

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

AK

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 McWhirter House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 415 Pacolet Street not for publication \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Jonesville vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
state South Carolina code SC county Union code 087 zip code 29353

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 2/20/03  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

Edson H. Beal 4-18-03  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

McWhirter House  
Name of Property

Union 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
1	2
	1
1	3

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

Subcategory: Single Dwelling

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Domestic

Subcategory: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
Classical Revival

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation Brick  
walls Wood  
roof Asphalt  
other

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

McWhirter House  
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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

1909

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Cunningham, Joseph

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 & History, Columbia

McWhirter House  
Name of Property

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting	Zone Easting	Northing	Northing
1 <u>17</u>	3 _____	<u>437678</u>	_____
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 Robert Benedict  
 organization Palmetto Preservation Works, LLC date 29 April 2002  
 street & number 411 Hampton Avenue telephone (864) 271-5220  
 city or town Greenville state SC zip code 29601

**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 Charles and Nellie Belue  
 street & number 415 Pacolet Street telephone (864) 674-6011  
 city or town Jonesville state SC zip code 29353

**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. 470 et seq.). **Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
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McWhirter House  
Name of Property  
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The McWhirter House is a highly distinctive Neoclassical residence built in 1909 at the corner of Pacolet Street and Hames Avenue in Jonesville, South Carolina. The design is attributed to Joseph Cunningham of Greenville, South Carolina, who was previously employed by J.E. Sirrine prior to becoming a principal architect in the firm of Cunningham and Cunningham. Joseph Cunningham also designed Jonesville High School and in 1907 married a Jonesville resident, Beulah Spears.<sup>1</sup> The design possesses many of the distinguishing characteristics of the Neoclassical style. The front facade of the house is dominated by a full-height porch supported by classical columns. It is symmetrically balanced with side porches accented with classical detailing. The design and craftsmanship convey an image of affluence and prominence associated with the McWhirter family at the time.

The McWhirter House is located on a 1.3 acre-lot three blocks from the business district of Jonesville. The immediate area is comprised of single-family and commercial buildings. Both non-historic and historic structures are within the neighborhood, including the earlier home of James and Hattie McWhirter, originally located at the site of the McWhirter's Neoclassical residence.<sup>2</sup> The earlier home was moved across Pacolet Street to its present location and has been subsequently altered.

The subject site has relatively level topography and the McWhirter House has a northern orientation, facing Pacolet Street. It consists of approximately 5,000 square feet on two levels over crawl space. The exterior is lapped wood siding and the foundation is brick. The symmetrical design has three bays with a full-height entry porch and side porches. The side porches are supported by paired Ionic columns and a low balustrade. The large classical columns supporting the front porch were slightly altered at an undetermined time with the removal of the Ionic capitals. The hipped roof has a distinctive gabled dormer above the front porch. The prominent, double front door is an Italianate design with a large, fan-shaped transom and sidelights. The windows are rectangular with double-hung sashes and one-over-one panes. A porte cochere is adjacent to the side porch on the west elevation of the house.

The opulent interior of the McWhirter House has a dramatic entry foyer with hardwood floors inlaid with an intricate Greek key pattern. The foyer has ornate wainscoting and mahogany Ionic columns adjacent to beveled mirrors that provide partial separation from the foyer and the rest of the central hall. The richly detailed stair balustrade and newel post are also made of mahogany. Pocket doors provide access to the living room and parlor from the entry foyer.

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<sup>1</sup> John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, *The South Carolina Architects 1885 – 1935: A Biographical Dictionary* (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1992), p. 82.

<sup>2</sup> *The Union Times* (Union, S.C.), 14 September 1909.

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McWhirter House

Name of Property

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The living room has distinctive crown molding and 12" base board. A truncated wall with a fireplace and Rococo Revival mantel provide the focal point of the living room. A Chicago window on the west side of the living room and a large, rectangular window provide plenty of light to this room. As throughout the house, the walls are plaster, ceiling heights are approximately 11 ½' and the floors are hardwood.

The dining room is accessed from the living room through pocket doors. The elaborate detailing of the dining room emphasizes its formal use. The walls are covered with an appropriate, reproduction wallpaper and picture railing in addition to the distinctive crown and base molding. The prominent dining room light fixture is original. A second dining room door leading to the central hall has a transom that is operational.

