

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received APR 30 1984  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic McDonald, R. A. House

and/or common  McDonald-Bolner House (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 400 South Elk Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Fayetteville N/A vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Lincoln code 103

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Thomas E. Bolner, and wife Anne U. Bolner

street & number 400 South Elk Avenue

city, town Fayetteville N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37334

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register's Office, Courthouse

street & number Public Square

city, town Fayetteville state Tennessee 37334

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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

The McDonald-Bolner House is located in south central Tennessee at 400 S. Elk Avenue in the Lincoln County seat of Fayetteville (pop. 7,764), two blocks south of the Courthouse Square. The c. 1859 Gothic Revival house is a one-and-one-half-story brick structure situated in a residential area of houses dating from approximately 1820 to 1920. The building is distinguished by large one-and-one-half-story Gothic porches on its north and west elevations. The house retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

Facing west at the southeast corner of Elk and Maple, the McDonald-Bolner House sits on a quarter acre lot which slopes down from the front of the property to the rear. The yard is informally landscaped with boxwoods and young trees. There is a brick wall along the south and east boundaries which encloses a 1965 swimming pool to the south of the house.

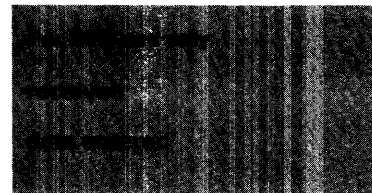
The Gothic Revival building is a gable-roofed, one-and-one-half-story structure on a full raised basement. With the open end of the building's U-shaped plan placed to the rear (east) edge of the property, the two prominent front (west) and north elevations have the most architectural detailing. The front facade has three bays with a gabled central porch flanked by long casement windows having pointed arches and cast iron balconets. The front of the wooden porch has three pointed arches with heavy moldings supported by simple square pillars. The exterior treatment of the porch chamber consists of long narrow panels with a large pointed-arch window and a wide, bracketed gable cornice. The porch is placed between the two gable ends of the front facade which have pointed-arch windows and similar bracketed cornices. The porch on the four-bay north facade is similar to the front porch but has three segmental arches and has recently been enclosed with glass. The porch is flanked by long casement windows with pointed arches and metal hood moulds.

The two-bay south elevation also has long casement windows with pointed arches and metal hood moulds. Below each of these two windows is a simple flat-arched window. The east (rear) elevation of the house was altered around 1919 when a simple one-story brick kitchen was added.

The entrance from the front (west) porch leads into a wide central hall flanked on the north by one room and a side hall, containing the staircase to the second floor, and on the south by two rooms. Off of the side hall are an additional two original interconnecting rooms. Attached to the rear of the house are the two rooms of the c. 1919 addition. The first floor retains its original paneled walnut doors as well as architrave window and door surrounds. The staircase has an ornate hexagonal newel post and turned balusters. The second floor has a similar room arrangement to the first. The house has four interior chimneys serving eight fireplaces with simple trabeated mantels. The second floor and basement have been converted into two apartments each without significantly altering their character.

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The only outbuilding is a possibly nineteenth-century one-story brick structure with a gable roof. It is not known what purpose the building served.

Restoration plans include the removal of the c. 1919 addition, the repair and restoration of the early outbuilding, and renovation of the interior.

# 8. Significance

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance—Check and justify below</b>			
<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 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 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		

<b>Specific dates</b>	c. 1859	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown
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**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The McDonald-Bolner House is nominated under National Register criterion C for its architectural significance to Lincoln County and south central Tennessee. Constructed c. 1859, the house has a regionally unique exterior design in the Gothic Revival style. Although there are some examples of Carpenter Gothic buildings in this architecturally rich regional of Tennessee, the McDonald-Bolner House with its heavy, massive details is the only brick Gothic Revival residence in the area.

The house was built around 1859 for R. A. McDonald and his wife, Martha Cordelia McKinney. Twenty-two years older than his wife, McDonald was a wealthy farmer and a cotton factor. According to tradition, the house was a wedding gift from Dr. R. R. McKinney to his eldest daughter, Martha Cordelia. The doctor and his brother both practiced medicine in the community and were widely respected. R. R. McKinney had several children and his eldest daughter was his favorite. McDonald died in 1872, and his wife soon sold the house. Throughout the rest of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, the house had several owners until being bought by the current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Bolner in 1959.

The McDonald-Bolner House is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival architecture in south central Tennessee. The quality of its design and craftsmanship can be seen in its very detailed porches, pointed-arch windows, and interior moldings, doors, and staircase. The massive character of the porches show the influence of the developing Victorian Gothic taste rather than the lighter qualities of the Carpenter Gothic style. No information on the origin of the design for the house has been found.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Fayetteville, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 16 539220 3889480  
Zone Easting Northing

B           
Zone Easting Northing

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The property is bounded on the west by S. Elk Ave., the north by E. Maple St., and on the east and south by adjoining property lines. The nomination includes only the 1/4 acre currently conveyed with the house. This is the minimal land needed to protect the architectural and historical integrity of the house.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Anne U. Bolner Lloyd Ostby		
organization	N/A Tennessee Historical Commission	date	February 1982 January 1984
street & number	3848 Piast Lake 701 Broadway	telephone	(615) 366-6324 (615) 742-6723
city or town	Nashville	state	Tennessee 37217 Tennessee 37203

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hays

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 4/25/84

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 5-31-84

John A. ...  
Keeper of the National Register

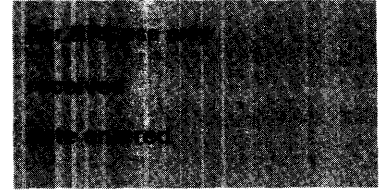
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Major Bibliographical References:

Fayetteville, Tennessee, Lincoln County Register's Office. Deed Book A-2  
and Trust Deed Book K-2.

