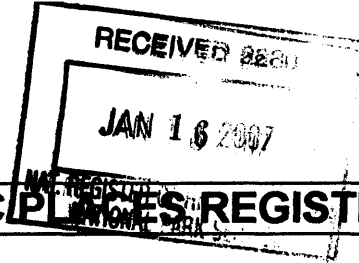


87



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name McRae, Max and Emma Sue, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 405 South Second Avenue
city, town McRae () vicinity of
county Telfair code GA 271
state Georgia code GA zip code 31055

() not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

| | | |
|------------|---|---|
| buildings | 3 | 0 |
| sites | 0 | 0 |
| structures | 0 | 1 |
| objects | 0 | 0 |
| total | 3 | 1 |

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Richard Clowes
Signature of certifying official

1-9-07
Date

W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall 3-1-07

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

for
Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVIALS: Neoclassical Revival

Materials:

foundation BRICK
walls WOOD: weatherboard
roof ASPHALT
other N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Max and Emma Sue McRae House is located in downtown McRae, the county seat of Telfair County in central Georgia. The 1897 two-story, frame, Neoclassical Revival-style house has a monumental two-story portico with monumental square columns and pilasters supporting a heavy entablature with dentil molding. There is a one-story porch with four square columns on each side façade. The house has a hip roof with dormers and interior corbelled chimneys. The front façade is symmetrical and has a central entrance with Doric columns supporting an entablature and a second-story balcony. The paneled wood door has a transom and heavy door surround. The interior plan of the house is unusual for its architectural type. Instead of the more common Georgian plan for a classically inspired house, the house has a Queen Anne house plan with a large foyer with main staircase and a parlor and a hall with two rooms (dining and drawing rooms) to the rear of the main block. There is a second staircase, kitchen, and butler's pantry at the rear of the house. The house retains its original Neoclassical-style interior finishes with plaster walls, elaborate moldings, hardwood floors and doors, and elaborate mantelpieces. The second floor has a foyer, trunk room, and four original bedrooms. Changes to the house include replacing the original wood Ionic columns with the current stucco-over-brick columns in the 1940s, and a two-story addition was made to the rear of the house in the 1970s. The addition consists of a library, utility room, and bath on the first floor, and sitting room and storage room on the second floor.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7--Description

FULL DESCRIPTION

NOTE: The following description was prepared by Carl and Patricia Maneely, property owners, and edited by Gretchen Brock, National Register Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division. "Max and Emma Sue McRae House," Historic Property Information Form, May 2, 2005. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Max and Emma Sue McRae House is situated on a one-acre lot in the small town of McRae in south central Georgia. The rectangular, two-story, Neoclassical Revival-style house is distinguished by a large, two-story portico with four square columns and two pilasters and a one-story side porch on each side façade (photographs 1-3).

The foundation of the house is brick with a stucco finish and raises the house approximately three feet above grade. The weatherboard and framing were cut from Charles B. Parker's Long View Plantation when the house was constructed in 1897. The house has a symmetrical front façade with a two-story monumental portico supporting a heavy entablature with dentil molding. The central front door has a classical door surround with Doric columns supporting an entablature with a balcony above and a transom above the wood door (photographs 2 and 4). On the first floor, tripartite one-over-one sash windows flank the entrance. The second floor, there is a central balcony that leads to double French doors with single one-over-one sash windows on either side (photograph 2). On each side of the house is a one-story porch with square columns that support a heavy entablature with dentil molding (photographs 6 and 7).

The interior plan of the house is unusual for its architectural type. Instead of the more common Georgian plan for a classically inspired house, the house has a Queen Anne house plan with a large foyer with main staircase and a parlor and a hall with two rooms (dining and drawing rooms) to the rear of the main block. The entrance foyer retains its historic wainscoting, chair rail molding, and door and window surrounds (photographs 13 and 14). The floors in the foyer, parlor, and dining room are oak parquet floors that are inlaid with two walnut borders. There is a cantilevered dogleg staircase with an elaborate newel post and paired, turned balusters. The first landing of the staircase is also accentuated by a full-height arch. The interior off-center chimney services the foyer, parlor, and dining room. The mantelpiece in the foyer is an elaborate Neoclassical Revival-style overmantle with a mirror, Ionic columns, and carved decoration. There is a pair of French doors with sidelights and a large diamond-paned transom that leads into the hall at the rear of the foyer (photograph 14). To the right of the foyer through a set of pocket doors is the parlor. A pair of pocket doors also leads from parlor into the dining room (photograph 15). The fireplace in the parlor has a simple mantle with an elaborate overmantle with stylized Corinthian columns supporting small shelves and a mirror set within a carved wood frame. The dining room fireplace has a curved wood mantle with a mirror and an elaborate overmantle featuring tall Composite columns set on carved bases that support a wide shelf with a carved frieze (photograph 16). The dining room retains its historic wainscoting, chair rail and picture rail molding, and paneled doors. To the rear of the dining