The parlor has a subtle Arts and Crafts theme with dark mahogany trim, an original Arts and Crafts-influenced light fixture, and mantel. The parlor is accessed through pocket doors from the entry foyer and has a separate outside entrance through double, Italianate doors accented with a beaded glass fan light. The parlor ceiling has dark, mahogany beams complementing the mahogany crown molding, door and window trim. Adjacent to the parlor is a study that is accessed from the central hall. The study door has a transom and is a six-paneled (horizontal panels) door. The study features a bay window and decorative paneled walls with picture railing.

The design of the second level provides a dramatic, initial impression similar to the central hall of the first level. The second floor hall has a curved balustrade at the stair landing beneath a large stained glass window. There are four upstairs bedrooms in addition to a master bedroom on the first level. One of the upstairs bedrooms has been converted to a billiards room by the current owners. All of the bedrooms have fireplaces with the original mantels (there are a total of nine fireplaces), crown molding and wood slat ceilings. The bedroom doors are six-panel (horizontal panels) with operational transoms like the dining room door. Most of the door and window hardware is original and the electrical wiring installed during construction of the house is still operational.

Alterations to the McWhirter House are minimal and have been sensitive to its historic character. The interior alterations have been largely limited to updating the kitchen and cosmetic upgrades in the two bathrooms. Some of the attic space has been converted into a children's playroom. However, the original attic staircase has been unaltered. Exterior alterations also have been sensitive and limited. Historic photographs reveal balustrades above the side porches and above the full-height entry porch that were removed at an undetermined date. A swimming pool, pool house and detached garage have been added within the backyard by the current owners and are noncontributing resources. Fencing and extensive landscaping minimize the visual impact of these additions. A small, rear deck and trellis also have been added to the rear of the house. All of the additions are compatible to the original, Neoclassical architectural design and have not compromised the integrity of the McWhirter House.

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McWhirter House  
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The McWhirter House is in the small community of Jonesville, South Carolina and is one of Union County's most important architectural and historical landmarks. It is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The McWhirter House is an excellent example of early twentieth century Neoclassical residential architecture. Built by Mrs. Hattie Fripp McWhirter in 1909, the house also is significant for its association with the McWhirter family who contributed greatly to the economic, social and civic life of Jonesville during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The prominence of the McWhirter family within the local community was reflected with this stately Neoclassical residence.

The McWhirter family played an influential role with the growth of Jonesville after it was formally incorporated in 1876. A native of Jonesville, James Lester McWhirter married Hattie Fripp of Charleston on December 4, 1879. James followed in his father's footsteps and became a local merchant when he inherited "much land and a great deal of money from his father" who had been a prominent merchant in Jonesville.<sup>3</sup> The McWhirters also prospered with their ownership positions or directorships in other local businesses that included Jonesville Drug Store, Jonesville Bank, the Enterprise Hotel, and Jonesville Manufacturing Company, formed in 1903 after a merger of Jonesville Knitting Mill and Alpha Cotton Mill.<sup>4</sup> James L. McWhirter also played an active role in local schools, churches and civic affairs. Unfortunately, he died unexpectedly on August 28, 1906, due to acute gastritis.<sup>5</sup>

Following the sudden death of James McWhirter, Hattie Fripp McWhirter and two of her two sons continued the family's legacy of civic and business prominence. Hattie also became known for her role within the local and state chapters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Daughters of the American Revolution.<sup>6</sup> Two sons, Charles and Ernest, also made significant contributions to the growth of Jonesville with their successful careers in banking, textiles and other businesses that included the Union Coca-Cola Bottling Company and Jonesville Oil Mill<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Will of Charles McWhirter, Will Book O, Pages 331-35, Union County Courthouse, Union, S.C.

<sup>4</sup> Charles, Allan D., *A Narrative History of Union County, S.C.*, (Spartanburg: The Reprint Co., Publishers, 1987), p. 153.

<sup>5</sup> J.L. McWhirter Obituary, *The Union Times* (Union, S.C.), 31 August 1906.

<sup>6</sup> Willie Southard Scott, "History of John Hames Chapter," *The Union Times*, 24 November 1916.

<sup>7</sup> "C.M. McWhirter Elected President," *The Union Times*, 21 September 1909.