\_\_\_\_\_ Trustee's Office. Tax Book 1846-50.

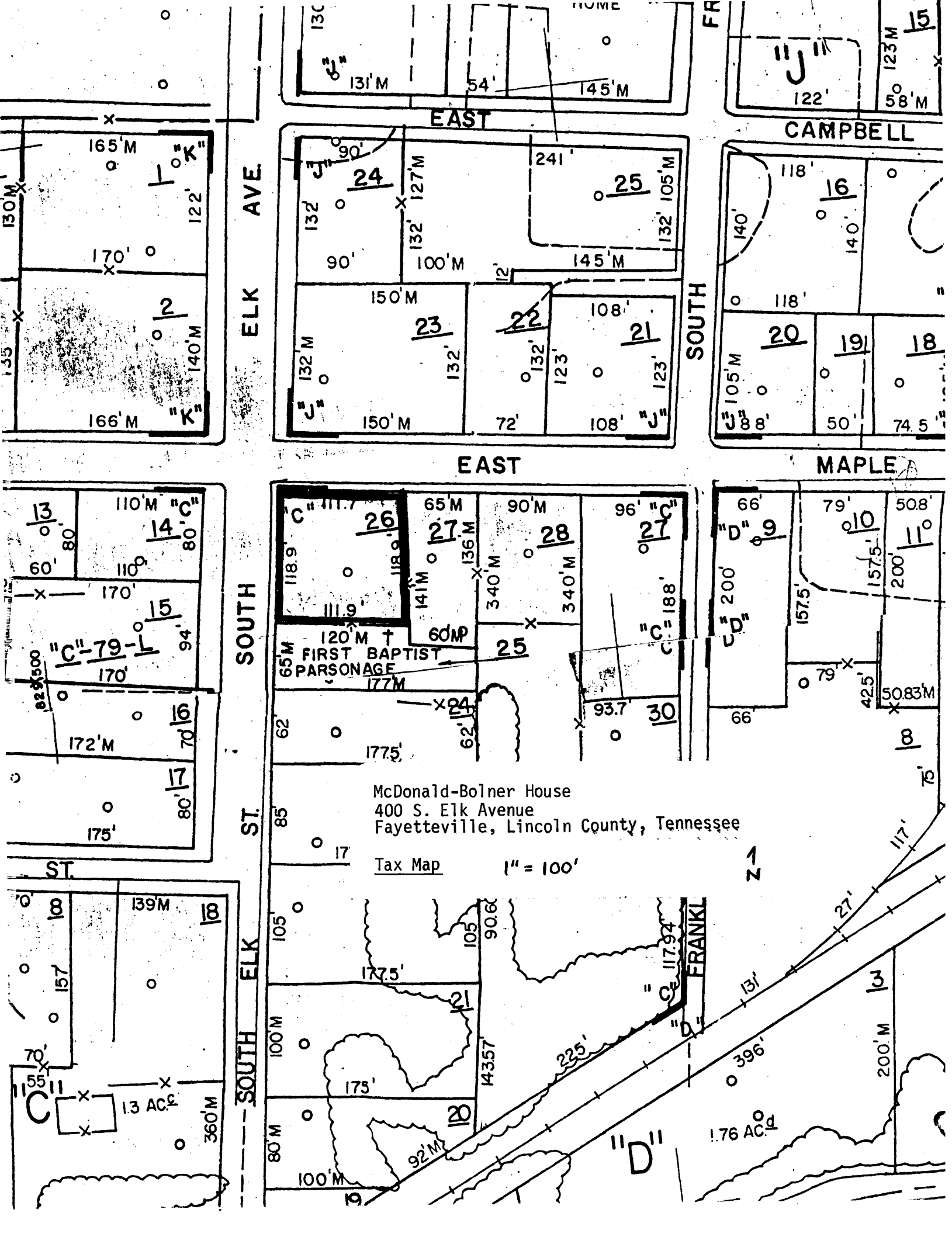
Fayetteville (Tennessee) Observer. November 6, 1859.

Marsh, Helen C. and Marsh, Timothy R. Lincoln County, Tennessee Official Marriage  
Records 1838-1880. Shelbyville, Tennessee: Marsh Historical Publications, 1974.

Nashville, Tennessee. Tennessee State Library and Archives. Supreme Court Records.  
Martha C. McDonald vs. D. M. Perkins, Trustee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Population Schedules for 7th and 8th U. S. Census. Lincoln County,  
Tennessee. 8th District.

Tucker, Mabel Abbot and Waller, Jane Warren, comp. Lincoln County, Tennessee Bible  
Records. Batavia, Ill.: Lincoln County, Tennessee, Pioneers. 1972.



ELK AVE

SOUTH

EAST

CAMPBELL

EAST

MAPLE

SOUTH

ST.

SOUTH ELK

FRANKL

McDonald-Bolner House  
400 S. Elk Avenue  
Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tennessee

Tax Map 1" = 100'

1.3 AC.

1.76 AC.