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 7—Description

room is the butler's pantry that has an arched doorway leading into the kitchen (photograph 17).

On the opposite side of the central hall from the dining room is the drawing room (photograph 18). The drawing room and central hall have quarter-sawn oak floors. The fireplace in the drawing room has a simple mantle. The drawing room retains its original door and window surrounds, picture rail, and baseboards. At the rear of the central hall is the rear staircase, which is across from the butler's pantry. The rear staircase has paired, turned balusters and simple square newel posts topped by a round wood knob.

On the second floor at the top of the main staircase is an elaborate wood screen with diamond-paned casement windows and transoms (photograph 20), which partially screens the second floor foyer from the stairs.

The second-floor plan mirrors the first-floor plan with a foyer and front bedroom and a center hall with rooms on either side. The bedrooms all retain their original mantles, door and window surrounds, picture rail and crown moldings, and paneled doors and hardware (photographs 21, 23, and 24).

Changes to the house have been minimal. In the 1940s, the original wood portico columns were replaced by the square brick columns covered with stucco and the portico balustrade was removed on the exterior, and on the interior, a full bath was installed on the second floor. In the 1970s a compatible and clearly defined, modern two-story addition was built to the rear of the main house, which replaced a two-story rear porch (photographs 9 and 10). The addition houses a library, bath, and utility room on the first floor and sunroom and storage on the second floor (photograph 25).

There are two historic outbuildings on the property: an early 1900s gardening shed with weatherboard siding and a gable roof and a 1930s wood garage (photographs 11 and 12). There is one noncontributing structure, a modern swimming pool.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance:

1897

Significant Dates:

1897—construction of the house

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

N/A

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8—Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

Construction on the Max and Emma Sue McRae House began in 1897 as a wedding present by Charles Benton Parker (1836-1919), the uncle and guardian of Emma Sue Griffith. Parker was a prominent citizen of McRae, was the founder of the town's first bank, and owned a prosperous naval stores company and a large plantation called Long View. Ms. Griffith (1875-1972) was born in Virginia and moved to Georgia at the age of five to live with her uncle. She received a degree in voice from Cox College and married Max McRae in 1898. Max McRae (1875-1951) was a lawyer and served as an officer in the Spanish American War. He was elected to the Georgia legislature as a representative at the age of 23. McRae held numerous public offices during his career including mayor of McRae, judge, state highway commissioner, and chairman of the draft board for both world wars. He also had extensive business interests in McRae including the Empire Cottonseed Plant, a peach distribution company, wholesale grocery, an insurance company, and several farms.

The Max and Emma Sue McRae House is significant in the area of architecture as an excellent example of the Neoclassical Revival style in Georgia. According to *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*, the Neoclassical Revival style was very popular in Georgia during the late 19th through the early 20th centuries and nearly every town across the state has at least one example. Character-defining features of the Neoclassical Revival style that are exemplified by the McRae House are the monumental front portico, entablature with dentils, side porches supported by columns, and symmetrical façade. The interior plan of the house is unusual for its architectural type. Instead of the more common Georgian plan for a classically inspired house, the house has a Queen Anne house plan with a large foyer with main staircase and a parlor and a hall with two rooms (dining and drawing rooms) to the rear of the main block. There is a second staircase, kitchen, and butler's pantry at the rear of the house. The house retains its original Neoclassical-style interior finishes with plaster walls, elaborate moldings, hardwood floors and doors, and elaborate mantelpieces. The second floor has a foyer, trunk room, and four original bedrooms.