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The prominent Neoclassical residence built by Hattie McWhirter in 1909 at the corner of Pacolet Street and Hames Avenue was symbolic of the family's affluence and stature in the community. The family had been residing at this same location and in August 1909, Hattie McWhirter arranged for the relocation of her existing home so that a more suitable residence designed by Joseph Cunningham could be built at the same site. Cunningham and his architectural firm, Cunningham and Cunningham of Greenville, designed numerous commercial and residential structures in the upstate of South Carolina including the distinctive Jonesville High School. The previous home owned by the McWhirters was rolled across the street and an article in the September 14, 1909, *Union Times* stated that once repaired the house "will be among the nicest residences in the town." Following the relocation of this residence, Hattie McWhirter had a stately Neoclassical house built on the same site as her earlier residence. It is the most architecturally significant house in Jonesville with highly distinctive exterior and interior detailing.

The McWhirter House possesses exceptional workmanship and the finest construction materials available at that time. It was one of the first homes in Union County to be equipped with electricity and the electrical switches are still operational today. It is architecturally significant as an excellent example of Neoclassical residential architecture with numerous design elements characteristic of this architectural style. The Neoclassical style emerged with the revival of interest in classical styles following the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893.<sup>8</sup> Subsequently, prominent architects and firms such as McKim, Mead and White designed many public buildings such as the Boston Public Library and Pennsylvania Station in New York City in the Neoclassical style.<sup>9</sup> Shortly thereafter, this revival of interest in the classical elements and the Neoclassical style also became popular with residential architecture. The McWhirter House has many of the characteristic Neoclassical elements such as the full-height porch supported by classical columns, symmetrical arrangement, and many of the other elaborate, exterior and interior details that made this architectural style popular until the 1920s.

The McWhirter House remained in the McWhirter family until the 1950s when the last surviving son, Allie, passed away. It was purchased in 1989 by Charles and Nellie Belue from a subsequent owner and has been extensively restored to its original prominence by the Belues.

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<sup>8</sup>Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1992), pp. 342-46.

<sup>9</sup>Leland M. Roth, *A Concise History of American Architecture* (New York, Hagerstown, San Francisco, London: Harper and Row, 1979), pp. 193-96.



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McWhirter House  
Name of Property  
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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the accompanying Union County Plat, from Plat Book 25, Page 206, drawn at a scale of 1" = 50'.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property is restricted to the historic house and the town lot on which it was constructed in 1909, and includes two modern noncontributing outbuildings and one modern noncontributing structure.

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McWhirter House  
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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: McWhirter House  
Location of Property: 415 Pacolet Street, Jonesville  
Union County, South Carolina  
Name of Photographer: Kevin Chastine  
Date of Photographs: 21 March 2002  
Location of Original Negatives: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

1. Facade
2. Facade and Right Elevations
3. Facade and Left Elevations
4. Left Elevation
5. Facade and Right Elevations
6. Right Elevation
7. Right and Rear Elevations
8. Rear Elevation
9. Facade Detail
10. Facade, Entrance detail
11. Facade, Door detail
12. Portico
13. Right Rear Elevation and Noncontributing Swimming Pool
14. Noncontributing Pool House
15. Entry Foyer
16. Central Hall
17. Living Room
18. Living Room
19. Entry Foyer
20. Central Hall (Rear of House)
21. Dining Room
22. Dining Room
23. Dining Room
24. Parlor
25. Parlor
26. Central Hall, facing Study
27. Study
28. Study
29. Master Bedroom
30. Master Bedroom
31. Kitchen
32. Kitchen

