

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY FORM FOR

Fayetteville

MULTIPLE RESOURCE OR THEMATIC NOMINATION

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Mc Call House

AND/OR COMMON

Arsenal House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

822 Arsenal Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

7th

STATE

North Carolina

VICINITY OF

CODE

037

COUNTY

Cumberland

CODE

051

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED
- N/A

STATUS

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

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER : Arts Council

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Arts Council of Fayetteville-Cumberland County Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

822 Arsenal Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

VICINITY OF

STATE

North Carolina 28305

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2039

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

STATE

North Carolina 28302

6 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Linda Jasperse, Principal Investigator, City of Fayetteville

ORGANIZATION

Consultant for Survey and Planning Branch

DATE

March 31, 1982

STREET & NUMBER

Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones Street

TELEPHONE

1-919-733-6545

CITY OR TOWN

Raleigh

STATE

North Carolina 27611

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1972</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The one-story frame McCall House, named after its longtime occupants in this century, is an unusual landmark in Fayetteville's architectural landscape. The dwelling, which dates to the early 1860s, is distinguished by board-and-batten siding which stems from the picturesque traditions of mid-nineteenth century domestic architecture. Local tradition holds and architectural and historical evidence suggest that the structure was built as officer's quarters at the Fayetteville Arsenal site during the years of Confederate occupation. It is a rare period survival with features shared by only one other extant Arsenal-related building -- the non-commissioned officer's quarters-- now moved from the site. The dwelling has undergone extensive restoration coordinated by the Fayetteville Historic and Scenic Sites Committee and is being used as headquarters for the Fayetteville/Cumberland County Arts Council.

The McCall House is a diminutive one-story gable roof frame building with board-and-batten siding which rests on replacement brick piers. Its four bay front is shielded by a hip roof porch held aloft by chamfered posts with lamb's tongue and graced by a simple balustrade and rail. The asymmetrical four bay front consists of an off center double door, each half with four narrow recessed panels, topped by an eight light transom and flanked by 12/12 sash windows, one to the left of the door and two to the right. Window treatment is consistent throughout the two bay sides and four bay rear. Above, the gable roof with returns is skirted by a boxed cornice and is covered by shake shingles.

The east end of the building is a simple two bays across while the west end carries a shed which now houses restroom facilities. A rectangular louvered vent punctuates the west end gable peak. The rear facade matches the front except that the door is single with four recessed panels and is topped by a three-light transom.

Inside, a slightly off-center hall is flanked by two small rooms of equal size to the west and a single, oversized room to the east. Ghost marks indicate, however, that walls have been moved. Original features include wide, fairly even-width pine flooring and wide baseboards. A wooden-pegged four panel door leads into the large room. Windows have plain board surrounds with a single, narrow bead and plain sills. Wall covering is either plaster or a modern replacement. The main room, which is now outfitted with picture moldings and lighting fixtures to serve as gallery space, bears the only fireplace. Its mantel, with three rectangular panels below the shelf and flanking pilasters, is said to have come from a house called "Little Brompton" (c.1849) in Bladen County. It leads to a reconstructed interior end chimney.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

____ NATIONAL

____ STATE

LOCAL

PERIOD**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1862

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McCall House c. 1862 is a small one-story gable-roof building valued locally for both its historical and architectural importance. The building was originally associated with the Arsenal of Fayetteville, authorized in 1836 as a Federal facility of "deposite and general construction", and operated mainly as a repository throughout the 1840s and 1850s. It was taken over by Confederate troops in 1861, the first year of the Civil War. The McCall House, which derives its name from its mid-twentieth century owners who rescued the structure from disrepair and lived there, was constructed outside the arsenal walls during the period of Confederate occupation and is thought to have been originally used as general living quarters. It reflects the picturesque traditions of mid-nineteenth century architecture with its frame construction and board-and-batten siding, which may have been fairly typical for arsenal construction but are rare in Fayetteville's general architectural landscape. The house, moved a short distance and adaptively restored, now serves as headquarters for Fayetteville/Cumberland County Arts Council.

CRITERIA ASSESSMENT

- A. The McCall House is associated with the Confederate occupation of the North Carolina Arsenal, a site of major national historical importance in Fayetteville.
- C. A rare survival in Fayetteville, the house reflects the picturesque traditions of mid-nineteenth century domestic architecture with its board-and-batten siding and diminutive construction.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The McCall House is valued by local residents because of its associations with the Arsenal site in Haymount. This site was of major importance during the antebellum and Civil War periods. After being authorized by Congress in 1836 as an "arsenal of deposite and general construction," the facility's main buildings began to be erected in 1838.¹ Over the years, this resulted in a sizeable walled complex with towers at each of four corners, a main arsenal building, officer's quarters, and various stores and shops.² Although the facility was not used by the Federal government as much more than a storage facility, it was transformed in a full-fledged arsenal of construction after being taken over by Confederate troops in the early Civil War years.³

New construction occurred during the period of Confederate occupation, much of which, like foundries, timber stores, engine rooms, and officer's quarters, were free-standing and located outside of the Arsenal walls.⁴ Most of these buildings were destroyed by General William Tecumseh Sherman's army during his visit to Fayetteville in 1865.⁵ Scattered dwellings or quarters were left standing, as is described in this contemporary account:

