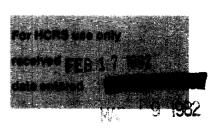
United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form





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4. Own	er of l	Propert	ty		
name	Linus	and Leonor	e Williams		
street & number	Route	5, Box 145	, S. C. Highway 14	1	
city, town	Greer		X vicinity of	state S	outh Carolina 2965
5. Loca	ation o	f Lega	l Descripti	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds,	etc. Gro	eenville County Co	ourthouse	
street & number		Eas	st North Street		
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7. Description

1

Located approximately six miles east of Greenville, South Carolina, the Arthur Barnwell House is reputed to have been built between 1880 and 1900 by the Pelham Manufacturing Company as a residence for its first president, in conjunction with Pelham Mills. The house is the only local example of the Queen Anne style.

Exterior: The Arthur Barnwell House is a two-and-one-half-story wood frame residence supported by a brick pier foundation. Its irregular plan features two two-story polygonal bays projecting opposite each other on the northeast and southwest elevations and a one-story kitchen ell projecting from the northwest elevation.

The house is sheathed in shiplap siding and has a steep gable roof. Exterior decorative features include white-painted horizontal and vertical boards contrasting with the yellow siding, which serve to define and delineate the fenestration of the first and second stories. Two interior and one exterior brick chimneys are located on the main block of the house. The roofing is modern composition shingle over the original metal roof.

The facade (southeast elevation) is composed beneath a broad gable end. A one-story porch with an attached gazebo wraps around the facade. The double front doors are located on the left side of the facade; these doors have multi-paned colored glass lights. Two full length two-over-four windows are located to the right of the doors. The facade's second story features a small porch recessed beneath a Florentine arch on the left side and two two-over-two windows on the right side. The porch has two French doors and a stickwork balustrade. The attic story features a triple window with two-over-two light components.

The northeast elevation includes two full-length two-over-four light windows beneath the wraparound porch, the two-story polygonal bay, and a small round arched window corresponding to a secondary interior stair. The southwest elevation features a decorative colored glass window on each story, corresponding with the primary interior stair. A small shed-roofed bathroom projects from the left side of the polygonal bay on this elevation. The rear of the house includes the rear gable end of the main block and the kitchen ell.

Exterior alterations are minimal and include the recent addition of a deck and screened porch projecting from the north and northeast side of the kitchen ell. A decorative bargeboard was removed from the gable end of the facade. The foundation framing indicates that the kitchen ell was added after the construction of the house; one account indicates that this was done before 1923.

<u>Interior</u>: The entrance hall features yellow pine wainscoting and a curved staircase with a carved newel post. The primary parlor with its arched entranceway is located to the right side of the entrance hall. The window sash of the facade windows can be raised into pockets above the ceiling, allowing access to the front porch. The room has a corner fireplace with a carved mantelpiece.

An arched doorway on the northwest end of the parlor leads into the library. A bay projects from the northeast end of this room. The corner fireplace has been enclosed.

At the rear of the entrance hall a door leads into a secondary parlor. A bay projects from the southwest end of this room. The corner mantelpiece in this room is a replacement, the original having been removed and stored. The library and secondary parlor are adjoined by a common door.

8. Significance

1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	literature military music philosophy	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation Local History
Specific dates	ca 1990 1000	Builder/Architect Inknow	wn	LUCAT ITISCOTY

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Arthur Barnwell House is located approximately six miles east of Greenville, South Carolina, on the opposite bank of the Enoree River from the mill village of Pelham and the ruins of the Pelham factory. The house is believed to have been built between 1880 and 1900 by the Pelham Manufacturing Company as a residence for its president, Arthur Barnwell. The Arthur Barnwell House is significant for its association with the development of Pelham Mills, a cotton factory established in the 1880s. In addition, it is architecturally significant as the only local example of the Queen Anne style.

Additional Information:

In 1880 and 1881 the Pelham Manufacturing Company purchased land which was formerly part of the Buena Vista (or Lester) Cotton Factory property; the land was located on both sides of the Enoree River in Greenville and Spartanburg Counties. The property in Greenville County, purchased in May 1880, contained the factory and included the present site of the Arthur Barnwell House. In 1882 the charter of the Pelham Manufacturing Company was amended to change its name to "The Pelham Mills" and to incorporate the company for the purpose of "manufacturing, spinning, dyeing, printing, and finishing and selling all goods of every description or kind made of wool or cotton... In 1882 the company was operating with 2032 spindles and sixty hands. In 1895 Pelham Mills employed 250 operatives and was spinning yarn on 10,000 spindles.

According to local tradition, Pelham Mills constructed the Arthur Barnwell House on the southeast bank of the river (Greenville County) as a residence for Arthur Barnwell. Arthur Barnwell (1845-1918), who was the son of Edward Barnwell III, a wealthy Charleston (South Carolina) factor and planter, was a commission merchant with Arthur Barnwell and Company of Charleston and a resident of that city. He was listed as one of the directors and stockholders of the Pelham Manufacturing Company, when its charter was amended in 1882. In 1890 he was listed as the president of the mills. Since a publication of January 1901 listed Barnwell as president of Pelham Mills and a resident of Pelham, the house is believed to have been constructed between the time of the purchase of the land by the company in 1880 and 1900. The Queen Anne elements used in the design of the building lend support to this range for the construction date.