National Register Criteria

The Max and Emma Sue McRae House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent and intact example of a Neoclassical Revival-style house in Georgia.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance is 1897, the date of construction for the house.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8—Statement of Significance

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

There are three contributing buildings on the property, the main house, the early 1900s gardening shed, and the 1930s garage. The one noncontributing structure is a modern swimming pool.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following developmental history was prepared by Carl and Patricia Maneely, property owners, and edited by Gretchen Brock, National Register Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division. "Max and Emma Sue McRae House," Historic Property Information Form, May 2, 2005. On File at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Construction of the Max and Emma Sue McRae House was started in 1897. Charles B. Parker, the uncle and guardian of Emma Sue, was responsible for the construction of the house. The house was built in anticipation of the wedding of Max and Emma Sue in 1898.

Charles Benton Parker was born September 6, 1836, in Somerton, Nansemond County, Virginia. Parker served as a Confederate soldier in the 13th Virginia Calvary during the Civil War until the surrender at Appomattox. Following the war, he returned home to marry Sarah Matilda (Sallie) Howell. After their wedding, the couple migrated southward and settled in what is now Dodge County, Georgia, where Charles Parker established himself in the naval stores business. Mr. Parker was very successful. He acquired large land holdings including their home and plantation at Long View. Charles and Sallie moved to McRae in the early 1890s. Charles Parker was a benefactor of Mercer University and a trustee of the university until his death. Mr. Parker was also a deacon of the First Baptist Church of McRae. When a new church was built in the early 1900s, he contributed timbers from his Long View plantation. He also supervised the construction and supplied members of his own workforce for the new church, which was completed in 1904. Mr. Parker also financed construction of a new pastorium, which was dedicated to his wife Sallie, who passed away January 30, 1911. In 1904, Charles Parker and J.C. Brewton, pastor of the church, co-founded the Union Baptist Institute, now Brewton-Parker College, and served as trustee until 1913. Mr. Parker was also a founder and president of McRae's first bank, the Merchants Bank of McRae. Charles Parker died December 1, 1919.

Max Lamar McRae, the youngest son of Major Daniel F. and Marion McRae, was born in Lumber City, Telfair County, Georgia, on October 4, 1885. Daniel was the son of Alexander B. McRae, a pioneer of Telfair. Marion was the daughter of Judge Duncan McRae. Max read for the law and was admitted to the Bar in open court before he was 21. Max served as an officer during the Spanish American War. When 23, Max was elected to the Georgia Legislature as a representative, he later was a judge of the city court. Max was the mayor of McRae and a trustee of South Georgia College. Later, he held various positions in state government; he was director of the Georgia Farm Bureau, director of the state welfare department, highway commissioner during the Eugene Talmadge administration, and chairman of the draft board during both world wars.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8—Statement of Significance

Max McRae has extensive business interests, which included the Empire cottonseed processing plant, a peach orchard and distribution company, a wholesale green grocer at the local railhead, and the Max L. McRae Insurance Company. He also owned several farms, and was a member, steward, and trustee of the McRae Methodist Church.

In 1898, Max married Emma Sue Griffith. Emma Sue was born November 10, 1875, in Nansemond County, Virginia. She moved to Georgia when she was five to live with her uncle Charles Benton Parker at his plantation Long View. After receiving a degree in voice from Cox College, she married Max in 1898 and they moved into their new house. Max McRae died on February 15, 1951.

Emma Sue McRae had an abiding interest in music as evidenced by her long-term membership in her church choir and the occasional musical event she hosted in the house's music room. Other than her interest in the house's formal garden, she was devoted to her family and her church. Emma Sue continued her uncle Charles Parker's role as a very influential member of the First Baptist Church, where she was a member for 81 years. Due to illness, Emma Sue moved to Atlanta in 1968 where she resided with her daughter until her death on November 24, 1972.

Max and Emma Sue had three children: Charles Parker, Donald Finlay, and Sallie Matilda. Donald Finlay McRae worked in investments, lived most of his life in Atlanta, and died a bachelor in 1986. Sallie Matilda McRae worked for Coca-Cola in Atlanta until her retirement and continued to live in the Atlanta area until her death in 2002. She never married. Parker, as Charles Parker McRae was called, married Mary Millicent Williams of Wilson, North Carolina, and they had one daughter, Margaret Sue. Margaret Sue, the only grandchild of Max and Emma Sue McRae, married Robert McClellan, and they had two daughters, Margaret Byers and Mary Millicent.