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

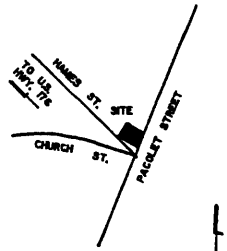
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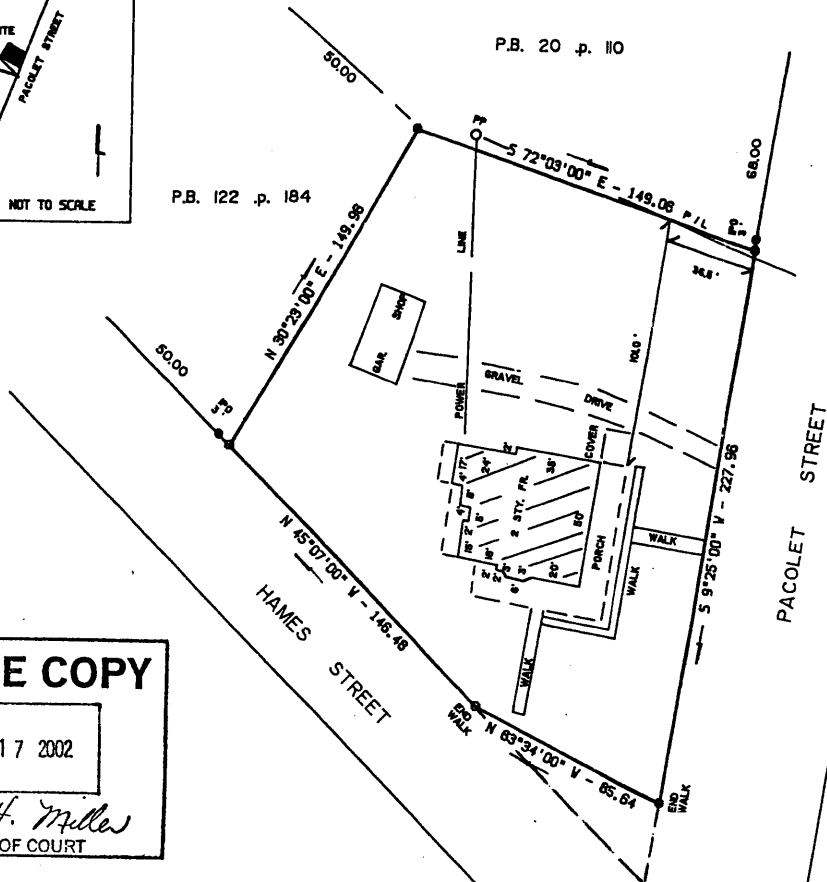
33. Second Floor Hall
34. Second Floor Hall
35. Curved Balustrade, Second Floor Hall
36. Billiards Room, Second Floor
37. Child's Bedroom, Second Floor
38. Child's Bedroom, Second Floor
39. Child's Bedroom, Second Floor
40. Child's Bedroom, Second Floor
41. Child's Bedroom, Second Floor
42. Child's Bedroom, Second Floor
43. Entry Foyer, First Floor, Detail
44. Entry Foyer, Stair Balustrade and Newel Post
45. Children's Playroom, formerly Attic
46. Inlaid Pattern on Hardwood Floors
47. Living Room Mantel
48. Parlor Mantel
49. Dining Room Mantel
50. Study Mantel
51. Child's Bedroom Mantel
52. Child's Bedroom Mantel
53. Child's Bedroom Mantel
54. Billiards Room Mantel
55. Master Bedroom Mantel
56. Upstairs Bathroom



VICINITY MAP - NOT TO SCALE

P.B. 122 p. 184

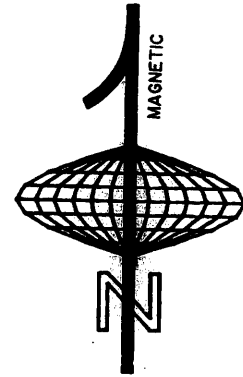
P.B. 20 p. 110



FILED FOR RECORD  
 '89 OCT 6 AM 10 29

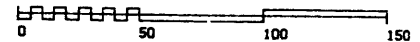
JAMES V. GREGORY, PLS  
 P.O. BOX 188, CAMPOBELLO, SC  
 REGISTRATION # 6329

JUNE H. MILLER  
 NOT IN FLOOD ZONE  
 CLERK OF COURT  
 UNION COUNTY, S.C.



TOTAL: .82 AC.

PLAT BOOK 25 PAGE 206



**A TRUE COPY**

JUN 17 2002

*June H. Miller*  
 CLERK OF COURT

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE MEASUREMENTS ARE CORRECT AND THERE ARE NO ENCROACHMENTS OR PROJECTIONS OTHER THAN SHOWN AND THAT THE RATIO OF PRECISION OF THE FIELD SURVEY IS 1/10,000 AREA WAS DETERMINED BY DMD METHOD.

*James V. Gregory*

CHARLES P. BELUE, JR. &  
 NELLIE M. BELUE

SCALE: 50 FEET/INCH	APPROVED BY: JVG	DRAWN BY: MLV
DATE: OCTOBER 2, 1989	<input type="checkbox"/> IRON PIN SET <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRON PIN FOUND	REVISED BY:

IN JONESVILLE  
 UNION COUNTY, SC

PAGE NO.

DRAWING NO.

P.B. 20 p. 110  
 P.B. 2 p. 36  
 D.B. 128 p. 528  
 D.B. 122 p. 184  
 D.B. 125 p. 245  
 BLK. MAP: 27-2-6-1

*A.D. Edge  
 PO Box 5045  
 Spartanburg, SC  
 29430v*