In 1907 Pelham Mills, with Arthur Barnwell as president, had 10,752 spindles and employed 300 workers. 9 In 1917 the mills were still under the direction of Barnwell, who died in 1918. 10 Pelham Mills remained in operation until June 1935. The mill buildings and warehouse burned in 1941. 11 The mill village, including workers' housing, store, and company office, and mill ruins are located on the opposite bank of the Enoree River from the Arthur Barnwell House.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet



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United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet 1

Item number 7

Page 1

Entrance into the dining room in the rear of the house is made from the library. The dining room features a mantelpiece with a ball and spindle design, and oak wainscoting. An early bathroom is located between the secondary parlor and dining room. Beyond the dining room is the secondary stair and the kitchen wing.

The second floor consists of a winding central hall with yellow pine wainscoting. The hall is flanked on the northeast side by two bedrooms and one early bathroom. Two bedrooms are located on the southwest side of the hall. A small chamber at the front end of the hall leads into the second story recessed porch.

The secondary stair leads to the attic story and a room which contained the original large wooden cistern, which was for bathroom and household use. Water was pumped to the cistern by a windmill, which is no longer standing. In 1973 the cistern was converted into a modern bath, and the attic floor was divided into three rooms.

The interior of the Arthur Barnwell House has undergone minimal alterations and retains most of the original woodwork, doors, hardware, and early electrical light fixtures. In 1915 maple flooring was laid over the earlier oak flooring.

<u>Surroundings</u>: Located a short distance north of the house and within the nominated acreage, the barn is supported by a raised brick foundation with common bond and round arch ventilation openings. The barn has mortise and tenon frame construction, a cross gable roof with monitor, and weatherboard and shingle wall covering. It has a raised seam metal roof covering.

A driveway on the property leads from South Carolina Highway 14 to a circle surrounded by old boxwoods in front of the house. The house is situated to the rear of a two acre yard; the remaining 6.86 acres of the 8.86 acres nominated consist of pasture. The property nominated also includes a small stone dam located in a creek bed and foundations of former outbuildings.

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet 2

Item number

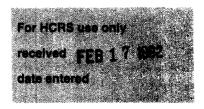
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Architecture:

The Arthur Barnwell House, which has remained basically unaltered since its construction, is the only local example of the Queen Anne style. The irregular, picturesque plan and massing, the asymmetrical fenestration, and the projecting polygonal bays are characteristic of the style. The breaking of the plane of the facade with a recessed porch, and the enrichment of the wall surfaces with applied contrasting board trim, are also representative of the arrhythmic aberrations of Queen Anne design. The early wood frame barn, built around the time of the construction of the house, is one of the earliest known barns that survives in the locality.

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

3

Item number

9

Page 1

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Footnotes

- ¹Greenville County Deed Book KK, p. 579, Greenville County Clerk of Court, Greenville, S. C.; Spartanburg County Deed Book RR, pp. 217, 219, 221, 569 and Deed Book SS, p. 139, Spartanburg County Clerk of Court, Spartanburg, S.C.; Board of Commissioners of the Department of Agriculture of South Carolina, The Cotton Mills of South Carolina (Charleston, S. C.: News and Courier Presses, 1880), p. 12.
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- ³State Board of Agriculture, <u>South Carolina</u>: <u>Resources and Population</u>, <u>Institutions and Industries</u> (Charleston, S.C.: Walker, Evans, and Cogswell, <u>Printers</u>, 1883), pp. 581-583.
- ⁴Charles Dubose DeLorme, Jr., "Development of the Textile Industry in Spartanburg County from 1816 to 1900" (M.A. thesis, University of South Carolina, 1963), pp. 90-91.
- ⁵Stephen B. Barnwell, <u>The Story of an American Family</u> (Marquette, Mich.: by the author, 1969), pp. 83-85, pp. 244-246; Charleston / S.C./ City Directories 1874-75, pp. 8; 1882, pp. 116, 172; 1886, pp. 92, 610; <u>Tenth Federal Census</u>, 1880: <u>South Carolina</u> (n.p.: microfilmed by Bureau of Census, n.d.), Charleston County, enumeration district no. 54, p. 21.
 - ⁶Acts and Joint Resolutions, 1882, p. 24.
- ⁷Edward P. McKissick, A Story of Spartan Push: The Greatest Cotton Manufacturing Centre in the South, n.p., n.p., ca. 1890, pp. 22-23.
- ⁸A. S. Salley, Jr., ed., "Barnwell of South Carolina," <u>South Carolina Historical Magazine 2 (January 1901): 65.</u>
- August Kohn, The Cotton Mills of South Carolina, 1907 (Charleston, S. C.: Daggett Printing Company, 1907), pp. 88,94,216.
- ¹⁰Greenville County Deed Book 52, p. 5, Greenville County Clerk of Court; Barnwell, p. 85.
 - 11 Interview with Furman Ross, Greer, South Carolina, February 1980.