Ed and Dawn Boyer purchased the house in 1974. A former naval officer, Ed Boyer practiced law locally while undertaking rehabilitation and modernization of the house. Under the Boyers' ownership, the electrical and plumbing systems were brought to code and an architecturally compatible, two-story, 2,200 square-foot addition was added to the rear (east) side of the house. Central heating and air conditioning was installed and the main bath and kitchen were modernized. The newly constructed addition included a large library on the first floor that served as Mr. Boyer's law office. After installing an in-ground swimming pool on the site of the old tennis courts, the Boyers sold the house to James and Gail Roberson in 1980.

James Roberson was a well-known regional entrepreneur and among other enterprises, owned a local Chrysler dealership. The Robersons added the wallpaper to the dining room and planted shrubs at the front of the house. Trust Company Mortgage took over the property in 1984 until it was sold to Dr. Charles and Cathy Ridley in 1985. The Ridleys owned the house until the current owners purchased it in 1990.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8—Statement of Significance

Carl Maneely is a retired naval officer and the previous division director of a Fortune 100 electronics company. Mr. Maneely and his wife Patricia restored the interior of the house by refinishing most of the hardwood floors and stabilizing and patching the plaster as well as other improvements to maintain the historic house.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Boyer, Ed. Max and Emma Sue House, McRae, Georgia. Interview by Carl Maneely, April 1992.

Callahan, Margaret, and her son Dr. Mike Callahan. Southern Charm Personal Care Home, McRae, Georgia. Interview by Carl Maneely, June 29, 2005.

Maneely, Carl and Patricia. "Max and Emma Sue McRae House," Historic Property Information Form, May 2, 2005. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Ridley, Cathy. Law office of Rembert Cravey. Interview by Carl Maneely, July 1990.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**
date issued:
- 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, Specify Repository:**

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property One acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 320606 Northing 3549014

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary is indicated on the attached tax map drawn to scale with a heavy, black line.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary includes the remaining property historically associated with the house and is the current legal boundary including the right-of-way.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Gretchen A. Brock/National Register Coordinator
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 34 Peachtree Street N.W., Suite 1600
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** December 4, 2006
e-mail gretchen_brock@dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title Carl and Patricia Maneely
organization N/A
mailing address 405 S. Second Avenue
city or town McRae **state** Georgia **zip code** 31055
telephone (229) 868-7114
e-mail N/A
(X) **property owner**
() **consultant**
() **regional development center preservation planner**
() **other:**

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Carl and Patricia Maneely
organization (if applicable) N/A
mailing address 405 S. Second Avenue
city or town McRae **state** Georgia **zip code** 31055
e-mail (optional) N/A

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Name of Property: McRae, Max and Emma Sue, House
City or Vicinity: McRae
County: Telfair
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: April 2006

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 25



1. Front (west) façade; photographer facing east.
2. Front (west) façade; photographer facing east.
3. Front (west) façade; photographer facing northeast.
4. Detail of front façade; photographer facing northeast.
5. Detail of front portico; photographer facing north.
6. South façade; photographer facing north.
7. North façade; photographer facing south.
8. Detail of north façade; photographer facing south.
9. Rear (east) and north facades; photographer facing southwest.
10. Rear (east) façade; photographer facing west.
11. View of garage; photographer facing northwest.
12. View of shed; photographer facing southwest.
13. Interior, foyer; photographer facing northwest.
14. Interior, foyer and central hall; photographer facing east.
15. Interior, parlor; photographer facing northeast.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

