammond Moore, Columbia and Richland Co.: A South Carolina Community 1740-1970. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1993), 241-243.
- 11 Walter B. Edgar and Deborah K. Wooley, Columbia: Portrait of a City, (Columbia: The Donning Company, 1986), 54.
- 12 Crow, "Public Schools," 121.
- 13 Edgar, Columbia: Portrait of a City, 54.
- 14 Crow, "Public Schools," 127-8.
- 15 Ibid., 129.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 1

McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 1

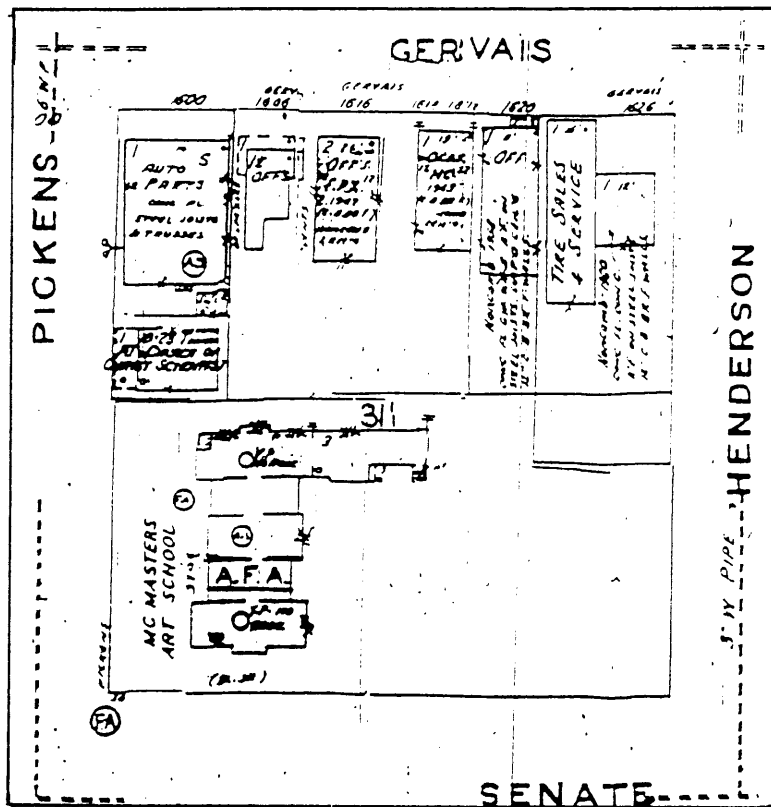
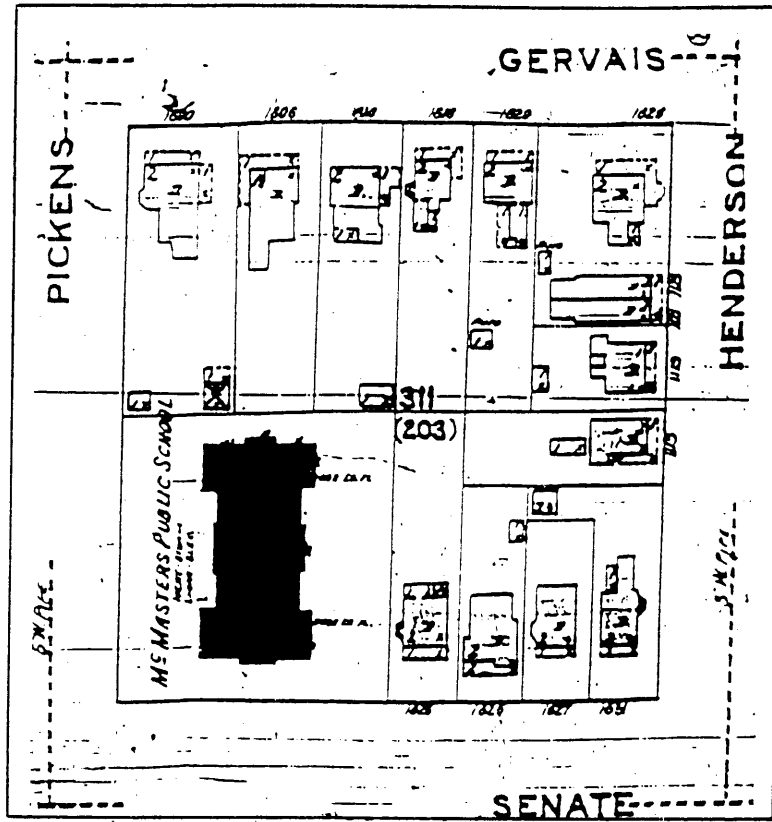
McMaster School
name of property
Richland County, South Carolina
county and State

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

". . . the McMaster School property, being rectangular in shape, and being bounded and measuring as follows: to the north by the property of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and others and measuring thereon four hundred twenty (420') feet . . . on the east by Henderson Street and measuring thereon two hundred ten (210') . . . on the south by Senate Street . . . on the west by Pickens Street . . ." (Deed book 275, Page 511)

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This is comprised of the lots purchased by the City of Columbia, School District One, in 1909. Five adjoining lots were acquired in 1925, to establish the current defined boundaries.



1919-Top, 1969-Bottom. Sanborn Map Co. Columbia, Richland Co. South Carolina. 1919, 1956 revised 1969.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000777

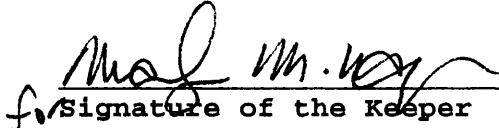
Date Listed: 7/25/97

McMaster School
Property Name

Richland SOUTH CAROLINA
County State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

9/2/97
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 3: This nomination is amended to show that the SHPO recommends that the property be considered significant at the local level.

Section No. 8: The period of significance is the single year of 1911.

Section No. 9: This property has not been previously determined eligible by the National Register.

These changes have been confirmed with the South Carolina SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)