"Raynsford arrived at Fayetteville on the 19th aboard the North Carolina, and found the arsenal: ...a complete mass of ruin. There are but two small frame buildings standing. These are occupied by families. There were no small arms..."⁶

The McCall House is thought to be one of these buildings marked on a map drawn by Young Ordnance Officer Jasper Myers just before the 1865 destruction of the facility. It is shown as a small wooden building built in 1862 and located a short distance from the southwest tower near Talcott--now Branson Street.⁷

After the war was over, Congress passed acts on 10 June 1872 and 3 March 1873 authorizing the sale of Arsenal lands. The sale was performed by J. D. Cameron, Secretary of War, on 17 June 1873, and involved five major grantees, W. D. Smith, E. J. Lilly, Henry Lilly, J. D. Williams, and M. Utley. They, in turn, parceled, traded, and sold lots so that their holdings changed considerably by the turn of the century.⁸

A formal survey marked "North Carolina Arsenal" done by D. G. McDuffie in 1890 shows how the lands were neatly parceled and who owned them. The map

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

^BBarrett, John G. Sherman's March Through the Carolinas. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1956.

CAI Preservation Consultants, Alexandria, Virginia. "The North Carolina Arsenal, Fayetteville, North Carolina." (Report prepared for the Division of Archives and History, State of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, June, 1973).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Cumberland County Records: Deeds.

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre.

UTM REFERENCES

1 7 / 6 9 2 0 5 0 / 3 8 8 0 9 8 0

A [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

D [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Part of Block I (First tract as described in Deed Book 2260, Page 31, Cumberland County Deeds), Map 62-1-4, Cross Creek Township, as outlined in red on map. See map section.

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

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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depicts lands in the shape of a trapezoid marked with the notations "Lot #33" and "J.D.W." (for J. D. Williams) bordering modern day Branson Street.⁹ The McCall House, before being moved to its present, protected site, was located at 818 Branson Street on this lot #33. Indeed, title transfers make reference to the boundaries of the 8/10ths acre parcel which went along with the house as "Beginning at a post, the NE corner of lot No. 33 of Arsenal property" and continuing around to enclose a portion of it.¹⁰

The property underwent several transfers before being obtained by J. D. Jones and his brother-in-law, Edgar Allan Poe, in 1926.¹¹ They retained the property and allotted it to J. D. Jones's daughter and son-in-law, Joseph and Josephine McCall, for home use. The McCalls, who owned and operated the Carolina Grocery Company, rescued the former Arsenal house from disrepair, made it habitable, and lived there throughout the 1950s and 1960s.¹² In 1965, they obtained official title from Josephine's mother, Josephine Poe Jones.¹³

More recently, the house had to be rescued again when a proposed highway project threatened it. In 1967, owners Josephine Jones McCall and Joe D. McCall surrendered right and title to the State Highway Commission for the extension of the nearby Central Business District Loop.¹⁴ Five years later, Fayetteville's Historic and Scenic Sites Committee endeavored to relocate, preserve, and restore the historic building. Moved to a wedge-shaped city-owned lot approximately one-quarter mile north of its original location, the McCall House now serves as headquarters for the Arts Council of Fayetteville-Cumberland County, Inc.¹⁵ It is among the last tangible links with a period of immense importance in Fayetteville's history.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Reference Notes :

¹CAI, Preservation Consultants, Alexandria, Virginia, "The North Carolina Arsenal, Fayetteville, North Carolina" (Report prepared for the Division of Archives and History, State of North Carolina, Raleigh, North Carolina, June 1973), Vol. I, 19, 23, 70, hereinafter cited as CAI, Preservation Consultants, "Arsenal."

²CAI, Preservation Consultants, "Arsenal", Vol. I, 45-46, 177; Vol II, 361: Appendix M, "Artist's Conception of North Carolina Arsenal Enclosure, ca. 1862."

³CAI, Preservation Consultants, "Arsenal", Vol. I, 209.

⁴CAI, Preservation Consultants, "Arsenal", Vol. II, 355.

⁵John G. Barrett, Sherman's March Through the Carolinas (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1956), 134, 140, 142-144, 146-147.

⁶CAI, Preservation Consultants, "Arsenal", Vol. II, 466.

⁷CAI, Preservation Consultants, "Arsenal", Vol. II, 355.

⁸J. D. Cameron, Secretary of War, to W. D. Smith and others, 17 June 1873, Cumberland County Deeds, Book 68, Page 650, Office of the Register of Deeds, Cumberland County Courthouse, Fayetteville, North Carolina, hereinafter cited as Cumberland County Deeds.

⁹Cumberland County Deeds, Book 88, Page 486.

¹⁰Cumberland County Deeds, Book 1136, Page 41.

¹¹Cumberland County Deeds, Book 331, Page 32.

¹²Fayetteville City Directories: 1951, p. 286; 1967, Directory II, pg. 448.

¹³Cumberland County Deeds, Book 1136, Page 41.

¹⁴Cumberland County Deeds, Book 2049, Page 397.

¹⁵Cumberland County Deeds, Book 2260, Page 31.