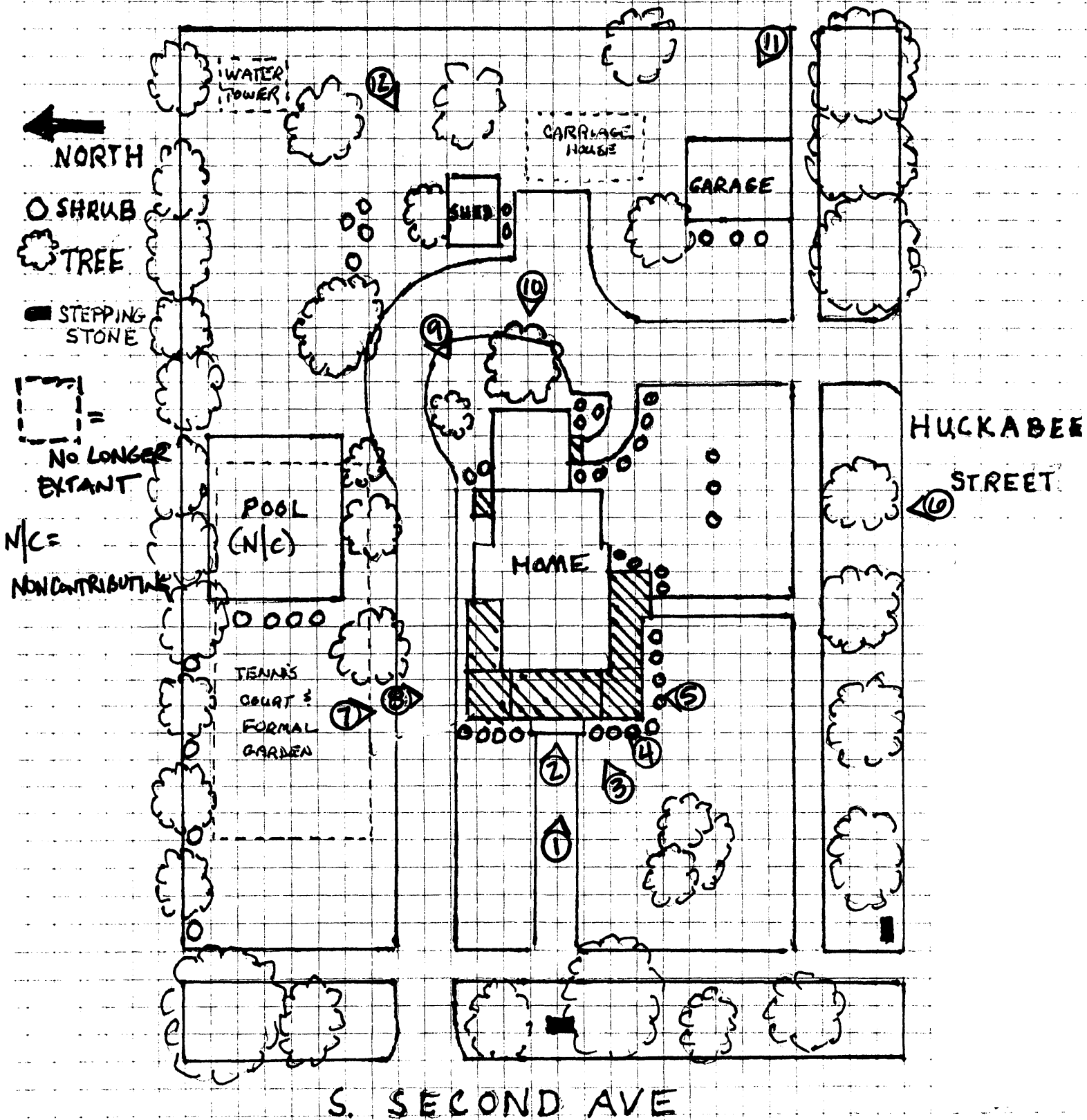
16. Interior, dining room; photographer facing northwest.
17. Interior, butler's pantry; photographer facing northeast.
18. Interior, drawing room; photographer facing northwest.
19. Interior, view of foyer from the main staircase; photographer facing southeast.
20. Interior, second floor, detail of screen at top of main staircase; photographer facing north.
21. Interior, second floor, front bedroom; photographer facing northeast.
22. Interior, second floor, central hall; photographer facing east.
23. Interior, second floor, blue bedroom; photographer facing north.
24. Interior, second floor, green bedroom; photographer facing southeast.
25. Interior, second floor, sunroom; photographer facing northeast.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

MCRAE, MAX AND EMMA SUE, HOUSE
TELFAIR COUNTY, GEORGIA
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY/TAX MAP
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY: 
NORTH: 
SCALE: 1" = 100'
SOURCE: TELFAIR COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

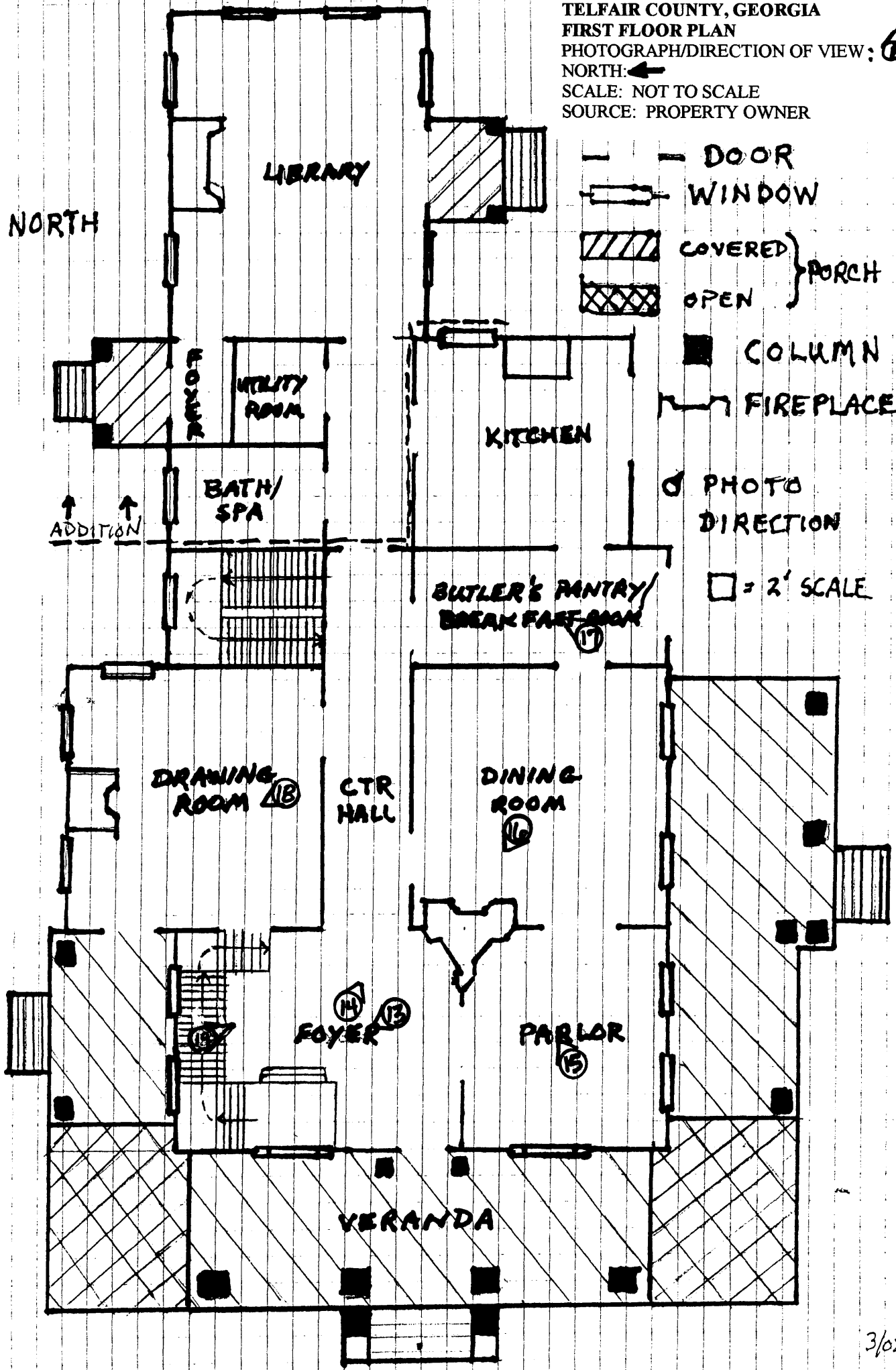




MCRAE, MAX AND EMMA SUE, HOUSE
 TELFAIR COUNTY, GEORGIA
 SITE PLAN
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: ①
 NORTH: ←
 SCALE: NOT TO SCALE
 SOURCE: PROPERTY OWNER



MCRAE, MAX AND EMMA SUE, HOUSE
 TELFAIR COUNTY, GEORGIA
 FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: ①
 NORTH: ←
 SCALE: NOT TO SCALE
 SOURCE: PROPERTY OWNER

← NORTH



MCRAE, MAX AND EMMA SUE, HOUSE
TELFAIR COUNTY, GEORGIA
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: 
NORTH: 
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE
SOURCE: PROPERTY OWNER

